

*Special Update
Edition
December, 2012*

SWEAR NEWSLETTER
Safe Wind Energy for All Residents

HELP US ... TO HELP YOU!

Many people in Ontario are frustrated and angry with how industrial wind power has been rolled out in this province under the Green Energy Act. People are slowly but surely catching on that it's a bad deal for Ontario. To date, 91 municipal councils have passed resolutions, by-laws and/or motions in an effort to address public concerns. Ontario's Auditor General presented a bleak picture in his most recent report on Renewable Energy Initiatives. Economists, scientists, engineers, naturalists and others with an area of expertise, and no vested interest, object to what is happening. The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is calling for a suspension of contracts for industrial wind turbine development projects pending resolution of key concerns. The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO) has been asking the province since June 2009 to stop the development of any more wind power projects in Ontario until an independent human & animal health study has been completed. The National Farmers Union's position statement sets out that, "renewable energy projects must be under the control and ownership of farmers and rural communities, not in the hands of multi-national energy corporations." **Provincial powers that be, do not appear to be listening yet.**

Shawn & Tricia Drennan of Huron County have stepped up to the plate. They have taken the province and "industrial wind" to court. They have already had some success. Dr. Arlene King, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, has been ordered by a Superior Court judge to testify on her knowledge of the health effects of wind turbines. She appealed this order to avoid having to testify under oath and we are now awaiting the decision of the Appeals Court of Ontario.

SWEAR is a group of people who have come together to support Shawn & Tricia in their endeavour. Thanks to our number of supporters we have gotten this far, but **we cannot leave it to one family to fight this battle alone on our behalf. We need your financial support.** This is probably the most important legal action currently in progress. It could be precedent setting and has the potential to affect all wind projects in Ontario as well as further afield. You can follow this case at www.falconercharney.com (scroll down to the Drennan Family Case).

We wish to thank all those who have made donations to date and hope that we can count on your continued support.

— Your —
SWEAR Team

SWEAR appreciates Your Support
Make Cheques Payable to **SWEAR**
SWEAR c/o: Dave Hemingway, R.R.#2, Bayfield Ontario N0M 1G0
email: swearontario@gmail.com

If you would like an email copy of this newsletter to forward to family, friends and neighbours, please contact us at swearontario@gmail.com

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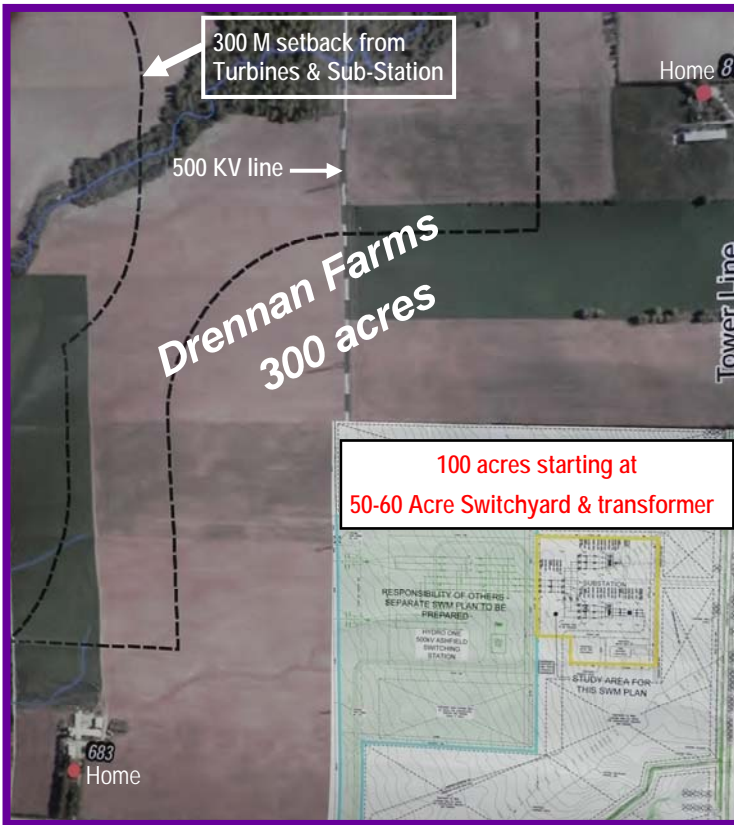


