David Michaud, Ph.D. (Principal Investigator/Project Manager)

Consumer and Clinical Radiation Protection Bureau

Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch

Health Canada

Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

[wind.turbine.health.study@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:wind.turbine.health.study@hc-sc.gc.ca)

Health Minister Aglukkaq

[Minister\_Ministre@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:Minister_Ministre@hc-sc.gc.ca)

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

[Harper.S@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Harper.S@parl.gc.ca)

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Dear Dr. Michaud,

This has been a difficult letter to write. I am ill due to the effects of Industrial Wind Turbines. I did everything imaginable to stay in my home, followed formal complaint protocols to mitigate my suffering to no avail. I had to leave my home of 32 years. You see the harm done to me is irrefutable, corroborated and documented by medical professionals and specialists.

I am glad to see the Federal Government conducting a study. However, I have some concerns I would respectfully request be addressed.

* Health Canada states: “**The health effects reported by individuals living in communities in close proximity to wind turbine installations are poorly understood due to limited scientific research in this area.” (Health Canada, 2012.). Given this fact I am concerned that further IWT projects continue to be erected, why is the Precautionary Principle being ignored in the case of IWT’s?**

**Therefore I request a moratorium to the instillation of IWT’s until the conclusion of this study.**

* While doing research it is important to mitigate bias where possible.

**Therefore I request that Federal Authorities and third party design and conduct this study.**

* The proposed Cross-Sectional Field Study is a valuable research tool when gathering data to support further research. However, individuals such as I do not have the luxury of waiting for even further research beyond this research. Real people are suffering now. Moreover, a Cross-Sectional Study takes a snap shot of a population at a certain time. Furthermore, it is complicated and difficult to analyze this research.

**Therefore I request a study with a design and method not easily manipulated, for example a Case-Study Research project.**

* The research objectives on the Health Canada web site are very limited; given $1.8million is the funding for this research project and the issues involved.

**I request that there should be full disclosure regarding where these funds are to be distributed.**

* The research exact design and methodology is poorly stated on health Canada web site.

**I request detailed design and methodology for this research posted on the web site.**

* The IWT projects in Ontario may be different from other areas of the country given the density of said turbines. Therefore response to these turbines will vary and skew data.

**I request that the 1.8 million dollars be spent wisely. Concentrate on one or two projects and do an in-depth study, rather than waste time and resources.**

* The time frames that are noted in the research design for data collection are too short or not noted at all.

**I request that a study be conducted where of bulk the resources go into the data collection in the field, for example longer timeframes for sleep monitoring, blood-pressure, low frequency monitoring, etc.,**

* The Ministry of the Environment accept that a certain percentage of individuals are adversely effected by IWT”s. The numbers generally stated are 10% to 15%. Given these numbers and the fact that you stated in the Research Design of your proposal Study “The study will be conducted on a sample of 2000 dwellings randomly selected from those located near 8 to 12 WT installations in Canada.” **(Health Canada, 2012.).**

**Therefore the *p* value can’t help but be insignificant when one looks at the data of those who may be adversely affected given these numbers. It is a foregone conclusion.**

**I request that you look at this carefully. The research you propose would certainly be manipulative in the Wind Industry’s favour in my opinion.**

* Research is needed in the area of dose response relationship to IWT’s in order to determine sighting parameters.

**I request further research.**

* There are other issues other than noise related to IWT”S for example; shadow flicker and change in the environment.

**I request further research.**

* I am concerned that some IWT sites that received Federal funding may be excluded from the research.

**I request the decision making process be disclosed as to which sites will or will not be in this research project. Could politics please be kept out of this and do the right thing here.**

* It would be appropriate to have those with expertise on your panel and those who may add insight to the study..

**I request that you include individuals such as, Carmen Krogh and Dr Robert McMurtry on your panel.**

**Moreover, I hope the public may have further input to this process.**

As stated previously I am ill and therefore this submission is not as comprehensive or detailed as I would wish. However, I sincerely wish that these comments are taken with serious intent. Real people’s lives are devastated, we are ill, we leave our homes unwillingly, and we seek help. This funding facilitates an opportunity to do a study well. Please do this.

I look forward to a response to my concerns and furthermore I hope this study will be all it can be. Because of my previous comments I fear there is a possibility it may not be. I would sincerely wish to be proven wrong.

Unfortunately we all know how statistics can be manipulated. Therefore the research design is **crucial.** The method you propose to use a Cross-Sectional Field Study has a greater probability of missing an individual like me (one ill due to IWT’s) than capturing, given the numbers stated, therefore a definite bias here before the study commences.

I wish you and you and your colleagues every success in this study as many people are relying on you to put forward the truth in cold hard statistical analysis. This is a large responsibility undoubtedly, that will be watched and critiqued closely. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Norma C. Schmidt RN BScN