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Franklin, WV 26807

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Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 812  
Charleston, WV 25323

W VA PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Dear Public Service Commission Members:

I want to be an intervenor in the proposed Liberty Gap Wind Force wind farm project(Case #05-1740) in Pendleton County.

I oppose this project for a variety of reasons. I resent the manner in which our County Commission members approved the project. Public hearings were not held to gain input from the citizens until there was an uproar from concerned citizens. Little or no independent research was done to determine both the positive and negative aspects of wind farm projects in other areas. Other locations in our own nation and foreign nations are beginning to question the wisdom of establishing more of these wind farms. I feel that an intensive study should be made as to the impact of this project proposed for our county.

I oppose the project from an environmental standpoint. The danger to birds and bats that fly into the giant turbines needs to be researched and studied before a wind farm is allowed to be placed in direct migration routes or normal zones of high activity by these species. There was an article recently in our local newspaper, *The Pendleton Times*, in which great concern was expressed about the local shooting and wounding of a bald eagle. With the placement of these huge wind turbines in our county, the needless slaughter of eagles, other birds, and bats may become a common occurrence.

I oppose the project from an aesthetic viewpoint. I have visited the area of a similar project in Tucker County, which is on a ridge top as would be the Liberty Gap site. If I lived close to the proposed site, I most certainly would not want to have to view these monster turbines dominating the landscape. A common selling point of these sites is that they would become tourist attractions. I feel the opposite reaction. Having once seen these imposing structures dominating the landscape, I certainly would not plan a vacation to go see any more of these sites. They may serve as a curiosity item during their initial construction, but their scenic attraction would be short-lived.

I oppose the project on an economic standpoint as I am not convinced at this time that the income for the county from the project will outweigh the loss of income for decreased property values along the site and transmission lines. The loss of value for property that adjoins these projects in other areas of our country has already been identified as a major concern for many of the landowners.

Sincerely,



Lynn D. Vandevander

