

Concerned about Industrial Wind Turbines?

This is a Public Forum to support the growing opposition to Industrial Wind Development on Manitoulin Island and its waters. It is not too late to be heard.

A bit of a disclaimer to my comments - I am not anti-wind energy, but I am anti-politics surrounding the Green Energy Act in that it has taken away the ability of local municipalities to decide for themselves whether they want this type of industry on their rural land or not. The foreign ownership, the heavy subsidization to foreign corporations and the lack of Canadian jobs attached to this economy is unforgivable. If it truly was an open and transparent industry there would be no need for these corporations to place gag orders on the landowners for the deals they have struck to obtain these behemoths on their land, nor to place gag orders on the home owners whose homes they have purchased as they could not come to an agreement as to the health effects suffered.

Last week's Kincardine News reported there are at least 6 area home owners who have sold their homes to the wind developers, but this information could not come directly from the home owners because of gag orders.

Ashley Duncan, Kincardine Township, provided the best presentation yet to Kincardine Council where one of her statements was something to the effect that the township farmers, neighbours, Amish communities, etc. should be allowed to live and worship in their rural community without threat of industry in their yards just like the urban residents in town are protected. Had this industry been introduced in an organized, consultative manner with rural residents and reasonable input provided re setbacks from residences without the hidden agenda of buying green-votes for the Liberals this might have been more palatable.

The wind turbines planned for Lake Ontario have been scrapped because the wealthy waterfront residents and condo owners do not want them within their view, yet it is OK to force these on the rural residents without the wealth for whom the power is not produced. It is a very convoluted issue.

Sue Macleod

To Whom it May Concern:

My family owns a summer cottage on Jules Lane in Rockville. I have been coming up to Rockville for many, many years with my siblings and parents, as have my children. My grandmother and her siblings were born and raised on the Island. My great Aunt Lily Spry settled in Rockville, and was a school teacher on the Island in a one room school house. The Manitoulin Island has a special magic to it, which cannot be fully felt until you have experienced it yourself. To think of it losing its beauty to these structures is beyond sad. I hope you can see the importance of maintaining the history and beauty of the Island. I know things change with time, but to destroy the beauty of nature is indeed a loss of balance. Please see it in your hearts and your soul to do the right thing to maintain the natural habitats, as well as the beauty of the bluffs of the Manitoulin Island.

The summer residences have contributed greatly to the economy from paying taxes to supporting local businesses. Please consider our voice in this matter of the wind farms. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kimberly (Winston) Christensen
152 Jules Lane, Rockville

Recently, we have received information concerning the placement of wind turbines on the Bluff off of Tower road. We understand that this will require modifications to the existing roadways in this area. We realize that energy generation through the use of wind turbines is a viable option as a source of energy. However, we strongly oppose any physical changes that will need to occur to the island. We live in Pennsylvania but our family has been visiting the island annually since the 1950s and have owned a cottage in Rockville since 1960. We have always admired the absolute beauty of the area and have respected the manner in which Canadians act to preserve the natural resources of their land. We are shocked and deeply disappointed that anyone would consider altering the natural beauty of such a rare and special place as Manitoulin island. Please convey our concerns to the authorities who are responsible for the decisions related to this matter. We do oppose this action and are hopeful that with sufficient input from property owners the proposed changes to the land can be prevented.

Mike & Jeanette Leid
Denver, Pennsylvania

Comments and letters are welcome
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