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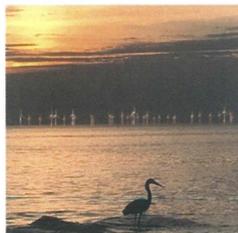
ICEBREAKER BACKGROUNDER



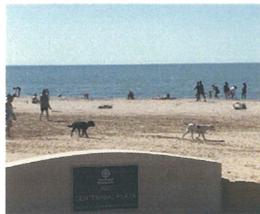
**IMAGINE THIS:
ONCE THE VIEW IS GONE - IT'S GONE!**



Lakewood view now...



Simulated View With Wind Turbines Installed!



Edgewater Beach view now...



Simulated View With Wind Turbines Installed!

Resources and information regarding our views against the Icebreaker Proposed Project for 6 massive turbines, 8-10 miles offshore of Cleveland. The project is not really about six. It is about a “gusher,” a Saudi Arabia, according to many, including Rep Marcy Kaptur. Up to or more than 1450. Please keep this in mind while digesting information that the developer uses as promotion materials, all of which are false.

www.saveourbeautifullake.org





**IMAGINE THIS:
ONCE THE VIEW IS GONE - IT'S GONE!**



Lakewood view now...



Simulated View With Wind Turbines Installed!



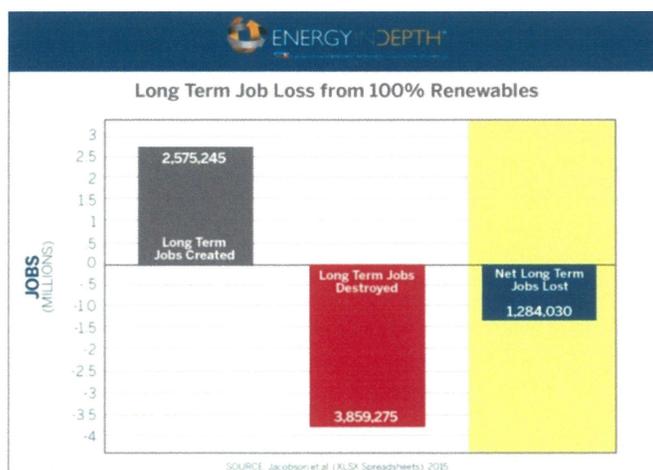
Edgewater Beach view now...



Simulated View With Wind Turbines Installed!

BASIC FACTS RE ICEBREAKER

1. There will be zero reduction in CO2 or GHGs. Wind is intermittent and always requires 100% back up of base load power.
2. The cost will be astronomical, and no one really knows what the final tally will be. Additional costs will include transmission costs, adjustments to the grid, and upwards of \$150 million FOR SIX TURBINES is just the start. These costs will be borne by the rate payers. People who have willingly paid into the "Power Pledge," have been sadly duped. They believe they are doing something good for the earth, but indeed are accelerating harm. With the foreign Developer's (Norwegian billionaire Fred Olsen Renewables) desire for upwards of 1450 massive machines in Lake Erie, imagine the costs.... TRILLIONS?
3. The environmental degradation, costs, are also unimaginable. We will never have accurate counts of the mortality. Developers do the counts, and mostly voluntarily. They all say, the birds do not fly here, and there is no suitable habitat. This is constantly refuted by real life experts, citizen scientists, and honest biologists, who find the tally of mortality is ten to 20 times the estimates by developers. In this fragile Lake Erie eco system, richly abundant, an [Audubon Important Bird Area](#), flying creatures will be decimated, as they look on turbines as food sources, nesting or roosting places, and rest spots as well. Turbines offshore especially (and on) act as ECO DEATH TRAPS. WATER CONTAMINATION WILL ABSOLUTELY BE AN ISSUE.
4. The developer promises cleaner air. This is patently false. MORE CO2 and GHGs are produced because of the constant need for backup, coal, nuclear, gas, hydro, etc. Also, the construction and life cycle of the machines is fossil fuel intensive. These particular turbines are said to contain 404 gallons of oil and lubricants; these leak and have to be replenished. The list of chemicals, steel, cement, composites, carbon fiber, and toxic rare earth elements in the turbines, is exhaustive and daunting. Much if not most of the machines, cannot be recycled at this time. WILL THEY BE LEFT TO ROT IN THE WATER? THERE IS TO DATE NO DECOMMISSIONING PLAN.
5. THE SAUDI ARABIA OF WIND: JOBS PROMISES. Again, this is false. The developer(s) themselves say in their EA that only 9 permanent jobs will be obtained, and construction will be done by experienced and out of area workers. The Saudi Arabia concept is used around the world, and especially in the USA, to promote grandiose schemes and false hopes.



<https://mothersagainstwindturbines.com/2016/01/18/wind-turbine-industry-is-a-job-killer/>

September 19, 2018

Asim Z Haque, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Case Number: 16-1871-EL-BGN

We are submitting for your consideration the attached petitions from concerned residents of Ohio and Michigan urging you in your September 24 hearing to order appropriate delays of any approvals for the proposed "Icebreaker" demonstration project in Lake Erie.

As Ohio's greatest natural resource, Lake Erie is a fragile body of water already facing a massive algae problem, a myriad of invasive species, and other threats to the ecosystem. The Lake Erie Energy Development Company (LEEDCo) has a stated goal of stimulating construction of hundreds more turbines in "wind farms" throughout Lake Erie and other Great Lakes after this first demonstration project. However, blighting our beautiful lakes with hundreds of industrial-size windmills is completely incompatible with the value, enjoyment and protection of these treasured waters that are held in the public trust by the states of Ohio and Michigan.

Much has already been written and published about this proposal. The damage to the environment, ranging from spreading carcinogens trapped in the lake bottom into the drinking water of millions to killing birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty, will be the unacceptable result.

Moreover, recognizing the increased costs of building and maintaining turbines in the waters of the Great Lakes make it abundantly clear the claimed economic benefits of such wind power simply cannot be substantiated. A study of such offshore installations in countries like Great Britain and Germany document their electric rates to be among the highest in the world.

Further, we foresee such turbine installations will become navigational hazards and will trigger large "security zones" around any wind farm, something LEEDCo has never addressed. Prohibiting thousands of recreational boating and fishing families access to large areas of water that is held in the public trust should be unacceptable to every member of the OPSB.

Therefore, we ask you to recognize the overwhelming negative consequences of "Icebreaker." Further, that you uphold a duty to protect the health and aesthetics of Lake Erie and, thus, the quality of life for those who live, work and recreate on or near Ohio and Michigan's most important natural resource. We urgently request this Board put the value of Lake Erie above any need to jeopardize our waters, and disapprove the "Icebreaker" project.

