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support

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26884

W VA PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

West Virginia
Public Service Commission
201 Brooks Street
PO Box 812
Charleston, WV 25323

Dear Commissioners:

I commend you for your decision to revisit the Liberty Gap Wind Force application.

With the changing issues, new technology, population increase, I feel that with the seating of each new commission the job becomes more difficult.

As a 7th generation resident of Pendleton County and an ex-county commissioner, I did not get involved in the original discussion or exert my thoughts at the onset of the wind farm debate. I really thought it would be approved on the merits of the original application.

The reasons to approve the application in my mind are as follows:

- A. Our country must reduce its dependence on hydrocarbon for energy.
- B. Our dollars are being exported to oil producing nations that then use our dollars to finance terrorism.
- C. Wind is constant, always there, and clean in that there are no emissions.
- D. By producing more energy in this county, we significantly impact our balance of trade in a positive way.
- E. I have visited the wind farm in Tucker County, up close and personal, and find the noise minimal, saw no dead bats or birds, but admit the blades are moving faster than I thought.
- F. The leaders of the tourism industry in Tucker County told me personally the tourists like them. Probably for the above reasons.
- G. The project will create some jobs, but the tax benefits to our sparsely populated county will be significant.
- H. The majority of Pendleton County residents support the wind farm. They are not moved to write letters, editorials, or attend controversial meetings. The silent majority does exist.

Our county, our state, our nation, and our world needs the production of clean energy. That is another small step to support the above. Your favorable approval of the Liberty Gap Wind Farm will enhance a favorable impression of West Virginia, in that our state is striving to do our part toward being more energy efficient, less energy dependent and to slow down the effect of global warming.

I strongly support and urge your approval of the Liberty Gap Wind Farm Project.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Harper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joe Harper