

Logan County Commissioners

The Colonial Building

117 E. Columbus Ave. Suite 100 ♦ Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311
(937) 599-7283 ♦ (937) 599-7268 (Fax)

John Bayliss ♦ Tony Core ♦ Dustin Wickersham

BRIAN DUNN
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

KACY D. KIRBY
CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Resolution No. 197-16

The Logan County Board of Commissioners met in regular open session on this date of June 14, 2016 with the full board present.

Mr. Wickersham moved that the following resolution be adopted:

RE: QUALIFIED ENERGY PROJECT APPLICATION – HARDIN WIND LLC

WHEREAS, the Logan County Commissioners are in recipient of the application of Hardin Wind, LLC, filed with the Ohio Development Services Agency on April 8, 2016, approved by the Ohio Development Services Agency on April 20, 2016, and received at the Logan County Commissioners' office on April 22, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, the Logan County Commissioners requested a 30 day extension of time to consider the application, which extension was approved by the Ohio Development Services Agency; and,

WHEREAS, the Logan County Commissioners held a public meeting at The Holland Theatre to listen to comments from members of the public on May 17, 2016. The meeting was attended by approximately 150 people with approximately 40 citizens speaking against the project and only the wind developer speaking in favor of the project; and,

WHEREAS, the Logan County Commissioners requested and received written comments from the Benjamin Logan Board of Education, the Ohio High Point Board of Education, the Richland Township Trustees, and the Rushcreek Township Trustees. Those written comments are attached to this resolution; and,

WHEREAS, the Logan County Commissioners have reviewed the application, and different portions of the application are incomplete or inadequate; and,

WHEREAS, the Ohio Administrative Code requires that the application include the name and address of each taxing unit impacted by the project, but the application does not include a complete or accurate list of this information; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to other documentation, the Ohio Administrative Code requires the applicant to list the fire and emergency responders for each jurisdiction in which any part of the project is located, and include a certificate from each such fire and emergency responder confirming that the applicant has consulted with the fire and emergency responder in developing a training plan for response to emergency situations related to the project, but the application does not include a complete or accurate list, or such certificates; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to other documentation, the Ohio Administrative Code requires that the application include a certificate from each such fire and emergency responder confirming that the applicant has equipped, or has developed in consultation with such fire and emergency responders a plan for equipping, such fire and emergency responders with proper equipment as reasonably required to enable them to respond to emergency situations related to the project, but the application does not include such certificates; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to other documentation, the Ohio Administrative Code requires that the applicant include a certificate from the County Engineer together with a copy of an agreement with the County Engineer related to the repair, rebuilding, and reinforcement of roads, bridges, and culverts affected by the project, but the application does not include such certificate or agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the application does not list the number of temporary and permanent jobs created from the project, nor does the application include figures on the amount of tax revenue created from the project or the total cost of the project. Specifically, the application does not include such information as to the Logan County portion of the project. Curiously, the application does not even request a tax exemption at all; and,

WHEREAS, the wind developer has created confusion and given misinformation to the press through statements and advertisements causing misunderstanding with the public; and,

WHEREAS, the actions of a very few involved against the project have been rude, distasteful, offensive, hostile, and at times completely repugnant. Some have spread rumors that one or more of the Logan County Commissioners has signed contracts for turbines or received other financial benefits from the developer. Some have attempted to threaten or intimidate members of immediate family of the County Commissioners in an effort to frighten or bully the Commissioners into a position. The actions of these few have only harmed the credibility and character of those opponents of the project; and,

WHEREAS, a few have implied that the County Commissioners can be influenced by lobbying or political correctness, instead of recognizing that the Board simply follows its statutory duty in its consideration of the application. Many have conflated or confused the limited issue which our office must decide on the application by injecting a multitude of federal and state issues that are outside the scope of our authority and responsibility; and,

WHEREAS, if the only feasible way this project can go forward is through a tax exemption and payment in lieu of taxes, as the wind developer claims, then something is wrong with the State tax law. Tax abatements are to incentivize development in a specific location, not to create the business model for the project to be developed. It is curious that under the energy project law, the local governments are expected to take a loss of revenue while the State of Ohio's tax revenue (commercial activity tax, kilowatt hour tax, etc.) is to remain entirely whole; and,

WHEREAS, the Logan County Board of County Commissioners is not convinced that over the life of the project that granting the PILOT would benefit the community. Likewise with respect to job creation, the Logan County Board of County Commissioners is not convinced that the amount of taxes abated would be exceeded by the benefit of gaining relatively few permanent employees; and,


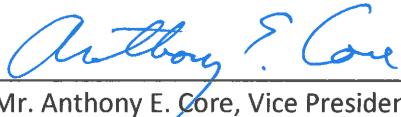

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Logan County Board of Commissioners that:

Section 1. The application submitted by Hardin Wind, LLC, is hereby rejected, in so far as it request any tax exemption in Logan County.

