

White Pines Wind Project

The prospect of having the White Pines Wind Power industrial wind turbine development in South Marysburgh/Milford would be devastating and disastrous. As a recent owner of a property in Milford, and after researching the many issues resulting from Industrial Wind Power Development, I cannot believe that the knowledge and concerns of people from the region and all over the world are not being taken into consideration.

As an industrial development, it would have tremendous implications on the surrounding regions bird migration and natural environment. The south shore of Prince Edward County and the township of South Marysburgh, is internationally recognized as one of the most important bird migration corridors in North America. This environmentally sensitive area will be completely threatened by industrial wind turbines, which are known for their disastrous effect on birds, bats and wildlife. It is completely absurd and ridiculous that such an important and environmentally sensitive area would be threatened and destroyed because... we need to protect the environment? Even the Suzuki Foundation, a proponent of IWT's and human caused, catastrophic global warming, do not agree with IWT development for South Marysburgh.

Continuing with the notion of absurdity and ridiculousness; the government, with its Green Energy Act, has also bypassed and fast-tracked wind power developments, avoiding legislation already in place to protect habitats, wildlife and endangered species?? Again, the concept is baffling; let's destroy the environment to protect it!

The regions' environmental sensitivity is also the reason why many of us have chosen to be here. We work; we play and live here because of the areas beauty and tranquility. The region is known for its easy paced, relaxed lifestyle and beautiful scenery that would be destroyed by the development of the White Pines Wind Project. The people of the region have spent their lives and incomes to build and maintain the character that has come to represent Prince Edward County. Artisanal food, farming, B&B's, the burgeoning and brilliant wine industry... it all has been a part of a dedication to the land and the environment, and the notion of an IWT development positioned in the middle of it is nothing short of cruel, mismanaged, and completely absurd.

After spending many years researching this issue, and much to my chagrin, the full knowledge of the Green Energy conundrum has not been articulated through main-stream-media, education and government. In countries where initiatives to build green energy infrastructure have left communities who were once in support for IWT developments, dismayed, disillusioned and desperate. The health concerns from infrasound and the paltry minimum setbacks for IWT's are completely understood and unfortunately ignored. Again, how could something so noble be bad for you? The countless health problems associated with proximity to IWT's are very well known, yet again, somewhere in the absurdity of this issue, human health and well being is forsaken for... protecting the environment.

Unfortunately this issue is always reduced or dumb-down to a left vs. right; luddite vs. progressive; profiteering landowner vs. nimby scenario but this is not the case. This issue is about respect for people, their needs, their health and their survival. The grand and noble ideal that IWT's are advertised, promoted and promulgated by their proponents unfortunately do not consider those who it will directly effect. The government's Green Energy Act, with its taxpayer boondoggle subsidized hubris, and completely authoritarian suppression of local authority is wreaking havoc on our community and its ramifications will endure for a very long time. The government's abuse and mismanagement of IWT development in general, has increased the cost of electricity exponentially and will continue indefinitely. It is unbelievable to think that the province at the moment does not need more electricity generation/development!!

We are in oversupply at the moment, and do not use the wonderful electrical generating facilities we already have, in order to accommodate guaranteed returns for IWT developers through the governments disastrous Feed In Tariff program. The oversupply from Ontario IWT's already up and running account for a \$200 million loss annually. Because the taxpayer buys power at 3 times the market rate which it does not need and then pays surrounding jurisdictions like New York and Michigan to take our oversupply?? Notwithstanding the complete disregard for the taxpayer, countless unbiased studies from all over the world, most notable from Germany and Denmark, show that the average productive efficiency from IWT's range between 15% and 20% and cannot be considered an actual power supply without a reliable back up from an energy source like natural gas, because wind energy is intermittent and not constant. As previously stated, IWT developments are guaranteed profits on investment rather than compete with the market? Who in their right mind would make such a decision? Clearly, the reckless spending the

government has done with the public's borrowed money will endure for generations. As I mentioned earlier, \$200 million a year in today's dollars wasted on oversupply because of IWT's in Ontario, could pay for a local hospital, or a small university. The rising costs of electricity rates, increases in taxes and the lost opportunity to invest in health care, education and ultimately - ourselves, squandered in the false belief that these will save the environment.

This issue has been overwhelming and has brought much anger and disappointment to me personally, to my family and to the community. The Green Energy Act and its push for IWT development is obviously more corporate cronyism than green energy, or care for the environment and the people who live in it. The irony is and which is very noticeable in the County, is that, the push for expensive, unreliable green energy from IWT's, which have pushed energy prices to the point where a family may need to choose between heat or what to eat, has increased the use of burning wood for fuel and heat – probably the dirtiest of energy supplies; so much for a plan to save the environment.

Lastly, the Green Energy Act, with its overarching and authoritarian disregard of the people's voice, is, as a philosophical and existential issue, very dangerous and threatening. The people have spoken and Prince Edward County and South Marysburgh do not want IWT's. And a government in a democracy would do their part to do as the people desire them to do – not the other way around. Because if it's the other way around, where the government places the needs of foreign corporations and their guaranteed subsidies ahead of its citizens, then I suppose we don't live in a democracy, but something rather close to what Mussolini created in Italy, not so long ago.

No IWT's in Prince Edward County and South Marysburgh, and Stop the Green Energy Act

Franco DeFrancesca, APPEC Member