Board Secretary

Ontario Energy Board

PO Box 2319

2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor

Toronto, Ontario

M4P 1E4

December 2, 2013

Dear Ms. Walli,

RE:  Request for Intervenor Status by Robert Lewis, representing dozens of landowners and residents along the transmission line who feel that their lives and/or livelihoods will be directly affected in a negative manner.

 EB-2013-0361 Jericho Wind, Inc. - Application for Leave to Construct Transmission Facilities

We request intervenor status in the above-mentioned OEB hearing.  It is our intention to address issues specifically related to the mandate of the Board.

These issues include:

\* The rapidly increasing price consumers are being asked to pay for electricity;

\*  The promotion of renewable energy that is inconsistent with stated intent of government policy;

\* The Jericho Substation - There are concerns about the unfortunate placement of the Jericho substation half way between a family with autistic children and the public school that they attend. We do not know for sure if the emf from it will affect these children or other children at the school, but the wind company doesn’t know either, and they ARE aware of the children and the concerns.

\* Transmission Lines – questions regarding the various lease agreements with landowners;  concerns about EMFs and stray voltage around those homes and farms closest to the proposed transmission route; and more.

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The applicant is claiming that the transmission line won’t affect electricity price because they are paying for it. This is disingenuous. They are advancing the money in anticipation of the profits when they get their contract. They wouldn’t be doing it without the potential profit, and if the project goes ahead, the price paid to the turbine companies will cause increases to the price of electricity and for no benefit to the environment or to the people of Ontario. On the other hand, if the transmission line is not approved, two large wind projects will not be built and that will save a sizable amount of money.

Benefit to the environment is supposed to be the policy of this government. One would hope that benefit to the general public would also be policy of the government.

So that takes in price and government policy. The third one was the agreements/leases offered to landowners. We believe that the wind company intentionally left out information about negative effects of signing a lease, which would have been important to the landowners.

We are also concerned about possible effects of EMF on the susceptible – animals, pregnant cows, children, as well as the problems associated with stray voltage, step voltage, etc. This line is going to run through a large organic dairy farm. Now we have to also be concerned about induced current in electric fences as well as the problems of cows not drinking because of stray voltage and other concerns.

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QUOTE FROM THE INSTRUCTIONS…

“In determining whether the construction of the Transmission

Facilities is in the public interest, subsection 96(2) directs the Board to consider only the

following:

1. The interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and

quality of electricity service.

2. Where applicable and in a manner consistent with the policies of the

Government of Ontario, the promotion of the use of renewable energy

sources.

The Board will consider these factors as they relate specifically to the Transmission

Facilities. It will not consider them as they relate to the Jericho Wind Energy Centre or

in relation to wind generation in general.”

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I am having some difficulty understanding the restrictions placed on this hearing: How can we possibly consider the transmission line without any context. The line has no meaning or value to anyone except in relation to the Jericho wind project,

Or is this just about whether the poles are going to be built and erected according to the rules? Obviously not, because if that were the case it couldn’t have any effect on prices and reliability and quality of service.

So there are problems that I have with this transmission line but I’m not sure where you draw the line between the line itself and the wind projects that are the reason for the line.

I have also lost a couple of days this weekend working through the 50 pages of so-called minor changes in the transmission route. I’m still studying them, but it has taken away from time I should have spent on this letter.

Since the applicant has set a precedent of late submission of details and changes, I trust I will be allowed the same consideration. It would be nice to have another couple of weeks to study these changes and consider if I have anything else to add.

I am also asking to be awarded costs and I would like some clarification on how costs are awarded.

I have a problem with this, as well. A lawyer I consulted, who has done OEB appeals wanted $7500 retainer. It seemed he wasn’t confident that his fees would be fully paid by the applicant. I understood this better when I saw that this multi-billion dollar company was contesting another appellant’s cost award and offering an ‘honorarium’ of less than half. Obviously the money is not a concern – it seems that it is more that they don’t want us to be able to afford to do a good job of our appeal, which is in keeping with what we have seen about the way this company conducts itself.

Because of the concern above, I do not have a lawyer or other expert advice. This application for a transmission line is not written in a way that is easily understood by a lay person. Now they have added another 50 pages. My experience with the wind companies, with their obfuscations, midsdirections, and outright lies, makes me feel that there may well be other important concerns that I am not yet even aware of.

If the board has any concern about an appearance of fairness, I think I should be given more time, or sufficient assurance that the lawyer will take on the case without the retainer that I can’t afford.

Finally, I had trouble accessing your webportal. It requires a password and the form to apply for a password would not let me type on it.

In the meantime, I trust we can manage with this email and a word document.

Thank you,

Robert Lewis

595 Elginfield Rd., unit 3

RR 4 Thedford, ON

N0M 2N0

519 294-0572

sylvan\_bob@hotmail.com