Section 2. The Clerk/Administrator of Logan County Board of County Commissioners shall send copies of this resolution by certified mail to the owner of the facility, Hardin Wind, LLC, to the attention of Michael Speerschneider, 1251 Waterfront Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, and to the Director of the Ohio Development Services Agency, David Goodman, 77 S. High Street, P.O. Box 1001, Columbus, OH 43216-1001.

Mr. Core second the motion.

Roll call resulted as follows:

 _____	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Dustin A. Wickersham, President	
 _____	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Anthony E. Core, Vice President	
 _____	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. John Bayliss, Member	

I, Kacy D. Kirby, Clerk/Administrator, hereby certify this to be a true copy of the proceedings as taken from the minutes of the meeting of the Logan County Commissioners on this date of June 14, 2016.



Kacy D. Kirby, Clerk/Administrator





Benjamin Logan Local School District - *Every Student. Every Day.*

4740 CR 26, Bellefontaine, OH 43311-9532 • Phone 937-593-9211 • Fax 937-599-4059

4740 County Road 26
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311
Wednesday, May 25, 2016

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

Bill Ramsey
President

Susan Allen
Vice President

John Stanford
Member

Keith Stoner
Member

David Willoby
Member

Logan County Commissioners
The Colonial Building
117 E. Columbus Avenue, Suite 100
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

Dear Mr. Bayliss, Mr. Core, & Mr. Wickersham,

This letter is on behalf of the Benjamin Logan Local School District's Board of Education. We have reviewed the Application from The Ohio Development Service Agency on behalf of Hardin Wind, LLC, also known as the Scioto Ridge Wind Project as proposed by EverPower. This letter is to officially make known the Board of Education's position on the proposed wind project in Logan County.

As you are aware, being that we are a publicly financed entity that would be impacted by the decisions that you gentlemen make, it is not in the best interest of this Board of Education to take a stance one way or another. We acknowledge that there are tax paying citizens who sit on both sides of the ideals of this proposed development. If this Board of Education were to publicly endorse this project, we would have many constituents who would be frustrated and disappointed in the Board of Education. We would be seen as helping to make this project happen when some of our voters are not in favor of it. Conversely, this Board of Education will not publicly denounce this proposed project. If we were to do so, we also would have many constituents who would be frustrated and disappointed in the Board of Education. We would be seen as turning away significant amounts of "free" money. That would not be in the best interest of our taxpayers either.

This Board of Education works hard and prides itself on being fiscally conservative in our decision making while at the same time aspiring to do more for students every single day. It is what drives us. We have even recently settled on a new mission statement of **Every Student. Every Day.** that we believe summarizes that way of thinking. Our responsibility and sole focus remains educating students to the highest levels. We will continue to put students first and we will leave the politics up to the elected officials.

On behalf of the Benjamin Logan Local School District's Board of Education,


David Harmon
Superintendent

David Harmon
Superintendent

Eric Adelsberger
Interim Treasurer



OHIO HI-POINT
CAREER CENTER

engaging minds. changing futures.

2280 State Route 540
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311-9594
Phone 937/599-3010
District FAX 937/599-2318
High School FAX 937/592-9733
Adult Ed. FAX 937/592-0442
Online at <http://ohiohipoint.com>

May 18, 2016

Logan County Commissioners
117 E Columbus Ave
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Dear Logan County Commissioners,