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**STORIES
HIGH**

Largest
In
Ontario





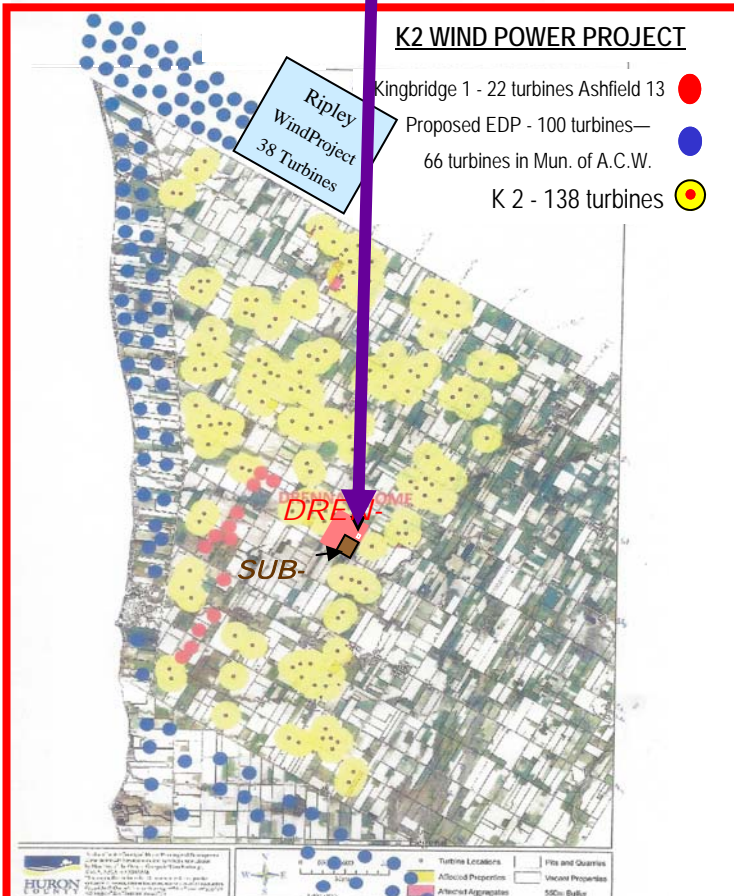
The Green Energy Act still does not require testing for Low Frequency and Infra Sound

The MOE issued their latest Protocol for wind turbine monitoring in October 2009. Standard Protocol 088931 Compliance Protocol for Wind Turbine Noise. It is based on "A" weighting, and hence not based on low frequency sound.

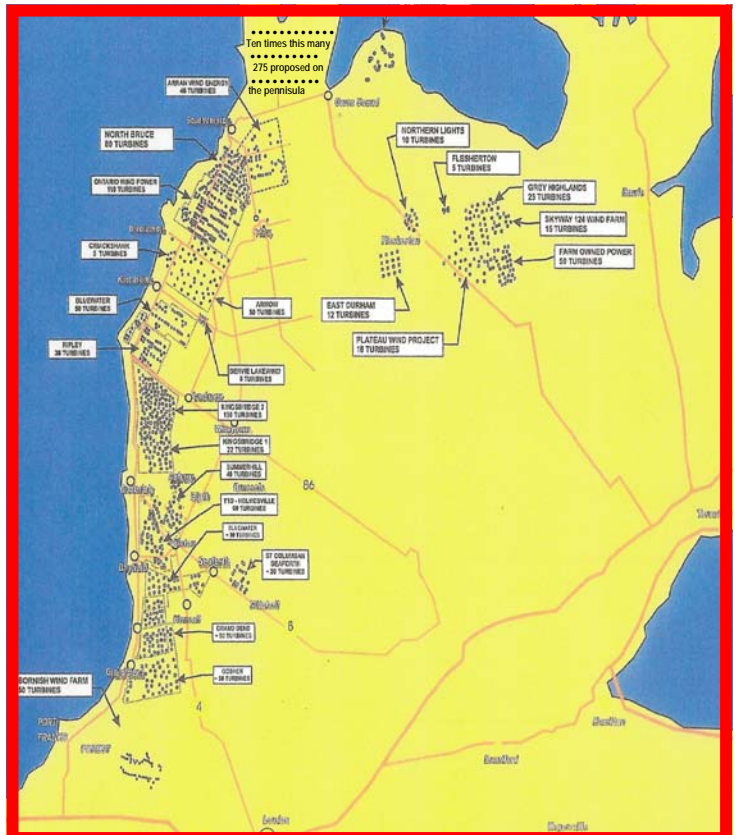
To date there is no experience that the protocol will actually be effective at monitoring wind turbine sound and separating the wind turbine contribution from the wind noise component. It is a fair statement to say that the MOE have not demonstrated that they have a protocol that is effective to determine the impact of wind turbine sound on people.