Sincerely,

John C. Lipaj
Board Member
Lake Erie Foundation
Westlake, OH

Bryan Ralston
President
Lake Erie Marine Trades Association
Westlake, OH

David Strang
President
saveourbeautifullake.org
Rocky River, OH

Thomas C. Sullivan, Jr.
Officer
nolakeeriewindfarm.org
Bay Village, OH

Jim Herold
Trustee
Edgewater Yacht Club
Cleveland, OH

Nicki Polan
Executive Director
Michigan Boating Industries Association
Livonia, MI

Attachments: Signed Petitions asking the Board to Reject the OPSB Staff Recommendation

TIME TO BAN WINDMILLS IN LAKE ERIE

In last month's Part 1 of this examination of wind farms in Lake Erie by the Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation, we examined the "Blight on the Lake" this proposal will create.

We also identified the organizations behind it, the planned sell-out to foreign interests and the taxpayer money needed to keep LEEDCo and its leaders afloat.

In this Part2, we'll look at other aspects of this project that all those who love Lake Erie should be opposing, and how to have your voice heard.

The idea that we can generate electricity from the wind is not, in itself, bad. But, the proposal to build wind turbines in Lake Erie should top a list of bad ideas. It's time for all those who see this boondoggle for what it is to take action.

Specifically, a wind farm, dubbed "Ice Breaker," would be built in Lake Erie about 7 miles off Cleveland. If constructed, it would be the nation's first offshore turbine development in fresh water, slated to be operating by 2018. But a serious look at the project should lead all those who value Lake Erie -- shoreline communities, boaters, fishermen and more -- to say "No!"

The group behind it, perhaps, should be more accurately called the Lake Erie Environmental Destruction Corporation. They have lived off taxpayer money for more than a decade and just got a truly fat Department of Energy grant of \$47 million in taxpayer money. Unfortunately, this money will move LEEDCo closer to realizing its stated goal of inspiring more wind farm developments in Lake, Ashtabula, Lorain and Erie counties. Watch out Lake Erie Islands – the beauty surrounding Perry's Monument could be dwarfed by 410-foot tall, loud sounding, industrial-sized pinwheels!

Bad Economics

But forget about destroying the spectacular vista of Lake Erie in the name of some megawatts that we already get from other sources. Look at the economic and environmental aspects.

We have, for example, the world's largest supply of low-cost natural gas currently used to generate increasing amounts of our electricity at reasonable costs. In contrast, electric prices are significantly higher in countries that have embraced wind power, like Britain or Germany where households pay three times more than we pay.

The simple truth is the wind industry can't compete with America's natural gas, a reliable, clean and cheap power source that doesn't need taxpayer subsidies. Wind is unreliable and, therefore, much more costly. In California, for example, capacity factors for the onshore windmill units have been 20 percent to 45 percent lower than normal because average wind speeds dropped.

The Avian Slaughter

The wind industry also promotes itself as environmentally friendly. But, there's the inevitable avian slaughter when whirling turbine blades kill more than a 500,000 birds each year. It's data the industry doesn't want known.

A study of one northern California wind farm found it kills about 60 eagles and 2500 other raptors annually. Last August a federal judge in California ruled in favor of protecting the bald eagle under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Elsewhere, North Carolina-based Duke Energy paid a \$1 million fine and pleaded guilty to killing 14 eagles and 149 other birds at its Wyoming wind farm.

It's particularly telling, however, that the existing Blue Creek Wind Farm in northwest Ohio has filed a lawsuit against the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Power Siting Board asking the court to block those agencies from releasing bird kill reports. The wind farm operators don't want birding groups or others to get such information.

In Michigan, wind farm developers see Lake St. Clair as a target for 160 wind turbines, according to State Rep. Timothy Bledsoe. He said the 40-story turbines would be clustered together in groups of 50-plus just three to four miles off the shoreline.

Meanwhile, New York State and the province of Ontario smartly placed moratoriums on offshore windmill construction after residents rejected their unsightly views, expected property value losses and higher electricity costs. Elsewhere, wind energy zoning aimed at restricting turbine locations was enacted in 2015 in Michigan's Huron County.

A Call to Action

Finally, the idea of towers spinning all over Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair and other Great Lakes should trigger a loud denunciation from boaters and anglers. If the destruction of the lakes' beauty isn't enough, consider this:

There will be a need for "No Boating" security zones to protect the wind farms just like the existing zones around power plants. But these new bans on boating will encompass dramatically larger areas, thus eliminating many square miles for recreation.

The time has arrived for boaters, anglers and every person who treasures the unbroken beauty of Lake Erie to stand up and say "NO" to this needless environmental destruction. And, it can be prevented.

Locating turbines in our waterways requires approval from federal agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Most important, however, is that approval must be obtained from various agencies in each impacted state. Such approval hasn't happened, yet. In Ohio, for example, key approval must come from the Ohio Power Siting Board. The Board needs to hear from boaters and anglers objecting to destroying Lake Erie by sticking industrial turbine complexes into recreational areas!

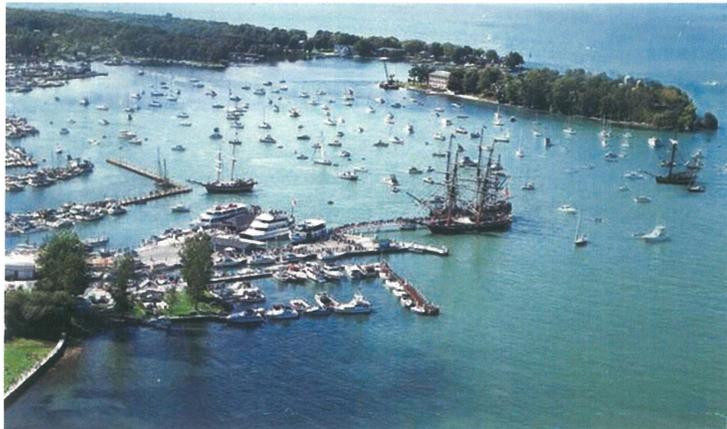
Want to save Lake Erie? Make your voice heard by sending a simple email to OPSB asking them to: "Please Save Our Lake Erie. DO NOT permit wind turbines." You can easily comment online at: <https://www.opsb.ohio.gov/Contact-Us/> Be sure to reference "Icebreaker Proposal, Case number: 16-1871-EL-BGN"

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Norm Schultz is President Emeritus of the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association and is a boating industry consultant, author and speaker.

<https://www.tradeonlytoday.com/columns-blogs/new-battle-for-lake-erie-starts-tonight>

New battle for Lake Erie starts tonight



NORM SCHULTZ

JUL 19, 2018

Ohio boating organizations will pack a hearing of the Ohio Power Siting Board to blast a recommendation that would give the green light to build wind turbines off Cleveland.

It will be the first barrage in an all-out battle to save Lake Erie. Ohio boating organizations will pack a hearing of the Ohio Power Siting Board tonight to blast an OPSB staff recommendation that would give the Lake Erie Energy Development Corp. the green light to build wind turbines off Cleveland — a project known as Icebreaker.

“The staff recommendation to approve Icebreaker, even taking into account noted conditions, should be rejected outright by the OPSB’s seven voting

members,” Tom Mack, chairman of the 100-member Lake Erie Marine Trades Association, will tell the hearing. “What’s missing is the most critical analysis of all — whether there is any justification to risk impairing an already fragile Lake Erie by blighting it with industrial-size windmills.”

