

Wind power not the answer, says environmentalist

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"People are scared to death of global warming. We must find green energy, but this has to work - I do not think wind power is the answer," he said.

Anderson showed a video concerning wind power developments in Pennsylvania and New York, which included interviews with residents who noted the negative effects on their lives. The video was followed by a power point presentation countering the claims of a wind power company, which is among several proposing "wind farms" in Essex County.

A couple of people, identified as landowners, questioned why there were no presentations showing the positive aspects of wind turbines. They dismissed the video as nothing more than "propaganda."

"I just want to know the truth," said Windsor resident Giancarlo Mardegan, who offered to show a CD with a "pro" opinion. Mardegan said he had property in Colchester South and was considering developing a single large wind turbine installation there.

A local award-winning conservationist, Dan Bissonnette defended the Andersons' agenda: "Stop defending yourself, this is

your forum."

"Many environmental battles are lost on the local front. We have governments that often look before they leap," he said.

The Andersons said they had made repeated requests for a public meeting, in a forum where people may ask questions, with GenGrowth, a private wind energy company based out of Toronto.

GenGrowth has proposed wind power installations just north and south of the urban area of Essex, and in Malden near the sensitive bird migration area of Holiday Beach. GenGrowth is expected to hold an "open house" session in February.



For and against - It was standing room only at the Malden Community Centre Jan. 28, with over 100 local residents attending an information meeting about wind power developments in the region.



Photo courtesy of The Kingsville Reporter

HARD WORK HONoured - Kingsville Deputy Mayor Katherine Gunning, centre, is recognized for her efforts by members of the Kingsville-Leamington Community Social Planning Council Judy Wheeler, left, and Paul Forman. Forman said the council honoured Gunning during a Kingsville council meeting Jan. 22 for "being instrumental in letting our town councils and service providers know about the social needs of our citizens." Gunning recently left the council after serving on many committees. She was thanked for her efforts with a certificate of recognition.

McGuinty government recognizes exceptional women community leaders

BY BRUCE CROZIER

Do you know of a woman in our community who is an exceptional leader, who has worked hard to improve the lives of women and girls, and who is an inspiration to others?

The government of Ontario is calling for nominations for its "Leading Women, Building Communities" Award to honour extraordinary women whose leadership, enthusiasm and commitment makes a positive difference.

The award is an opportunity to thank women across the province who help to build stronger, safer communities, and who serve as role models for future generations of women leaders. It is a chance to applaud the dedicated women who

empower others, and who build the networks that support women and girls personally and professionally as they continue to break new ground.

To be eligible for the award women must be 18 years or older and have made a positive difference in the lives of women and girls in their community. This includes: acting as mentors to women and girls, promoting good health and well-being through education, community service or researching, and championing women's rights and issues.

If you know of a woman who meets the eligibility requirements, please send me a note of 100 words or less detailing how your candidate has improved the lives of women and girls in

our community. I ask that submissions be made by February 23 as awards will be presented during International Women's Week (March 4 - 10). You can send nominations to me by mail to 78 Talbot St. North, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A2 or by email to bcrozier.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org.

Nominations for the "Leading Women, Building Communities" are open to all women who meet the eligibility criteria. I look forward to receiving nominations of eligible women in Essex County for the "Leading Women, Building Communities" award.

Please call my constituency office at 519-776-6420 for more information.

Anderson said residents should be concerned over legislation - Bill 51, section 24 - which grants the Ontario government the right to give the green light to wind projects regardless of objections from residents or municipalities.

Concerns over Bill 51 and wind power developments were addressed with Essex Town Council Jan.

22, during a planning update meeting held with the town's planner, Chad Jeffery.

"Right now we don't have a policy," said Jeffery, who received council's backing to support making the issue of wind power development a regional issue.

Instead of each municipality dealing with the issue separately, Jeffery advocat-

ed a region-wide study that would examine the safety aspects, environmental issues, and site plans concerning wind power projects proposed in the county.

"It makes sense," he said.

About 30 Amherstburg residents at the Malden meeting signed a petition calling for the halt of wind power development in their municipality.

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