

February 20, 2013

Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
Box 2319, 27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

RE: EB-2012-0458 K2 Wind Power Project, Ashfield Colborne Wawanosh

My name is Ruth Ritchie. I am a ratepayer of the township of Ashfield Colborne Wawanosh (ACW) and a resident of the Province of Ontario and therefore a stakeholder with an interest and voice in all provincial matters. I strongly object to the K2 Wind Project of 138 turbines which is being proposed for ACW. The impact that this project would have on ACW would be immense. This issue has galvanized and unified communities throughout rural Ontario to fight this unjustifiable economic boondoggle. I am united with citizens of Ontario who object to the imposition of such a poorly conceived and implemented energy policy. This is not the way in which to move our province towards more renewable energy production.

ACW is one of the most productive agricultural areas of the province and should be used for agriculture. Our province is currently sitting in a surplus power situation. This surplus power has to be exported at very low prices. We simply don't need these turbines at this time. Wind energy is not a reliable energy source so other sources still need to be running at full capacity for those days the turbines don't move. Every turbine project approved makes this situation worse. Citizens are being asked to shoulder a huge economic burden for unnecessary energy production.

I also object to the inevitable devaluation of property, which will occur once the turbines become operational. Data being released from MPAC for Wolfe Island shows that 78 properties have been devalued by the turbine project there, some by up to 40%. In the Shelburne area, residents have been denied financing on properties affected by nearby turbines. It is unacceptable for the residents of our province and ACW to have the value of one of their most important assets stolen without compensation and then be asked to pay exorbitant electricity rates to fund that theft.

I also object to the proposed 230 KV transmission line being buried on a public road allowance. There are enormous safety risks from such a high voltage line being located on public land and under municipal drains. This is a risk to which the public should not be exposed.

In light of all these concerns, I therefore respectfully ask that this project not be granted Leave to Construct. I also support the request for Intervenor Status made on February 1st by a group of ratepayers and landowners from Ashfield Colborne Wawanosh.

[REDACTED]
Ruth Ritchie
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