The Board of Education at Ohio Hi-Point Career Center appreciates your willingness to consider the Scioto Ridge Wind Project. As a career technology center, we believe in ideas that could produce new jobs of the future. However, we also understand the emotional impact these new ideas cause in our community. Ohio Hi-Point has fourteen districts in five counties. Many of our counties are working through the same issues. It is the position of this Board to support the position taken by home schools in each county. It is these districts that have the greatest impact of a wind project placed within their borders. Most of our benefit would be in jobs and potential internships for students in learning a new job market. We understand your task is to balance all the facts and make the best decision for our community. Our support is with the home districts and in whatever decision you make about the future of this area. We hope this helps in your process of decision making and if you have any other questions for the Board of Education or Dr. Smith, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Anne Reames
President, Board of Education

Dr. Rick Smith
Superintendent

Bellefontaine • Benjamin Logan • Graham • Indian Lake • Kenton • Marysville • Mechanicsburg
Ridgmont • Riverside • Triad • Upper Scioto Valley • Urbana • Waynesfield-Goshen • West Liberty-Salem

TRUSTEES OF RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

David Miracle
Kevin Peterson
Philip Alloway
GRETCHEN ANDERSON, Fiscal Officer
615 N. Center - Belle Center, Ohio 43310
(937)464-3789 - Fax (937)464-5588
Logan County, Ohio

 **COPY**

RESOLUTION #4-14

Scioto Ridge Wind Farm

The Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Case No: 13-1177-EL-BGN, 11-1767-EL BSB, 11-1768-EL BTX
Project: Scioto Ridge Wind Farm
Company: Hardin Wind, LLC, a subsidiary of EverPower Wind Holdings

WHEREAS, Road damage & drainage: the heavy equipment used in the construction of the turbines will undoubtedly damage or destroy our township roads and cause drainage problems. The township budget does not allow for extensive road repair. The township trustees are responsible for the roads.

WHEREAS, Population density: Township 84.5 people per square mile is a higher value than many of the other wind farms nationwide.

WHEREAS, Health & Safety: We have researched many articles from individuals to school systems that have sleeplessness and nerve issues with school students as a result of noise and flicker.

WHEREAS, Environment: Part of this wind farm is within one (1) mile of a natural resource, specifically, Indian Lake, a resort and recreational area with a state campground and an abundance of wildlife, some protected and endangered such as the Bald Eagle.




WHEREAS, Housing: Potential reduction in our local development taxation could reduce our local funds to maintain our township roads.

WHEREAS, Taxation: The PILOT program would defer our township income. This could decrease the township ability to make repairs for the damages encountered during turbine construction.

THEREFORE, The Richland Township Trustees are opposed to the construction of the Scioto Farm Wind Turbines.

Approved this 21st day of February, 2014

Signed:

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION # 2016-3
by RUSHCREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
COUNTY OF LOGAN, OHIO, USA

RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO
TO DENY PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxation)
AND ALL TAX ABATEMENTS TO
SCIOTO RIDGE WIND INSTALLATION of
HARDIN COUNTY WIND, LLC, A SUBSIDIARY OF EVERPOWER WIND HOLDINGS,
AND ALL FUTURE PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL WIND INSTALLATIONS

WHEREAS, Road Use Agreement. To date, no road use maintenance agreement (RUMA) has been agreed upon among the Rushcreek Township Trustees, the county engineer, the county commissioners, the county counsel, and Hardin Wind LLC, a subsidiary of EverPower Wind Holdings for the Scioto Ridge Wind Installation. Even if a RUMA is approved in the future by all afore mentioned entities, a taxation abatement should not be allowed for this project.

WHEREAS, Rushcreek Township Resolution No. 2014-4. On March 10, 2014, we, the Rushcreek Township, Logan County, Ohio Trustees approved Opposition Resolution No. 2014-4 to the Logan County, Ohio Commissioners which "earnestly recommends that the Logan County Commissioners deny a PILOT and any other tax abatement for the Scioto Ridge Wind Installation and all other industrial wind installations within this township and county." The lengthy list of compelling reasons may be referenced within that resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustees of the Township of Rushcreek, the County of Logan, OH hereby again earnestly recommend to the Logan County Commissioners to deny a Payment in Lieu of Taxation (PILOT), and any other tax abatement for the Scioto Ridge Wind Installation, and all other industrial wind installations within this township and county.

Attest: John R. Kennedy, Trustee Date: May 16, 2016
Attest: John W. Schrock, Trustee Date: May 16 2016
Attest: Michael E. Hamilton, Trustee Date: May 16 2016

J. Andrew Johnson, Fiscal Officer Date: 5-16-2016