

Not an expert, nor a ?Nimby?

Dear editor:

Re ? ?Windmills good if they aren't in your back yard'

It is obvious from Mr. and Mrs. Malloy's letter that they either do not know where I live or they do not know where the Dufferin Wind Project is being built. The closest turbine to our house will be approximately 9 km. directly north. From there the project spreads out north about 5 km, east about 3km and west about 15 km. I would not call that my ?back yard? nor would I classify myself as a NIMBY. I would not be able to see any of the units in this project without driving to it.

As I sit on my back deck where I reside now I can see two turbines turning and while I'm cutting grass or walk 50 yards south on the road I can see another 17.

I was on Council when the other projects evolved. There are five members of Council, all adult clear thinking individuals, and all of us with ONE vote. It takes a majority vote of Council to move anything forward. I have no more influence than anyone else at the table.

Community Contributions were part of the contract approved by Council and they run as long as the contract runs. Those funds go towards various projects approved as part of the budget process.

I was also on Council and supported the motions that have been passed calling for a moratorium until health studies have been completed, as well as other motions Council has passed regarding turbine issues. I did not support the motion at County Council about the 1.4 KM setbacks and shutting down turbines with in that area for one specific reason. I am not an expert in acoustical engineering, electromagnetic fields or health.

Studies have been done in other parts of the world that state different setbacks etc. for commercial wind farm developments. Our Council believes very strongly that an independent study done on ONTARIO wind farms and conditions is imperative. That way the data is local, and hopefully will once and for all confirm that there is or is not a link from turbines to health problems affecting to OUR residents. It should also clearly define the SAFE setbacks as well.

The question was asked why I am so passionate about Dufferin Wind. My concerns as well as those of Council were clearly laid out in the letter sent to the Premier. That letter was unanimously supported by Council and reviewed by the two solicitors that were working on the Dufferin Wind file to ensure that was factual and accurately reflected the dealings the Township of Melancthon has had with the Company. It had nothing to do with NIMBYism.

Bill Hill

Mayor, Township of Melancthon