Other large boating groups, including the Boating Associations of Ohio and the Greater Cleveland Boating Association, will join LEMTA in declaring that most people haven’t been given enough information about LEEDCo’s initial six-turbine demonstration plan. The end game is to stimulate construction of hundreds more turbines in Lake Erie.

Ohio boaters and anglers will voice critical concerns about the construction and operation of the 500-foot-tall turbines. They will pose serious navigational hazards. Moreover, while they won’t be sited in commercial shipping lanes, building hundreds of turbines will monopolize huge areas of water that will be designated closed to boating and fishing for security reasons.

“Myriad other environmental issues add even more red flags,” says Bryan Ralston, executive director of the Boating Associations of Ohio. “It’s known that a new giant suction cup technology will be employed to build the towers. This will result in the release of caustic substances currently dormant in the lake’s bottom sediment. In addition, no attention is being paid to similar results when laying the transmission lines from the towers to the electric grid on shore, disturbing many more miles of sediment and threatening the 21 million people who get their drinking water from Lake Erie.”

That’s just the beginning of the environmental dark side. It’s also known that collisions with land-based turbines in many areas of the country are killing thousands of birds and bats annually, including bald eagles. It’s almost a certainty that turbines in Lake Erie would be in violation of the Migratory Birds Treaty Act.

The American Bird Conservancy contends the Great Lakes are among the worst possible places to install wind turbines. Lake Erie, in particular, is known to be a major migrating flyway as well as a major habitat for water birds. In fact, the lake was recently designated a Globally Important Bird Area because of the large numbers of water fowl.

Finally, testimony at the hearing will contend that people haven't been told that the economic value of Icebreaker simply isn't there and never will be. Indeed, LEEDCo has existed for more than a decade solely because \$50 million in taxpayer-funded grants have enriched the few connected to it. It could never stand on its own. Just the need for backup reserve energy for times when the wind doesn't blow enough will greatly increase the capital and operating costs of this offshore wind power. Unknown maintenance issues, especially during Lake Erie's frozen winter, will make offshore turbines even less reliable.

The Department of Energy estimates that the cost of wind is least 20 percent higher than the natural gas to which large numbers of power plants have already switched. And, the United States holds the largest reserves of cheap, clean-burning natural gas in the world. In addition, the cost to install a wind turbine in the water is about seven times the cost of a similar installation on land. The claim that wind power renders cheaper electricity is not true and won't hold up for offshore wind farms.

"Our highest priority should be to protect our natural resource," says Mack. "Lake Erie has a unique frontage for many Ohio communities, with resorts, parks, marinas, campgrounds, beaches and more. The pure vista of its unbroken horizon attracts tourists from around the world and contributes billions of dollars to our Ohio economy. Having hundreds of 500-foot spinning towers destroying that picture should make any question of offshore wind farms in Lake Erie moot."

In the mold of America's Naval commander, Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, who decisively defeated the larger British fleet in the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie, this newest battle is already uniting a broad range of groups, from labor to lawmakers, intent on defeating this attempt to blight Lake Erie.

[LEMTA is urging written comments opposing Icebreaker.](#)

BY

NORM SCHULTZ

Last call to block Lake Erie wind turbines?

7/7/2018

John Hageman

Cleveland gets no respect. Their citizens remain an optimistic bunch, considering how often their sports teams come up short of a first-place trophy (2016 Cavaliers notwithstanding); still get teased for their river catching fire and Mayor Kucinich running the city into bankruptcy.

Now, in the name of job creation, many union leaders and government officials are getting duped by wind industry promoters to support off-shore wind turbines within sight of their downtown skyline.

However, if this foolish project is approved by state regulatory agencies, the joke will be on their citizens who will pay inflated electrical rates for the privilege of occasionally seeing blades spinning on the horizon.

The primary winners will be the hucksters who will cash in on tens of millions of dollars of our tax money to conduct this experiment in which the results are all but pre-determined.

Some of us will not live long enough to see it, but despite untested promises to the contrary, I'd wager that as these ugly monoliths cease to operate as expected in 20-to-30 years, their obsolete carcasses will spoil the scenery for decades to come, joining the factory ruins already surrounding the lake from Detroit to Buffalo.

Radar images, GPS transmitter tracking data and evening bird call flight recordings document millions of birds and bats crossing the lake during their spring and fall migrations — a prime reason to site wind farms inland.

Monopolizing fishing spots, creating a boating obstacle course not pin-pointed on GPS navigational map chips and a fall zone for blades which may shear off are recreational boating concerns.

Excuse me for being fiercely protective of MY Lake Erie, a public trust resource that I dedicated my career to understand and protect. I do not want to see thousands of acres of surface water privatized to the exclusion of my own or other like-minded citizen's use.

I am also offended knowing that the promoters resort to dishonesty to further their objectives, because the public would not support wind energy if the true environmental and social costs were known, such as:

— Hiding the true magnitude of birds and bats killed by the blades and tower by deliberately manipulating and withholding mortality data, citing trade secrets.

According to the 501 (c) (3) organization, Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow, (CFACT), "No other industry has ever been or would be allowed to operate under such regulatory blindness."

— Down-playing problems with noise, shadow flicker and flying debris when the blades shear off (disassemble)- and paying neighbors “hush money” to not complain.

— The cost of the energy produced using wind vs. fossil fuels and the inability to produce electricity during calm or high wind periods.

According to CFACT, the cost to install the offshore units off of the coast of Rhode Island was \$150,000 per household served.

Germany, a nation that provides over 1.1 trillion in subsidies to get 16.3 percent of their power from wind (Clean Energy Wire), has halted offshore wind turbine construction there as too expensive — even by wind standards.

During most of July 4, none of the four wind turbines were spinning at the Wood County landfill because of calm winds, while temperature was in the 90s. It’s a good thing that we still have reliable sources of electrical production to keep our air conditioners running.

The American Bird Conservancy and the Black Swamp Bird Observatory are solidly opposed to construction of wind turbines anywhere within three miles of the Great Lakes, based upon scientific bird migration data.

Unfortunately, some other conservation organizations have endorsed the project despite their toll on migratory birds and bats as part of their bigger agenda against the politically incorrect fossil fuel industry.

Bat populations, already devastated by a rampant disease called white-nose syndrome, are spiraling toward extinction due to overwhelming wind turbine mortality.

Norm Schultz, President Emeritus of Ohio’s Lake Erie Marine Trades Association, recently wrote that they and the Michigan Boating Industries Association both oppose destroying the unique vista of an unbroken horizon that lakefront property owners; resort, park, marina and beach-goers; and others currently enjoy — in trade for a few megawatts of electricity.

If properly sited, many of us do not fundamentally oppose wind turbines, but off-shore in the Great Lakes and in migratory bird corridors are unacceptable, illogical locations to erect them.

