

From: Elizabeth Barr

Date: 2 April, 2013 8:33:19 AM EDT

To: Pam Barnard

Cc: Diane Pearce

Subject: Amherst Island and Windlectric, April 2, 2013 Council meeting

Dear Mayor Lowry, Deputy Mayor Bresee, and Councillors Ashley, Daniliunas, Hegadorn, Ibey and Porter,

The time has come for the Loyalist Town Council to take a clear stand against the proposed Wind Turbine plant on Amherst Island. Many other municipalities in Ontario have called for a moratorium on wind plants, and yet Loyalist Township has remained silent about Amherst Island. The new premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne, has said that she will not force wind developments upon "unwilling" hosts, and other municipalities have made it clear that they are, indeed, unwilling. By your silence, you are consenting, by implication, to these industrial wind plants on Amherst Island.

True, the Green Energy Act has taken much power away from you, but you still have the ability to speak up for your people.

I understand that Loyalist Council is still considering accepting money from Windlectric's so-called "Vibrancy Fund". Word has it that some counsellors feel that you should hold out for the best possible deal.

It appears that accepting this money would be conditional on your silence. Please consider what that means.

-You would be smoothing the way for a development that the vast majority of Islanders do not want, and which we believe would harm the community and our families.

-You would be making a deal with a shell company. At the end of the wind project's life - when new technology makes the wind plant obsolete, when it wears out, when subsidies disappear - there will be nothing and no one to look to to remove massive wrecks or restore land. (People in mining and forestry are aghast at this: they have to put huge amounts into a trust for restoration at the beginning of their projects. Wind developers can simply walk away, leaving municipalities to live with trashed countryside.)

-The Township is offered a certain amount of money to be paid out over the life of the project. Will this pay for road damage, upset to the water table, and loss of revenue from realty tax? The businesses, valuable homes and farms, and other sources of money that result from a healthy and naturally blessed place will be gone.

-Add to that the fact that turbines the size of Toronto's TD Tower - over 50 stories tall- will be within steps of the Owl Woods that the Township has helped to protect, and that Amherst's wind turbines will be part of an Iron Curtain from Wolfe Island to Prince Edward County that will result in the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of migratory birds.

Finally, I believe that if you accept Winlectric's offer, you will be selling something that is not yours to sell.

As elected representatives of the people of a Loyalist Township, including Amherst island, you have a duty to supervise, critically observe, object to and take issue with Windlectric's actions as needed. The Township cannot abdicate from this in return for money. You have a present and future duty to take care for Amherst Island and your constituents there. You cannot accept a deal that prevents you from acting on our behalf.

Please declare that Loyalist Council opposes the proposed industrial wind plant on Amherst Island.

Yours sincerely,

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