

FAX TO OEB

FROM TONY VAN MILTENBURG

3 pages including cover sheet

## Ontario Energy Board File No. EB-2012-0442

I am filing a Letter of Comment regarding Varna Wind Inc. - Application for Leave to Construct Transmission Facilities in Huron County.

I personally had very limited direct exposure to Nextera because they left me with a very negative impression starting with my first contact with them at the meeting in Seaforth on December 7, 2011 at the Seaforth Community Centre.

The meeting was set up in such a way that I received no real answers to any questions I put to them. When I asked a question, I was redirected to another area of the meeting site and given a vague answer. When I asked for a more specific/direct answer I was sent to another booth, only to get another vague answer and then again sent to another booth. It did not matter how many times or how the question was asked, Nextera never gave a direct answer to a question.

Most of the booths were staffed with personnel having reasonable people skills. Some were staffed with extremely arrogant people, who were speaking for Nextera. Nextera was very good at belittling the people who attended the open house and suggested that we were nothing but dumb farmers.

The atmosphere was that, if I did not like what Nextera had planned too bad, so sad. Nextera made it clear that they were going to do as they pleased. I left the meeting very disappointed. Like most people I spoke to afterwards, I had received no satisfactory answers and was very upset by the arrogance of the Nextera's representatives.

The first time Nextera visited me, on December 8, 2011, Nextera suggested that I was the only person that was disappointed at the open house meeting held the previous day. Because of my experience with Nextera at the open house, I told Nextera that I would definitely not sign. Nextera made a second visit. I put questions to them that I wanted answered and was promised an answer in a couple of days. On a third visit, Nextera apologized for not keeping their promise to answer my questions but still did not come with any answers. To date, January 2013, I am still waiting for answers.

### **I oppose the transmission line route because:**

- my lawyer said there were too many negatives in the contract to sign
- the possibility of stray voltage is a real concern
- I would not betray my neighbours who also have major concerns
- there are numerous safety concerns that Nextera will not acknowledge or address
- health concerns are real issues
- the transmission line is an intrusion on our agricultural lands
- the proposed transmission line is now planned to go within 6 metres of a neighbour's barn and within 10 metres of two homes.
- when Nextera was asked about the proposed transmission line going very close past the elementary school, Nextera E-Mailed a response stating that "schools use hydro too."
- on the CKNX news report, on January 3, 2013, it said that the Ontario PC Party has uncovered documents, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, that states 'the governing Liberals have been aware, since 2009, of adverse health effects from wind turbines.'

I made it very clear that Nextera was not the type of corporate citizen that I wanted anything to do with. In my opinion Nextera should not be welcomed into our community.

In Nextera's submission to the OEB, on the summary of the landowner question and comments received, the questions pertaining to the elementary school located along the proposed route, are not to be found. The question remains unanswered.

The Exeter Times Advocate reporter Mack Christie, reports about the special meeting that the Municipality of Blue Water council had with Nextera, on May 17, 2012, "The Zurich and District Chamber of Commerce updated their efforts negotiating with Nextera. In closing their representative Bob Westlake's comment was It is clear that the Zurich and District Chamber of Commerce has been negotiating with itself."

In closing please consider if Nextera is really the type of corporate citizen that you would want in charge of any of Ontario's energy supply.

I am a land owner along the proposed transmission line.

Tony Van Miltenburg

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