If you agree, please considering attending the last Ohio Power Siting Board public meeting about the Cleveland wind turbines, scheduled for 6 p.m. on July 19 at the Cleveland City Council Chambers, 601 Lakeside Avenue- 2nd floor, to offer comments on the topic.

The Toledo Blade

Proposed Icebreaker wind project is not what it seems

By STEVE POLLICK, Retired Outdoors Editor of The Blade

Published on Aug. 11, 2018

It is hard to know where to start dissecting the slick spin-doctoring [recently published](#) in The Blade's Op-Ed pages by LEEDCo, the Lake Erie Energy Development Corp., which wants to erect North America's first freshwater offshore wind-turbines in central Lake Erie off Cleveland.

So-doing would reach far beyond the scope of a newspaper "op-ed." Beth Nagusky, LEEDCo's director of sustainable development, is a master at cherrypicking and parading obscure statements as a fait-accomplis. Her contentions about the goodness of the proposed six-unit Icebreaker Wind power-generation project, some seven miles offshore, lie between premature and erroneous.

They are a masterful act of dissembling, distraction, distortion, and deception. Perhaps "MisLEEDCo" would be more appropriate.

Ms. Nagusky has posited that Icebreaker's towering turbines would kill few birds and bats, a claim that simply does not hold up under scrutiny. This is shown clearly for anyone who assesses it thoughtfully.

LEEDCo is betting on the glitter of such buzz-words as "economic impact, jobs, and clean energy" to substantiate its stance that somehow the pre-construction research on Icebreaker's impact is all said and done and we can gleefully ride off into a lovely green-energy future. Wrong.

It claims that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has declared the project a low risk to birds and bats. Wrong again. The Service ruled that the project only posed a low risk to a few particular endangered species. It rejected the initial Icebreaker environmental assessment (EA), citing several insufficiencies in regard to birds and bats. The final EA has yet to be filed. No one, including LEEDCo, has seen it yet.

Among other unsettled issues, the required technology to monitor post-construction bird and bat mortality simply does not exist. And additional studies, including meaningful radar studies of migrations through the turbine zone, should be mandatory.

In its sugarcoating, LEEDCo ignores saying that the initial six units are just the tip of the iceberg. If the Ohio Power Siting Board and related agencies give the green light, this project opens a Pandora's Box to hundreds or

thousands more turbines on Lake Erie and the other Great Lakes. Any negative impacts would be magnified by orders of magnitude.

The state of New York has issued a moratorium on offshore wind for just such considerations, as has the province of Ontario, which alone has put 1,250 proposed offshore Erie wind turbines “on hold” while it assesses Icebreaker deliberations. Do you think that the giant Fred Olsen Renewables, of Oslo, Norway, would bother with building just six units here? The big money lies in hundreds. A proposed “buildout” after Icebreaker may run to 1,600 turbines.

So this really is not just six little old turbines and a few dead birds and bats. The migratory pathway and wintering grounds of millions of birds, and migratory bats as well, lie in the paths of a potential phalanx of towering 500-foot rotors. Out of sight, out of mind, is no justification.

LEEDCo is counting on the public not bothering with facts. Ms. Nagusky singled out Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) for its criticism of poor, incomplete science that LEEDCo’s hired-gun consultants have proffered about unknown and likely devastating impacts of arrays of offshore turbines. This in the heart of what the National Audubon Society and BirdLife International has declared a Globally Important Bird Area.

The Ohio Power Siting Board staff has attached a daunting list of conditions to its preliminary analysis. Last October, contrary to LEEDCo pretensions, the USF&WS argued that a still-unapproved environmental assessment is insufficient. Instead a more serious, detailed, environmental impact statement should be drawn. Yet LEEDCo proselytizes incorrectly that a waffling preliminary assessment means that Icebreaker is clean and green.

BSBO’s analysis has been dogged over many months. Its conservation committee includes a professional engineer, an environmental law attorney, and no less than three lifetime professional wildlife and fisheries biologists. Contentions down Cleveland-way that the anti-LEEDCo campaign is an animal of the beleaguered coal industry is just another distraction. The project needs to stand on its own scientific merits, not smoke-and-mirrors.

As a long-time volunteer with the organization, I know that BSBO is not, and never has been, opposed to wind power, as accused by LEEDCo. It is opposed to poorly studied and improperly cited projects, anywhere, which would contribute significantly to further destruction of diminishing wildlife resources everywhere — including birds and bats.

This project should be stayed unless or until it can assure minimal wildlife impacts based on the most rigorous science. The public should thoughtfully educate itself on the project before forming opinion. Icebreaker is the first small wave in a floodtide. Read the record, not just a “windustry” spin-doctor’s selective fantasizing.

Steve Pollick is the retired Outdoors Editor of The Blade and is a member of the BSBO Conservation Committee.

LEEDCO (Fred. Olsen Renewables) have been seeking government approval to build a wind farm consisting of six turbines in Lake Erie.

“**Our Mission:** Build and install Icebreaker Wind, a 6 turbine, 20.7 megawatt offshore wind demonstration project 8 miles from downtown Cleveland in Lake Erie -- the first freshwater offshore wind project in North America.”

- Source: LEEDCO website on June 14, 2018

To garner support, they have been touting the creation of 8,000 jobs from the project.

“We can build an industry and supply chain in Northeast Ohio that will create 8,000 new good paying jobs and pump nearly \$14 Billion into our economy by 2030, with the potential for creating tens of thousands of jobs as the industry grows here.”

- Source: LEEDCO website on June 14, 2018

“LEEDCO's demo project is called "Icebreaker" and will consist of six wind turbines seven miles off the North Coast. Karpinski said the plan is projected to create more than 500 jobs and lead to an industry that employs 8,000 people by the year 2030”

-Source: *Public hearing on Avon Lake wind turbine project generates some objections*
The Plain Dealer, Dec 22, 2017

“According to Wagner, in addition to providing clean energy, the project could provide Northeast Ohio with 8,000 good-paying jobs.”

-Source: *A wind farm on Lake Erie? If only Ohio pols, and some environmental activists, too, would get out of the way.* Belt Magazine, May 8th, 2018

However, the creation of 8,000 jobs would only result if a 5,000 megawatt (5 gigawatt) wind project is built in the Lake.

“This study investigates the economic effects of two scenarios depicting different deployment rates of wind turbines in Lake Erie. Both scenarios feature an initial offshore installation of 20 megawatts by 2012, but differ thereafter, leading to 1,500 MW or 5,000 MW installed by 2030.”

“The larger deployment scenario of 5,000 MW by 2030 generates 8,000 jobs in Ohio, \$7.8 billion in wages and salaries, \$22.6 billion in sales and \$586.5 million in public revenues. The smaller deployment scenario (which entails deploying 1500MW by 2030) creates or maintains a total of nearly 3,000 jobs in Ohio, induces \$2.2 billion of wages and \$6.5 billion of sales, and produces \$171.5 million of public revenue, both state and local.

