

Wind Farms at Ostrander Point?

The PEC Field Naturalists opposes wind turbines on Ostrander Pt. because it's so close to the bird sanctuary at Pt. Traverse, and, as has been proven at wind farms around the world, each structure averages 3 bird deaths per day. The tips of the wind turbines spin around extremely fast.

Some professionals believe that they pose a risk to human health through the noise that they create, and the threat of ice-throw. The minimum set-back allowed is only 550 metres from dwellings. Others worry about the risk of a change in the water tables and say that their concern is with the potential for groundwater contamination; that windmill foundations definitely penetrate groundwater.

Note: Local people may not have any recourse if, following the erection of nearby turbines, there is little water in their wells afterward or water of poor quality. Have you spoken to your counselor about this or to Ms. Dom-browsky? Have you asked Mr. McGuinty if he really wants to be re-elected? Have you written to the Ministry of Natural Resources or phoned your new counselor?

As I see it, our voices are all we have to show our children and grandchildren that we weren't part of this insanity to wreck the world for a buck. Why not voice your opinion, though I do accept that yours may not be the same as mine.

You'd think the ministry would have been the very first ones to oppose turbines that want to be located near sites where there are populations of conservation concern, or species with behaviours that predispose them to risk, such as aerial flights and displays or aerial hunting techniques. There are Vultures down there, Bald Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Owls and many Warblers. There're Bats, Monarch Butterflies, Dragon-flies. Do we want to see them disappear, one by one, beneath the blades - all victims of these monstrosities and totally unnecessary when solar panels on rooftops will do very nicely, just as efficiently, and more safely.

Now, keep in mind that Gilead is acting under Ontario's new Green Energy Act, so council may have their hands tied here as the GEA seems to have been set up "above the law of the people", so we may not even be able to appeal on constitutional grounds. In B.C., citizens have often stopped greedy companies like this by protesting near the site; by blockading the road(s); and by their vote at the next provincial election.

It appears that when it comes time to have to remove of these monsters, (only 20 years), if the company is no longer in business, it'll cost PEC \$1,000,000 each to remove them. Still wondering why the government isn't backing roof panels instead? Me, too!

Nature Canada supports the GEA's concerns that, as a country, Canada must reduce its reliance upon fossil fuels and nuclear energy. Yes, true. However, they also say that

this must not come at the expense of our wildlife, our biodiversity, or the wild spaces. I agree, wholeheartedly. Pt. Traverse is as important a bird sanctuary as Pt. Pelee. So many species are going extinct now or are on the endangered list, and well we humans might be, too, in the near future, as a result. Nature Canada states that wind turbines should NOT be located near areas of migrating and breeding birds - in this case, Pt. Traverse, and Ostrander Point is only 5 miles down the road.

On Army Reserve Road last fall near Lighthall, I saw an entire flock of Yellow-rumped Warblers appear and feed for a couple of hours, flitting back and forth and all around me. Where were they heading? Mostly likely to Pt. Traverse and thence south, as they have done for thousands of years every autumn. They have to fly east from Lighthall to get to Pt. Traverse, crossing the fields at Ostrander Pt. In the near future, hundreds could get wiped out at Ostrander before reaching Pt. Traverse if this wind farm gets built. Did you also know that this is the area where the endangered and very rare Blanding Turtle lives? Right there in our own backyard.

Birdlife International states that 'there is a strong consensus that location is critical'. If you google Nature Canada's 'Guidelines for Wind Power Projects', you'll see their recommendations, and those of others, that the guidelines used now are too weak, and, in many instances, ineffectual.

Karen I. Smith GAG (go away Gilead)

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.The next day head office called and asked re the manual. The one that was shipped with the stove 8 years ago was the wrong one. Apparently one of us, and guess who we think that one was, inadvertently opened the oven door and pressed one of the pads. We/I now know how to put the timer back on and not to press the wrong pads in future so we won't have that problem again.

Two down – hope there isn't a third – aren't glitches supposed to go in threes! I still have a perception that somewhere, someone or something delights in these glitches happening to me – what do you think?

- John A Jackson