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W VA PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Franklin WV  
January 19, 2006

Ms. Sandra Squire  
Executive Secretary  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 812  
Charleston WV 25323

Dear Ms. Squire:

I am writing with regard to Case #05-1740, Liberty Gap Wind Force, LLC.

As a long time resident of Pendleton County I am opposed to the introduction of industrial wind turbines into the environment of one of the most scenic and beautiful counties in the entire state of West Virginia. I feel compelled to bring to the attention of the Public Service Commission the significant opposition of a large number of the residents of our area to the blight that Liberty Gap Wind Force is introducing into our pristine West Virginia Mountains. My family and I chose to settle in Pendleton County for many reasons not the least of which was that wild and wonderful environment that our state advertises at every entrance to the state. Liberty Wind Force will forever sully that environment by the introduction of those 400 foot wind turbines which will do little if anything to alleviate the pollution caused by the burning of fossil fuels.

The arguments used to promote the approval of the introduction of wind turbines in our area are old and have been significantly disproved in the past. The fiction that wind power will be able to replace a large number of older fossil fuel energy plants is foremost. The fact is that wind turbines cannot produce usable energy at either low wind velocities or at high velocities and therefore require backup plants to immediately come on the line to replace the energy no longer available from the unreliable wind turbines.

The environmental issues associated with the wind turbines have not been adequately answered. Wildlife, water, noise and blade flashing issues have not been satisfactorily addressed by Liberty Wind Force. There has been no independent study of the environmental or economic impact on the current environment of our wild and wonderful Pendleton County. To accept the environmental statements made by Liberty Wind Force at their face value is like unto saying that a fox would make a good watchman at a chicken house.

I am also extremely concerned about the cavalier and arrogant methods that Liberty Wind Force has utilized in attempting to foist this pig in a poke on our County. The word "underhanded" comes immediately to mind which also introduces the suspicion that illegal inducements may have been made to our public officials to convince them to approve the project. Since the major reason that Liberty Wind Force is so interested in this project at this time are the Federal Tax Benefits—Liberty Wind Force has no continuing interest in the welfare of Pendleton County. In fact it is anticipated that the wind turbines will be sold to Florida Power and Light. When I was growing up in High School/College in Florida, I can remember the very poor public view of FP&L. In fact they were worse than VEPCO in Virginia. FP&L seemed to view public relations like the Josef Stalin School of Public Relations.

I request the Public Service Commission disapprove the application of Liberty Wind Force LLC as contrary to the public interest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. T. Ashley', with a stylized, cursive script.

R. T. ASHLEY

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