-Source: LEEDCO website on June 14, 2018: *The Potential Economic Impacts in Ohio Associated with the Emergence of a Lake Erie Offshore Wind Industry*, Report prepared by Jack Kleinhenz & Assoc, for Nortech and LEEDCO, July 2010, page 1

And although they are asking for government approval to construct 6 turbines in the lake, LEEDCO officials are planning for the creation of a 5,000 MW wind project in Lake Erie

“What are the long-range plans for offshore wind energy production in Ohio?” “The long-range plan is to build an industry that captures a majority of the economic development. That's a long-term process and a lot to hope for. But our first target is to get 1,000 megawatts in the water by 2020 -- and build the industry from there. We're starting with a small 20-megawatt project.

Source: quote from Lorry Wagner in article titled: *Q & A: Lorry Wagner, President of Lake Erie Energy Development Corp.*; FRESHWATER; June 09, 2011

“What is your vision for the organization moving forward?” “Long term, this is about more than this one project. In a couple of decades, we want to implement 5,000 megawatts of wind energy in Lake Erie. Getting this first project built can turn into momentum for more activity.”

-Source: quote from Dave Karpinski, LEEDCO VP of Operations in article titled: *Q & A: Dave Karpinski, New VP of Operations at Leedco*; FRESHWATER; February 28, 2013

“David Brunt, CEO of Fred. Olsen Renewables, said Lake Erie has the long-term potential generating capacity of about five gigawatts of electricity.”

-Source: *Norwegian Wind Company to Build Leedco Off-Shore Turbine Project*, The Plain Dealer, December 7, 2015

To generate 5,000 MW of power will require the installation of 1,450 wind turbines (3.45 MW turbines x 1,450 = 5,000 megawatts) in Lake Erie, not 6

“But the project’s backers have visions of wringing much more electrical power out of Erie, saying more than 1,000 industrial wind turbines could be built along the shore of Ohio...”

○ Source: *In contrast to Ontario’s moratorium on wind farms, turbine group hopes to make Ohio “Saudi Arabia of wind”* National Post, November 30, 2015

“Our vision is 5,000 megawatts over the next 10 to 15 years,” he (Dave Karpinski) said.

-Source: *In contrast to Ontario’s moratorium on wind farms, turbine group hopes to make Ohio “Saudi Arabia of wind”* National Post, November 30, 2015

“Doing the math for how much each turbine can generate, that would require installing about 1,600 wind turbines in the lake.”

-Source: *In contrast to Ontario’s moratorium on wind farms, turbine group hopes to make Ohio “Saudi Arabia of wind”* National Post, November 30, 2015

“Dave Karpinski, vice president of operations at LEEDCo, cites a long-term goal of generating 20 percent of Ohio’s electricity from offshore wind—which would only be 10 percent of the capacity that could be produced. *The first step* would be the proof-of-concept pilot program to demonstrate that a turbine could function in the lake.”

Source: *Tilting at Windmills*; THE AMERICAN PROSPECT, July 31, 2017

“Calling Lake Erie “our greatest fixed asset,” Ronn Richard said **thousands of lake-based wind turbines** would be an environmental asset because they help replace coal-burning, a national security asset and a powerful economic stimulus.”

-Source: *Cleveland wind project awarded \$40 million DOE grant to develop Lake Wind farm*, The Plain Dealer, May 27, 2016

“Budish recalled sitting in an office listening to Richard talk about building **hundreds, even thousands, of turbines in the lake’**.”

-Source: *Cleveland wind project awarded \$40 million DOE grant to develop Lake Wind farm*, The Plain Dealer, May 27, 2016

“Kaptur said the small wind farm should be the beginning of a new wind-powered energy grid along the southern shores of the Great Lakes from Buffalo to Toledo initially”

Source: *Cleveland wind project awarded \$40 million DOE grant to develop Lake Wind farm*, The Plain Dealer, May 27, 2016

Icebreaker runs a tidy set of numbers alongside its alternative energy promises. Loftier **plans have at least in the past called for 1,250 turbines in Lake Erie by 2030.**

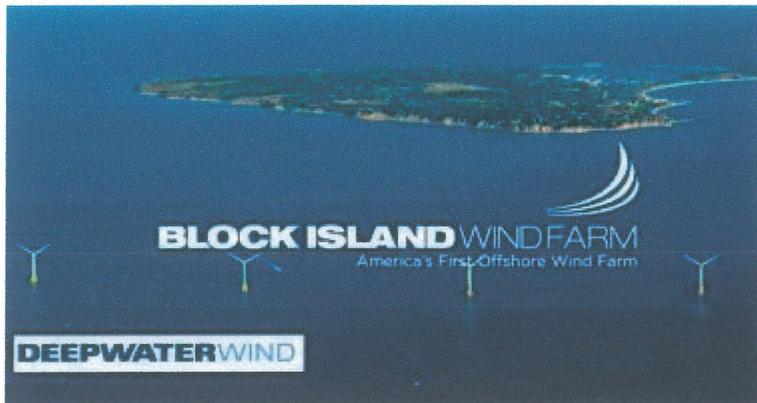
-Source: *Doing The Wind Farm Dance: LEEDCo Promotes Offshore Turbines in Lake Erie*, Cleveland Scene, Aug 20, 2013

<https://www.thenewamerican.com/tech/energy/item/24275-america-s-first-offshore-wind-farm-blows-up-controversy>

Thursday, 13 October 2016

America's First Offshore Wind Farm Blows Up Controversy

Written by [Michael Tennant](#)



The United States' first offshore wind farm is going to cost about \$17,600 per home it will power. Private investors will turn a profit, and government officials can pat themselves on the back for having done something to combat "climate change." But the owners of those homes, some of whom are already paying among the highest power rates in the nation, will end up shelling out nearly twice as much as the average American for this "green" electricity.

Deepwater Wind, a private energy firm, put the finishing touches on the Block Island Wind Farm in August. The five wind turbines, each 600 feet tall, were installed in the Atlantic Ocean, just off the coast of Block Island, a 10-square-mile cay situated 13 miles south of the Rhode Island mainland. The turbines are expected to begin generating electricity in November.

Although the wind farm was privately financed, it couldn't have been completed without the assistance of various government officials. The Obama administration, as part of its plan to have enough offshore wind farms to power 23 million homes by 2050, has issued "nearly a dozen commercial offshore wind leases," among them the one for Block Island, according to the [Hartford Courant](#). The administration also presented

Rhode Island with a \$22.3-million “stimulus” grant in 2010 for improvements at Quonset Point, among them “much needed infrastructure improvements ... to support Deepwater Wind’s plans to construct the” wind farm, a [press release](#) from then-Governor Donald Carcieri stated. Carcieri, whose former chief of staff Jeffrey Grybowski is the CEO of Deepwater, was a major proponent of the project. In addition, reported [Rhode Island Public Radio](#), critics charge that “the General Assembly sped through the regulatory process for the project and the company behind it.”

Block Islanders have other objections to the wind farm. For one thing, the turbines aren’t exactly things of beauty.

