

# "Let's get it right."

**Something's not right** in how our municipal councillors are dealing with AIM Powergen's plan to erect 35-storey industrial wind turbines across Grey Highlands' scenic landscape.

The mayor of Dawn-Euphemia, also faced with industrial wind projects, said "We listen to our ratepayers" then placed a moratorium on all wind turbine development until concrete data is available on their health effects.

Our Council would rather rush the process to accommodate the developers.

## **We want to ask Mayor Brian Mullin a few questions:**

- Why is AIM being allowed to dictate the process? They specifically asked that their draft environmental screening report "not be distributed to the public" then set a deadline for you to respond.
- When you ran for office, you said you would be "open and transparent." Yet AIM's March 13/09 draft report first appeared on a public meeting agenda on April 27th. Melancthon made its report available to the public. Why didn't you?
- Why are you undermining the normal process of examination and approval? Such requests always go before Planning Committee first for full discussion, including public input. But not this time. Why not?
- After years of developing a policy on this, at considerable public expense, why would a majority of councillors disagree with the prudent observation of a colleague who implored "Since this is our first application, **let's get it right.**"?

## **We agree. What's the rush?** Especially in light of:

- Premier Dalton McGuinty's admission of possible harmful health and environmental impacts
- Recent physician-documented evidence of health risks in Melancthon, Ripley and Kincardine, where 70% of respondents said "wind turbines are having a significant negative impact on their lives"
- The impending passage of the Green Energy Act which will take away Council's powers to approve any green energy project.

**Grey Highland's official plan** calls for "public involvement; we don't see this happening. Included in a 512 page agenda distributed to councillors late on a Friday for consideration two days later was a staff-prepared response to AIM and a pre-prepared resolution to "move forward". The resolution was passed with no opportunity for public review of the report or input.

**Is Council changing the rules**, inventing new ones to favour wind developers or simply demonstrating lack of faith in the public's right to know and respond accordingly? Join us in asking some hard questions. **Get involved.** Don't assume politicians make the right choices for you, your family or your business.

**A public service message paid for by citizens who seek to preserve the quality of living in Grey Highlands.**