As far as Low frequency and infrasound ... to date, the MOE have neither a monitoring protocol nor any official plans to develop a protocol. They are still monitoring ... and their document issued in December 2010 says that low frequency noise is not a problem. Quote "This study, conducted by noise, vibration and acoustics experts Howe Gastmeier Chapnik Limited (**HGC Engineering**) concludes that there is no direct health risk from wind turbine sound at Ontario's regulated setback distance."

.....HGC Engineering is a CANWEA member.



IS THIS HOW YOU WANT TO SEE South Western Ontario



The Municipality of Ashfield, Colborne, Wawanosh Development has come in three stages so far. You can never count on the first project being the last of Wind Turbine Development as many communities have found out. It is time to **DO YOUR HOME-WORK, ASK QUESTIONS** before wind development starts in your area. Municipal Councils may see their tax base and new development reduced and unable to fund services for the community. **BE AWARE!**

Multi-municipal Wind Turbine Working Group support for **SWEAR**

After realizing that the provincial government was not listening, Shawn and Trish Drennan decided it was time to stand up and fight against the injustice being dealt to all country residents. They agreed, with the help of civil rights lawyer Julian Falconer, to spearhead a legal challenge on behalf of their community citizens' organization, SWEAR (Safe Wind Energy for All Residents). SWEAR was formed in early June, 2011. Its mission statement is "safe wind generation for all life". Shawn and his wife Tricia have now launched a law suit against the Ontario government and the developer claiming a breach of their constitutional rights under sections 7 and 2(b) of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and making a claim of nuisance against the developer. (Also included is an injunction to stop the Renewable Energy Approval process until federal and provincial health studies are completed and reported upon).

The Drennan's farm in Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh Township near Goderich has been in the family since 1922—ninety years. The Drennans discovered that it was soon to be surrounded by 150 industrial wind turbines—12 within 2 Km and the closest only 650 metres from their front door. A massive (50-60 acre) 270 MW step-up transformer station would be built approximately 600 metres from of their home. One 138,000 V line was to go up in front of their farm and another 34,600 V line would run in front of the house. In addition they already have an expropriated 500,000 V corridor already running through their farm. That's why they decided to find out for themselves whether people already living near turbines were experiencing health problems.

They had heard the CBC reports of scores of people suffering from ailments they attribute to living downwind from turbines. They started by asking those who had moved away from the turbines why they had done so. But to their astonishment they discovered that if people had been bought out by the energy companies, they were under gag orders not to talk about the adverse effects they had experienced.

The Drennans soon learned that all across Ontario, scores of people have now had to abandon their homes because they could no longer tolerate the effects of low frequency and infrasound emitted by the turbines—a phenomenon that affects livestock as well as children. Horses are especially sensitive to it.

Grand Bend Realtor Doug Pedlar, the newly elected president of the London/St. Thomas Real Estate Board says that the invasion of the wind turbines has led to a 30% drop in property values. That loss alone is a serious problem for the farmer who needs all his collateral to continue operating.

Shawn and Tricia were also worried about the effect of the turbines on the fertility of their soil since there are widespread reports that earthworms disappear near the turbines and some farmers are complaining that their water quality has been adversely affected by the pile driving during construction of the foundations. One insurance company has even refused to reissue a policy for a farm that hosts a turbine.

However, when the Drennans talked to people living near wind turbines at Shelburne in Grey County and at Clear Creek in Norfolk County they heard the same complaints of nausea, insomnia, ringing in the ears, constant dizziness and cardiovascular disease. Not everyone is affected but enough people are to make it a serious and widespread problem—one that has occurred all over the world where industrial wind turbines have been installed.

Over 80 Ontario municipalities have now demanded a moratorium on building the turbines until we find out how they are affecting people. Health Canada has taken the reports seriously enough to begin setting up a health study. Nonetheless, the Ontario government, although it is still waiting for the results of its own health study continues to race ahead with wind development approvals, ignoring the caution urged by our rural communities.