“We certainly don’t appreciate the turbines ruining the view our family has had for nearly 100 years,” Rosemarie Ives, one of the island’s roughly 1,000 residents, told the *Courant*.

Neither did the residents of Martha’s Vineyard, which is why a proposed wind farm there was scuttled. When the Kennedy family doesn’t want wind turbines ruining their view, those turbines won’t appear no matter how much they are supposed to benefit the Earth.

The folks on Block Island, however, have no such political influence, so their view must be obstructed.

It’s not as though they are happy about their current situation, in which they get their power from somewhat unreliable diesel generators and pay some of the highest rates in the country. Block Island Grocery owner Mary Jane Baber told the *Courant* that she’s been trying for years to get grants to connect the island to the mainland power grid, to no avail. Yet when a politically connected corporation wanted to build a politically correct power generator near the island, suddenly the grants and permits just poured in. Block Island is slated eventually to get a mainland grid connection as part of the project, but that will only add to its cost, already at \$300 million, or about \$17,600 for each of the 17,000 homes it is expected to power. But even when that arrives, it is unlikely to help bring down power rates on the island. **Deepwater negotiated a 20-year contract with regional utility National Grid in which it receives about 24 cents per kilowatt hour — the national average is 12.3 cents — with guaranteed increases over time.** Wrote the *Courant*, “That means Rhode Islanders

will pay more for power to subsidize a project benefiting Deepwater's private investors, Balsler said."

Those in thrall to the idea of saving the planet from "climate change," on the other hand, have no such concerns. Higher energy costs for some people today are, they believe, simply the cost of preventing global temperatures from rising.

"The benefit is long term for society in general, not necessarily for the place where the turbines are," Cristina Archer, a professor in the College of Earth, Ocean and Environment at the University of Delaware, told the *Courant*.

But as Balsler put it, "It's not benefiting Block Island. It's not benefiting Rhode Island. The notoriety of being the first in the nation? Can I take that home and eat it?"

On the other hand, Deepwater CEO Grybowski had a point when he told Rhode Island Public Radio that "the need for new energy sources is underscored by the retirement of the coal-fired plants that traditionally supplied New England's electricity." Many of those plants, however, are being closed because of the Obama administration's war on coal. Indeed, politics, rather than necessity, seem to be the driving force behind the push for offshore wind farms. Left-wing politicians are leading the charge for "renewable" power sources, and private firms are only too happy to rake in the profits by getting on the bandwagon. And the problem isn't just coming from Washington. According to the *Courant*, "This month, Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker signed a law requiring utilities to buy a combined 1,600 megawatts of offshore wind power in coming years. In New York, Gov. Andrew Cuomo wants half the state's power to come from renewable energy sources by 2030, a plan backed by the state's Department of Public Utilities." Deepwater hopes to build over 200 turbines off the New England coast, including 15 near Long Island, to meet these politically imposed objectives.

While American politicians are leading the charge for more offshore wind farms, European countries, which have had such farms for some time, are finding that they aren't such a good idea. Wind farms, whether on land or at sea, depend on air currents that naturally fluctuate, and thus they do not generate a constant amount of electricity, which can damage the power grid. Moreover, building and maintaining offshore wind farms is difficult and expensive. Put it all together and you have a recipe for high energy rates and unreliable power supplies.

Germany, which has a large number of offshore wind farms, "now has electric rates for consumers that are among the highest in the world," Myron Ebell, director of the Center

for Energy and Environment at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, told the [Daily Caller](#). Berlin plans to cut back on wind energy and has been paying consumers to use excess power and wind farms not to generate it.

Even the U.S. government recognizes that wind power is a bad idea. The Daily Caller reports: “The U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is currently investigating how green energy undermines the reliability of the electrical grid. FERC believe there is a ‘significant risk’ of electricity in the United States becoming unreliable because ‘wind and solar don’t offer the services the shuttered coal plants provided.’”

But don’t expect such facts to get in the way of the wind-farm frenzy. The Germans know the negative effects of wind power and even recognize that it isn’t doing anything to reduce their carbon emissions, yet their government estimates that it will spend over \$1.1 trillion subsidizing it nonetheless. Is it possible that the renewable-energy push, and the environmental agenda in general, have [little to do with saving the planet and much to do with achieving global socialism?](#)

As I explained, Wind “Farms” do NOT reduce emissions of CO2---or of pollutants. On the contrary, you’ll keep coughing due to the pollutants even if you build millions of wind turbines, killing all the birds, some to extinction, and making life miserable for country people who will have to find sleep in their vicinity, but often not in homes (the problem of infrasound emitted by these monsters). I say, do your homework.

Mark Duchamp, CEO Of World Council for Nature, Spain, President of Save the Eagles International

Here are 19 Facts *Every* OHIAN Should Know

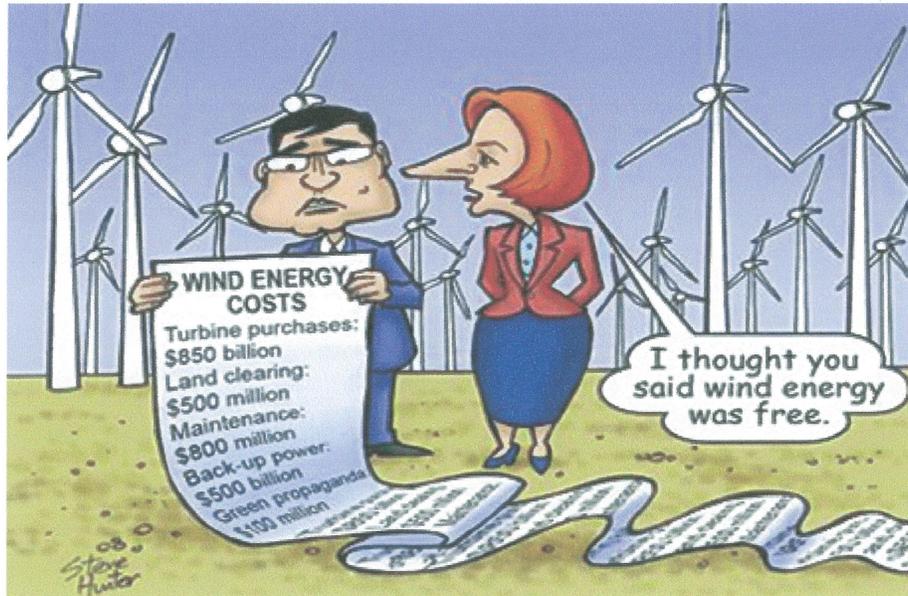
1. Wind-generated electricity will not “get us off of oil.”
2. There is no shortage of electricity. No urgent need exists to sacrifice unique resources at taxpayer and ratepayer expense to produce a tiny amount of low-quality surplus electricity. We always need back up power for wind turbines, and in the long run, the net is negative production. Parasitic power, they call it.
3. Transportation is responsible for more than five times as much CO2 as Electricity generation. Carbon dioxide emissions from Ohio’s energy sector fell by 50 million metric tons from 2005 to 2015, according to [data](#) recently released by the Energy Information Administration. Wind generation because it requires back up 100% of the time, actually contributes to CO2.
4. Unlike most generation sources, wind has a fatal flaw: it is both intermittent and unpredictable. By necessity, conventional firm capacity generators: nuclear, biomass, natural gas, hydropower, coal, etc. will remain the primary suppliers of electricity to Ohio grid well into the future. Wind-

generated electricity cannot, by its nature, replace or displace these “base load” or “peak load” generators. Its inferiority restricts wind to a role as a marginal supplier of electricity.

