

Whereas Seneca County has a utility scale wind project that is accepted under the 2011 Alternative Energy Zone-namely Seneca Wind LLC.

And whereas this project is moving forward under the Ohio Power Siting Board process which is the state regulatory agency charged with approving and regulating utility wind development,

And whereas, the Ohio Legislative Service Commission, a non-partisan research agency of the Ohio House of Representatives has indicated that “relative to the day to day operation of an average coal burning power plant in Ohio, wind farms represent a minimal public health threat with minimal environmental impacts” and further states that they are “unable to find an article in a peer reviewed journal that substantiated claims that wind turbines cause physiological harm”

And whereas our concerned citizens want us to address potentially serious drawbacks to wind development including the impact of karst zones, low frequency sound, wildlife, aircraft navigation, flicker, ice throw, groundwater, and the impact on schools.

And whereas it is the desire of the Seneca County Commissioners to support property owners in their right under Ohio Law, which we take an oath to support, to lease land for use in utility scale wind farms,

And whereas an inauguration of an energy sector in Seneca County offers an additional degree of diversity to the local economy,

And whereas utility scale wind portends to offer significant new resources to schools, townships, the county, libraries, as well as fire and EMS districts.

And whereas the Seneca Wind LLC agrees to be governed by a road use and maintenance agreement managed by the County Engineer,

And whereas Seneca Wind LLC has initiated partnership discussions with a local university to fund educational activities,

And whereas the wind development companies have agreed to train local fire and EMS personnel,

And whereas our township trustees have asked us to rescind the Alternative Energy Zone,

And whereas County Commissioners in Ohio take an oath to support the laws of the State of Ohio and not undermine them,

Therefore be it resolved that the Commissioners of Seneca County hereby formally support our property owners in their right to participate in this project and by extension support the project,

Be it further resolved that the board formally requests that the Ohio Power Siting Board, the FAA, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife, the OEPA, ODOT, and all other relevant regulatory agencies diligently evaluate all matters related to ground and well water, karst zones, health and welfare, noise and flicker, as well as wildlife impact specifically bats, raptors, and migratory birds.

Be it further resolved that new applications under the 2011 Alternative Energy Zone must be submitted to the proper authorities by 9/19/19 at 9AM. At that time the Alternative Energy Zone will rescind to new applications thus sunsetting the Alternative Energy Zone program.