

Virginia Stewart Love

September 9, 2010

Ms. Kristen Walli

Board Secretary

Ontario Energy Board

2300 Young Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor

Toronto, ON, M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli,

This letter is regarding my comments to file #EB-2010-0253, Plateau Wind Inc. and the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

As a resident and property owner living within the proposed project area, I have several concerns.

Let's be clear up front that Plateau Wind Inc. will be a generator of electricity and not a distributor of electricity.

IPC has consistently shown a lack of interest for citizen's concerns and their legitimate questions regarding the instillation of Industrial Wind Turbines in our area – specifically in how this project will impact us and our way of life.

To begin with, it is insulting that Plateau Wind Inc. would mention in their application for a hearing that the only person affected by this application is Grey Highlands as the sole owner and controller of the road allowances. This rather simplistic and naïve statement assumes that the people who live along the proposed corridor will not be impacted in any way by the replacement of 7.8kms of new, taller hydro poles. If the owner of the road allowance is the Municipality of Grey Highlands, then the owners of the road allowance are the tax payers and citizens of Grey Highlands. It is also insulting that the application states that there is no "prejudice" to Grey Highlands and by implication the citizens of the area.

It is interesting to note that the application included a copy of Grey Highlands by-law # 2010-66 ( Arran-Elderslie by-law) which passed first and second reading by the council on the same day that they tabled the road use agreement. The third reading having been passed on June 28<sup>th</sup>. This would suggest that the council in effect identified that there would be "prejudice" attached to accepting a road use agreement. The Arran-Elderslie by-law speaks to many negative impacts which Mr. Charles Keizer would request to have stricken from Mr. O'Brien's application to be an intervener, claiming it has no relevance to placement of hydro poles. By including the Arran-Elderslie by-law in their application IPC has opened the door for the public to raise issues relating to health, safety and property values. That said this company has ignored the individuals who will live beside these mammoth towers from the start, as if we really don't count

in the scheme of things. And that's what makes this application and its wording so egregious in the first place.

I attended the Grey County Taps meetings on June 17, 2010 at which Mr. William Pohl was a scheduled delegation and requested that Grey County enter into a road use agreement. Despite discussion at several other committee meetings, the committee has yet to support a road use agreement with Plateau Wind Inc. It is therefore misleading for IPC to include Grey Road 2 on the map for road use allowance in Grey Highlands. County Road 2 is owned by Grey County and should not be included in the hearing related to Grey Highlands.

IPC has further imposed itself on the residents of this area by going door to door asking people how they would want the incentive money spent in the area affected by the road agreement, the money IPC offered the Municipality for the road use agreement. IPC then reported to the Council that most people were in favour of the agreement. They disregarded how people actually felt about the issue by not giving them an opportunity to speak to the issue of the IWT or the road access agreement. This was simply deduced by an unscientific, subjective and highly selective survey conducted by the very party that stands to benefit from certain answers – namely IPC.

Furthermore, the Ontario Energy Board Letter of Direction to Plateau Wind Inc. directed IPC to immediately serve a copy of the notice of Application along with the location map and a *“copy of the application, either personally, by courier, or by registered mail on: d) All directly affected landowners as well as encumbrancers and encumbrancees”*.

I can attest that most residents along the proposed corridor did not receive anything beyond the Notice of Application and a copy of the map. Perhaps the lease holders received a copy of the application, but only three non-participants of whom I am aware received a large package from IPC. This is yet another example of IPC's lack of open communication and genuine consultation with the public and further reinforces the company's arrogant attitude towards the Council and the citizens of Grey Highlands.

IPC has been unable to resolve the problems they have with their Clear Creek Project in Norfolk County. In fact, IPC no longer lists that project on their web site. When this project is mentioned in conversation to managing staff at IPC, we are told that the residents who are complaining at Clear Creek are “crazy” or are just “agitators”.

Since 2008, people in that community have been complaining of low frequency noise, stray voltage and vibration. IPC has yet to resolve the problem or even admit that there is a problem. Provincial Officers of the Ministry of the Environment have been trying to help those who file complaints but they are unable to determine if IPC is in compliance because, according to a letter dated September 30, 2009, from Bill Bardswick, Director West Central Region, Ministry of the Environment, “there is currently no scientifically accepted field methodology to measure wind turbine noise to determine compliance or to determine non compliance with a Certificate of Approval”.

People affected in the Norfolk area have told us they have been advised by the MOE that it is not responsible for electrical issues; Hydro One tells them that they are not responsible past the point of connection at the roadside, IPC tells them to talk to Hydro One. So who will mitigate the problems once the power lines, poles and other facilities to transport the electricity generated from the IWT that are propose to be build in our community?

It is legitimate for Grey Highlands to be concerned for its citizens and to err on the side of caution. It is appropriate that IPC solves the problems that exist at their other facilities before they venture forth with another project and recklessly endanger the lives of more people.

It is time that the concerns and well being of the citizens in the areas impacted by Industrial Wind Development comes before the bottom line of corporations.

Sincerely,

Virginia Stewart Love