5. Too much to spend, too little to gain. Massive subsidies are the only reason wind “power” exists. Imagine the cost of this six-turbine project; anticipated to be over \$150 million and climbing. Who knows what the final tally will be?

6. Wind-generated electricity is high impact and low benefit.

7. Wind turbines for Lake Erie will not be manufactured in OH.... like Block Island, parts will be sourced from overseas, and very little local building will be involved. Even the developer confesses that only 9 local permanent jobs will be created, and that the construction will be outsourced.
8. Wind will not get us off of coal. Coal is used in other parts of the country as a reliable (albeit dirty) base load fuel, with some states deriving up to 75% of their electricity from coal. Wind power cannot generate base load power, so it cannot replace coal plants.
9. Placing wind turbines in Lake Erie will not improve Ohio’s air quality. Because wind-generated electricity cannot replace (and can barely even displace) conventional generation, it does not reduce emissions.
10. If CO₂ is a problem, wind-generated electricity is not its solution. Placing wind plants in Lake Erie will have no impact on climate change. Wind farms, whether on land or at sea, depend on air currents that naturally fluctuate, and thus they do not generate a constant amount of electricity, which can damage the power grid. Moreover, building and maintaining offshore wind farms is difficult and expensive. Put it all together and you have a recipe for high energy rates and unreliable power supplies.
11. Wind-generated electricity’s grid acceptance requires an unprecedented expansion of transmission capacity. How many billions will this be, for the developer hoped for 1450 plus wind turbines in the Lake? These costs will be passed on to OHIOANS electric bills, bleeding the economy and driving out jobs.
12. Wind-generated electricity will not guarantee lower electricity rates. Wind industry officials often state that they cannot compete with low natural gas prices, which are forecast to remain low and stable for decades. The wind industry’s insistence on a federal Renewable Energy Standard and continued tax credits are proof that wind-generated electricity cannot compete with other sources.
13. Without government mandates wind-generated electricity is not viable. It is said that “wind should be a part of the mix” in an “all of the above” electricity procurement strategy. First, wind’s “part” would be insignificant. Second, “all of the above” is an unsustainable practice and should be



SOMETIMES, YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY MORE THAN THIS. *Thank you, Eric Jelinski.*

Quoting a newsletter:

"This is a good time to step back and look at the current Wind Energy Scorecard. Studies from independent experts (see prior Newsletters) have concluded the following:

- 1 - Global Warming: Wind energy results in more warming than Coal does.
- 2 - Climate Change: Wind energy produces more CO2 than Gas or Nuclear does.
- 3 - Ratepayer Cost: Wind energy is 4-5 times the cost of conventional electrical energy sources.
- 4 - Local Economics: Wind energy is likely a net economic loser to a host community
- 5 - Health: Wind energy can cause severe health consequences to nearby residents.
- 6 - Environmental: Wind energy has multiple major environmental impacts.

7 - Jobs: Wind energy is net jobs liability.

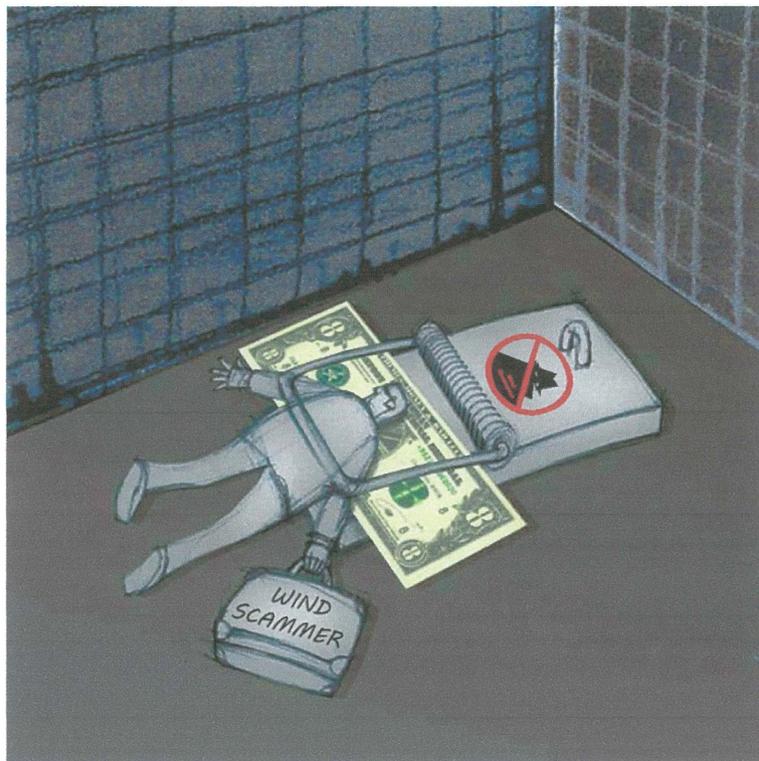
8 - Fossil Fuels: Wind energy assures a continued reliance on fossil fuels.

9 - Sustainability: Wind energy has major dependence on unsustainable components (e.g. rare earths).

10-National Security: Wind energy can adversely affect the missions and operational readiness of military facilities, undermining our national security. "

<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/612238/wide-scale-us-wind-power-could-cause-significant-warming/>

Wide-scale US wind power could cause significant warming



From Finland, Wind Farm Scammer Caught

Lake Erie Icebreaker Industrial Wind Turbine Facts

Background

Icebreaker is the first freshwater offshore wind turbine facility to be located in the Great Lakes. This “demonstration” Pilot Project consists of six (6) wind turbines and submerged collection cables running to a facility substation to be connected to the Cleveland Public Power System. The turbines will have a 3.45 MW nameplate capacity each for a total project capacity of 20.7 MW. The six (6) wind turbines will have a total tip height of 479 feet and they will be located 8 miles northwest of Cleveland.

Status

On July 3, 2018, the Ohio Power Siting Board staff recommended that the OPSB Board approve it- provided that LEEDCO can meet nearly three dozen conditions. Among the conditions, LEEDCO must install sophisticated radar equipment at the site on the lake before the six turbines are installed and remain operating for two years once operations begin; eliminate overnight operations from March 1 to Jan. 1 unless they can prove to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources that the six wind turbines are not a threat to migrating birds and bats.

An OPSB Adjudicatory Hearing will be held on September 24th during which official intervenors will argue their cases. If the OPSB approves, construction would begin in 2020 for completion in 2021.

