

The Honourable John Wilkinson
Minister of the Environment
77 Wellesley Street West, 11th floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5

Phone # 416-314-6790

Email though: http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/feedback/email_minister.php

Mr. Wilkinson

I understand that there are plans to amend the legislation to make it easier for industrial wind turbine projects to receive approval – specifically in the areas of Application Eligibility, Definition of Noise Receptors, Vacant Lots, Noise Receptor Setback Prohibitions and Odour Receptors – and I strongly oppose such amendments.

As you are probably aware, there is a great deal of concern that wind farms cause negative health impacts on people (and likely livestock and other animals) in the vicinity. Wind turbines have made it impossible for some people to live within a reasonable proximity of them (a greater distance than the current set-backs). Wind turbines are also known to cause high bird and bat mortality.

Currently, Clean Breeze Wind Park LP is proposing to install five wind turbines on the Oak Ridges Moraine in the Northumberland Hills just west of Centreton. Such a development is completely at odds with the requirements that everyone else has to abide by within the Green Space, and it seems very inconsistent that the government would permit such an intrusive development in an area where the over-riding policy direction is to conserve the landscape and the ecological functions of the moraine. The lighting requirements are also contrary to the dark sky designation of the general area.

There are many less intrusive ways of generating additional power; a carbon tax would provide a strong incentive for people to reduce their demands for power, which to my mind is a better way to go than building facilities that benefit a very small minority while disadvantaging a large number of people in the surrounding area.

It would seem prudent to consider these objections to basing industrial wind turbines near rural residential areas before, rather than after, any more projects have been approved, and so I would like to request your assistance in preventing this project from going forward.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,