

The *South Marysburgh* Mirror

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Do you want industrial wind turbines installed in South Marysburgh like the ones proposed by wpd Canada and Gilead Power for their projects near Milford and on the south shore?

By Steve Ferguson

I was stunned to learn that this is the first vote of its kind in Ontario, if not in Canada. Just like any vote, the results could go either way. What I do know - and the reason *The Mirror* is undertaking this initiative - is that it is important to know the result so we understand how the community feels.

I cannot recall a time when I have felt such a mixture of emotions as I do now about our provincial government and the stripping of our rights through the Green Energy Act. With the stroke of a pen, it eliminated any democratic input from Municipal Governments concerning an issue it knew would affect hundreds of thousands of people, particularly throughout rural Ontario. It has made a mockery of our democratic process: Why elect representatives when they can arbitrarily change the basis under which you voted for them in the first place?

The vote is not about whether we should or shouldn't harness the wind to generate electricity; the vote is about whether it should or shouldn't be done in the South Marysburgh community using Industrial Wind Turbines.

Let me explain for those who may not know, an Industrial Wind Turbine stands approximately 480 feet from the ground to the top of the turbine blade. It is not the same as the small turbines at Cherryvale Organic farm or at other residential and farm locations in the ward.

The vote is also about letting our government know that we - the residents and property owners of South Marysburgh - will not allow our rights to be stripped from us especially when it could have such profound effects upon our community.

On July 14th it will be important for you to express your views by voting either 'yes' or 'no' to the question above. You must do your own research and look at the issue from all angles to decide how to vote, and there is abundant information available on-line, in newspapers, books, magazines, and by talking to your neighbors and friends.

At the end of the day, this vote is all about the future and values of our community.

Voting Hours and Location

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on July 14th at the Milford Town Hall, 3076 County Road 10, Milford.

Proxy Voting

If you are unable to vote in person on July 14th, you may designate another person (a proxy) to vote on your behalf. Please see page 18.

Identification

In order to cast a ballot, you must present identification with your name and South Marysburgh residence and/or property address on it. This may be a driver's license (preferred), the name and address portion of a property tax bill or an Income Tax Assessment, or a utility bill.

Eligibility

Residents and/or property owners 18 years of age and over of South Marysburgh **ONLY** who can show identification containing a South Marysburgh ward address. One vote per person, not one vote per property in the case of multiple property ownership.

Voting Procedure and Instructions

Available at Milford Town Hall on the morning of July 14th.