Assuming that the first “demonstrator” phase is successful, the parties involved in developing Icebreaker have indicated their intent to build an additional 1,400 to 1,600 wind turbines across Lake Erie, then the Great Lakes.

1. Environmental concerns

- Lake Erie is an internationally important migration route. The Black Swamp Bird Observatory and the American Bird Conservancy have taken the position that LEEDCO’s bird and bat studies are not adequate. They believe that properly run studies will prove that turbines shouldn’t be built in Lake Erie.
- The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recommends siting wind turbines at least 3 miles away from any of the Great Lakes.
- The Army Corps of Engineers has been dumping industrial toxic sediment such as PCB’s from Cuyahoga River into Lake Erie for close to 100 years. Those toxins are currently encapsulated under layers of mud and silt which will be stirred up while building foundation & laying cables.
- Wind turbines will have a negative effect on perch, walleye, steel head and bass habitat.
- According to LEEDCO, each turbine would contain 404 gallons of industrial lubricants in their gearboxes. Those lubricants need to be changed. As gearbox seals fail, the oil will leak into the Lake below.

2. Economic losses to Ohio tourism

- LEEDCO claims of 400 to 500 (temporary) jobs created, need to be balanced against job losses in Lake Erie tourism. Lake Erie tourism supports 124,000 jobs and spending of \$14 Billion per year.
- A recent study by North Carolina State University showed that over half of vacationers would not rent a vacation home if offshore wind turbines were in view.
- Building wind turbines in Lake Erie would have a devastating effect on Lake Erie tourism.

3. Loss in waterfront home values and tax revenue

- Home buyers pay a premium for location and view. Property values have been shown to decrease where views are diminished by wind turbines.
- Waterfront property owners will see their property values fall when this project is built.
- Reduced property values lead to a reduction in tax revenues

4. The cost of constructing and maintaining an offshore turbine is 3 to 4 times higher than onshore.

- Icebreaker is expected to cost about \$126mm to construct, resulting in capacity of 20.7 MWh. The steel Winds *onshore* project near Buffalo cost 75% less to build and it generates more power capacity.
- Maintenance costs are 3 to 4 times higher offshore. Imagine replacing a gear or blade in high waves or during the winter.
- The useful life of a turbine is less than 20 years. At which point many must be decommissioned and removed. California has thousands of industrial wind turbines that were abandoned and are falling apart.
- Many of the wind farm's built in Germany 20 years' ago will lose their government subsidies in 2020 and a recent article details concern about the lack of funds available to remove the turbines. So *who* will be stuck footing the bill for the removal of these 1,400 turbines?

5. Wind power doesn't replace conventional sources of power

- Wind is an unreliable source of power. There is a difference between "maximum capacity" and "actual output". It is estimated that actual output is about 1/3rd of stated capacity. You'll get a sense of that driving between PC and Willoughby and notice the number of turbines not functioning due to wind speeds that are too low, too high or under repair.
- Mismatch between winds ability to supply power during peak demand. Electric demand is highest during the summer months of July and August due to air conditioning. Those are also the months when wind blows the least on Lake Erie.
- Traditional power plants must still be operating, cycling up & down to match demand, which creates more carbon emissions than if they were allowed to operate at a constant level.

6. Foreign Ownership

- a) LEEDCO, a Cleveland based non-profit that began this project, has already received \$5 million to \$6 million in federal subsidies.
- b) However, LEEDCO has signed an agreement to be purchased by a large foreign multinational company, Fred Olsen Renewables of Norway. Fred Olsen is a large conglomerate that also makes their money through Fred Olsen Energy, which is an Oil & Gas drilling company. So by supporting this project, U.S. taxpayer dollars that were intended to support our renewable energy goals will wind up going to a foreign company that makes their money by drilling for oil as well as collecting government renewable energy subsidies and tax credits.
- c) Fred Olsen of Norway is now eligible for \$40 million in additional US taxpayer subsidies.
- d) In addition, the cost per megawatt of electricity generated from Icebreaker will be about 3 to 4 times higher than power available through conventional sources. CPP and Cuyahoga County have signed agreements to buy Icebreakers power at a rate not to exceed \$181 per megawatt hour plus annual increases. Power this winter was available to purchase at an average cost of \$33 per megawatt hour. Fred Olsen has CPP and the county contractually obligated to pay 3 to 4 times more for power than they could be paying.
- e) The US wind industry also receives a federal subsidy called a "production tax credit" that increases their profits. Fred Olsen will receive that subsidy boosting profits once Icebreaker is operating.

As Warren Buffett explained: We “get a tax credit if we build a lot of wind farms. That’s the only reason to build them. They don’t make sense without the tax credit.”

7. Job losses, not job creation

LEEDCO is attempting to rationalize the Icebreaker project by claiming that it will create 400-500 jobs in Ohio and will lead to a manufacturing boom in Northeast Ohio. They have rounded up local Union workers to voice their support for the project, implying that it will put thousands to work. Here are the facts:

- a) The turbines that Fred Olsen Renewables will install are Mitsubishi Heavy Industries turbines, manufactured by Vestas in their factories in... Denmark.
- b) The Block Island offshore wind farm (5 turbines) and the Steel Winds onshore wind farm near Buffalo (14 turbines) only created about 300 temporary jobs. Because of the specialized nature of installing these European-built turbines, most of the jobs went to experienced European-based installers. They were paid by their European employers and the taxes benefited their home countries.
- c) The facts show that higher wind energy electric costs have actually led to losses in manufacturing jobs in other parts of North America. Manufacturers facing higher electric rates from green mandates, have moved their facilities to parts of the country with lower electric costs, just as labor intensive manufacturers have moved to parts of the country with lower labor costs.
 - a. Toray Plastics in Rhode Island were going to see a \$7mm increase in electric costs due to the new Block Island Offshore Wind Farm, threatening the loss of 600 jobs. The State gave them \$15mm to build their own electricity generator to keep them from moving out of state.
 - b. Estimates of 250,000 to 300,000 job losses in Ontario due to the Green Energy Act. Manufacturers with high electric consumption such as Heinz, Jaguar and Leland Industries (fasteners) left to escape Ontario’s electric costs.

The facts show that very few permanent jobs have ever been created by these type of projects. And the resulting income taxes don’t even flow back to support our economy. Yet our tax dollars are paying for the projects. Projects that are profiting the European developers and manufacturers, not U.S. taxpayers.

8. Foreign company now has the rights to the land under Lake Erie

- Ohio’s Public Trust Doctrine states that the land under Lake Erie is owned by the State and is to benefit its citizens. Fred Olsen Renewables, a foreign company, is the new owner and developer of the Icebreaker Wind project and they have secured the submerged land lease, the “rights” to land under Lake Erie.
- They will benefit by receiving US taxpayer subsidies to build the project and they will receive the profits by turning around and selling this more expensive electricity to us. Ohio’s citizens are not benefiting in any way from this relationship and therefore, this is a violation of Ohio’s Public Trust Doctrine.