

Gerard M. Spinosa



Attn: Board Secretary

Ontario Energy Board

2300 Yonge St – 27th Floor

Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

December 11, 2013

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Property at Royal Road, Dainard Rd, Hilltop Rd in Milford, ON (file # EB-2013-0339)

In response to a proposed transmission line, the following points summarize our concerns. This project appears to be a gross mistake and the government and its agencies must be open to admitting it. Denial that electromagnetic fields have health effects requires deliberate ideological negligence. Any transmission is bad and should avoid humans especially those who don't choose to participate and are residents and deserve quiet possession.

There is no reason why the parties (wpd) who choose to exercise their self-interest could not run lines for transmission through the properties they have signed contracts with to move power to the substation in Milford on County Rd 10. This concession must be made in our opinion. Our farm winery attracts thousands of people from across Canada and beyond who all comment on the beauty and the peace and quiet of the location along with the quality of our wine.

Our concerns are many:

- 1) The transmission line south of Milford should pass less invasively through the properties wishing to benefit from the profits of this project.
- 2) The former Royal Street Cheese Factory at 1112 Royal Rd (now Exultet Estates Winery), a heritage building (historically designated) dating from the 1870's, is a fragile building that cannot have any construction in any way infringe on its integrity or take away from its esthetic effect in this rural landscape.

- 3) Our home, an 1840's farmhouse at [REDACTED] has been restored.
- 4) Our circa 1870's dairy barn is very fragile.
- 5) Our winery retail store is a destination and tourist attraction with most visitors coming from cities such as Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto & beyond. To obstruct it and infringe upon it is an economic and cultural loss to be avoided.
- 6) Our water well is a reliable source for water for our winery and farm / home – a working well is a rarity in this area - a fragile but vital part of our sustainability.
- 7) Our health and that of our 3 young children is a great a concern.

The Cheese Factory / Winery as described has existed likely before there was a municipal road (before the 1870's). The road now infringes on the building to the degree that the building is virtually at the road. This is also the case with a garage at the front of our 1840's farmhouse at [REDACTED]

These existed before minimum setback distances, the problem being that we work in the winery for prolonged periods every day and the encroachment to the building by high voltage transmission would be far too close to where humans work, reside, visit and would result in excessive and prolonged long-term exposure to electromagnetic fields. Considering daily visitors and human presence, such high voltage transmission lines become totally prohibitive anywhere near such structures.

For these reasons (at the very least item #1 above is the only transmission that should be allowed by allowing transmission through wpd contracted properties to a substation on County Rd 10 in Milford) we feel it is wrong to go ahead with this proposed transmission line. Visitors here and as encountered across Ontario on our travels, cannot believe the lack of common sense and lack of integrity regarding every aspect of this wind energy project and now transmission proposal. It has become an embarrassment for the government and those involved and will remain so unless rectified!

If an oral hearing is going to be held we would ask that the OEB consider representation by someone representing us, if the OEB would provide legal costs on our behalf.

Sincerely,

Gerard M. Spinosa