

# **GIVENS FARMS LTD.**

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August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013

9/3/13  
Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
2300 Young Street  
Toronto On M4P 1E4  
Fax: 416-440-7656

RECEIVED  
SEP - 3 2013  
ONTARIO ENERGY BD

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

Re: Board File Number EB-2013-0203

Dear Sir or Madam

I have lived in Wainfleet Township for nearly 40 years and together with my brother operate a cash crop farming and grain elevator operation comprising some 1100 acres straddling Wainfleet and Haldimand County. Proposed wind turbines would impact some 500 acres of land owned by Givens Farms and/or Thomas & Patrick Givens. Our properties have been used as part of the 500m setback for six proposed turbines with no notice, approval or apparent regard for their impact on our operation or property values. No compensation has been offered for the violation of our property rights and this I resent as strongly as is possible. Additionally, my wife and I look forward with trepidation at the thoughts of sitting on our deck staring up at a 600 foot turbine at sunset barely one kilometer to our west, notwithstanding apparent health concerns. I expect we will be moving if this project goes forward; where and when to be determined.

I have a perhaps naïve mentality that a government is supposed to protect and care for the people it serves. It seems we locals are serving the Province and the Green Energy Act drafted to steam-roll across rural Ontario and neutralize local opposition regardless of any concerns that may arise. Rural Ontario has been divided and conquered by the GEA. I would have expected this type of iron-fisted legislation in Russia or China but never in Canada.

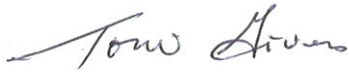
Givens Farms has two properties affected by the proposed transmission lines, Pt. Lot 40 and 41, Conc 6, Wainfleet Township. The proposed line would travel along the

west side of these properties, bordering the Shafley Road road allowance. A 5 acre parcel of Lot 41 is a naturally severable parcel since it is separated by the Wolf Creek municipal drain on a diagonal and is a corner piece bordered by Wilford Rd. and Shafley Road. It is not a practical piece of land to farm and its value as a building lot would certainly be negatively impacted by the proposed transmission line. No proposal from NRWC has been brought forward to date to deal with this issue.

From a macro-economic perspective and while I "get" green energy, I find it incredibly irresponsible of the provincial government to subsidize wind turbine projects at artificially high per kw pricing and then turn around and sell this surplus power to U.S. states at a loss. This apparently is common practice, all the while not utilizing green hydro electric power in Niagara Falls to its fullest. The cost of building and maintaining the redundant facilities required must be astronomical. Ontario taxpayers, residents and businesses will bear this economic foolishness needlessly. I can only imagine the potential job losses in the future when Ontario energy costs are no longer competitive with others. Our "edge" will have been lost.

I hereby ask the OEB to be an intervenor and request that a public hearing be held rather than written hearing in order to address our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Givens".

Tom Givens, BA, MBA  
President  
Givens Farms Ltd.  
905-899-3671