

**The Honorable Joe Manchin III  
Governor of West Virginia  
19 Kanawha Blvd. E  
Charleston WV 25305**

**February 13, 2006**

**Dear Governor Manchin,**

**I am a resident of Beautiful Pendleton County and a constituent that is very concerned about the danger posed to my county by the application to the WV PSC of Liberty Gap US Wind Force They propose 50—426 foot tall wind energy generating turbines on Jack Mountain south of Franklin accompanied by 17.5 miles of 138 Kv interconnecting transmission line.**

**As you know Congressman Mollohan has been an outspoken critic of the rush to build wind facilities in the absence of studies confirming the impact of this technology on our state. His concern is reflected in the September 05 GAO study of commercial wind energy and its effect on migratory birds and bats and what the government is responsible for doing about it. The report states “ it (the GAO) now recognizes that wind power facilities can adversely affect the environment, particularly wildlife such as birds and bats. There is a shortage of detailed scientific information about these impacts.”**

**At the December 14, 2005 meeting of the National Academy of Science held in Charleston a member of the PSC staff stated that the PSC did not have enough information and expertise to make informed decisions on the applications for wind generating facilities.**

**I urge you to:**

- ❖ Declare a moratorium on the permitting and construction of wind energy generating facilities in WV until such time that independent financial, social and environmental studies on the impact of the turbines and transmission lines are completed.**
- ❖ Issue an Immediate administrative order requiring the WVDNR, WVDEP and the WV Division of Culture and History to work together in advising the PSC in their review of applications.**

**A rigorous environmental review process has NOT been completed by the Liberty Gap Wind Force; they have asked the PSC for waivers for most of the siting regulations addressing the environment. It is this issue that I am asking you to address.**

**Sincerely,**

**Eve Firor**