Shawn and Tricia are to be admired for their determination and their courage. They are the kind of old fashioned good neighbours who put their neighbourhoods first. I am sure you will agree with me that we all need to support them in this effort which will ultimately be to our own benefit. Their action is applauded by the Multi-municipal Wind Turbine Working Group, comprised of elected officials and appointed citizens from municipalities in Bruce, Grey, Dufferin, Huron and Perth Counties. If you have similar concerns and feel you can help out in this very important David and Goliath struggle, **would you please send a cheque payable to SWEAR** to Dave Hemingway, 78403 Whys Line Central Huron, R.R. #2, Bayfield, Ontario N0M 1G0. For more information, please contact: swearontario@gmail.com. Even a modest amount will help out in a big way.

Mark Davis, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Arran-Elderslie;

Watch for
The 2nd Press Release Video
on
Youtube and the Key Websites

SWEAR Appreciates Your Support.

Thanks to our supporters we have gotten this far. We have received a positive decision from the Superior Court of Ontario. We need your assistance to continue this course of action.

Mail donations to

SWEAR c/o: Dave Hemingway, RR#2, Bayfield, ON N0M 1G0.

Check out these Studies & Reports

on the Key Websites below

Maine Study

The study, "Effects of industrial wind turbine noise on sleep and health" is a controlled, peer-reviewed, published scientific study which links industrial wind turbine noise and vibration to serious health problems. Go to the Wind Resistance website for further information.

Kent Breeze Tribunal

In the Overall Conclusion of the Decision from the 2011 Chatham-Kent ERT, the tribunal stated, "this case has successfully shown that the debate should not be simplified to one about whether wind turbines can cause harm to humans. The evidence presented to the Tribunal demonstrates that they can, if facilities are placed too close to residents. The debate has now evolved to one of degree."

Key websites

To follow the Drennan case:

www.FalconerCharney.com

Scroll down to the Shawn and Trish Drennan Case

Maps, Planned Turbines, Health & Setbacks, ERT's & legal cases:

www.windpowergrab.wordpress.com

Current Updates on IWT's: [www. Ontario-wind-resistance.org](http://www.Ontario-wind-resistance.org)

www.windconcernsontario.net

For Information on property values

Ben Landsink has done two recent studies on property valuation relating to turbines close to Industrial Wind Projects in Ontario.

please go to his website

www.lansinkappraisals.com/publications/index.html

SWEAR TimeLine

(Shawn and Tricia Drennan Legal Actions)

- July 18, 2011 Environmental Review Tribunal releases its first decision on a wind turbine project.
 - Sept.12, 2011 Drennans launch application in Superior Court.
 - Oct. 18, 2011 Drennans summons Dr. King, Ontario CMOH.
 - Nov. 4, 2011 Drennans make a Motion to compel Dr. King
 - June 25, 2012 Drennans appeal to Divisional Court.
 - July 11, 2012 A Federal Health Study is Announced.
 - July 12, 2012 K2 Wind Power Project Public Meeting.
 - July 18, 2012 Superior Court orders Dr King to testify.
 - Sept 10, 2012 Drennans launch proceedings against Ontario and K2 Wind Project.
 - Oct. 18, 2012 K2 Wind Power Project Public Meeting.
- ([Further Details on www.FalconerCharney.com](http://www.FalconerCharney.com))

Superior Court Decision

Swear has had success with the Shawn and Tricia Drennan case to get the first positive action from the Superior Court of Ontario.

On July 18th 2012 Superior Court Justice Mary Sanderson issued an Order for Dr Arlene King to appear in Superior Court to answer questions about Gag Clauses and her report, Report of Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health—May 2010. Dr. Arlene King is seeking leave to Appeal to the Appeals Court of Ontario and we are awaiting their decision. **Dr. King has shown that she does not want to attend to answer questions about her report, new research or gag clauses.**

No Medical Expertise

on the Ministry of Environment Staff

A Senior Official with MOE has confirmed there are no medical experts on their staff. Also it is clear that Dr. Arlene King does not want any involvement with the effects of IWT's on Human Health. Also there are no standards regarding infra and low frequency sound. Therefore no enforcement of Compliance. Recently MOE says health complaints are to be given to the Local Medical Officer of Health. Most LMOH are not prepared to take action.

Who is minding the Hen House?

Receipts will be Issued for Donations with Mailing Info

All proceeds are used for Legal Actions (Not Administration). Your donations may be eligible as a business expense but you should get the advice of your accountant or tax advisor.