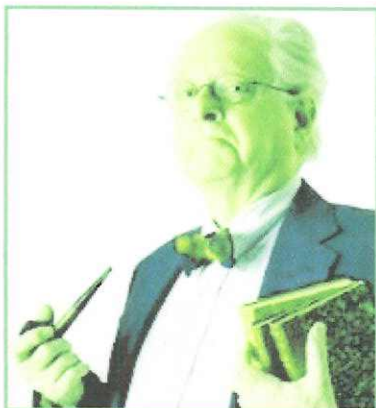




## Intelligent editorial on wind turbines & health. Hallelujah! (Ontario)

By [admin](#) Saturday January 22, 2011



The emission of low frequency noise from wind turbines is . . . well-recognized. Over the course of the decade from 1980 to 1990, NASA researched this specific problem and its efforts led to a fundamental redesign of turbines. Low frequency noise emissions have improved, but have not been eliminated. Unfortunately, with current industry standards on wind turbines, manufacturers are not required to specify low frequency noise emissions.

To perpetuate the debate on health issues and wind turbines is at best unproductive and at worst dangerous to the future health of all of those living near turbines. *Those who dismiss the concern as illegitimate only demonstrate how hopelessly uninformed they are.*

We have the science, the expertise and the intelligence to tackle the issue head on if we define it in the appropriate framework. *It is not about a wind turbine. It's about protecting the health of the people in our community against the negative impact of environmental noise, whether they can hear it or not and irrespective of the source.*

We need municipal politicians to use the knowledge we have, take the next steps beyond a moratorium and construct bylaws to get the sources of environmental noise away from inhabitants. We need to take that expertise and add it to a collective political voice that demonstrates we are prepared to take control of the development of our communities.

*We do not need more health surveys to add to the portfolio of examples of human victims suffering from what science has already explained.* (Emphasis added.)

—Dan Reid, [The Sarnia Observer](#) (1/8/11)\*

Over the past few months, I have read with interest the comments on the proposed Silcote Corners wind farm near Meaford, Ont., and others around the province.

What I have found particularly intriguing is the consistent and almost automatic dismissal of the health impacts on people colocated with the turbines. I have listened to people arbitrarily dismiss



health issues as being psychosomatic or regurgitate the popular excuse of the lack of scientific evidence.

With respect, I would suggest that whether these projects involve wind turbines really is inconsequential. The core issue would be the same if we were considering placement of a new manufacturing plant, an industrial complex of some type, an airport or a multi-lane highway.

The fundamental problem is environmental noise. Wind turbines are just the instrument.

To anyone who suggests we lack data regarding the impact(s) of environmental noise on human health, I would offer the following: Every year there are international conferences on this subject, some focused on certain types of environmental noise (i.e., low frequency noise). There are numerous journals published on the subject.

These publications catalogue a continuously growing collection of peer-reviewed experiments and studies by subject-matter experts, medical professionals and academics on the human impact of environmental noise.

Given the quality and depth of these resources, we are exceedingly well equipped to act in situations where humans are at risk, regardless of the source of the noise. And there is a well-established regulatory environment intended to minimize the risk of exposure.

The Province of Ontario has noise restrictions that must be met by any developer. Those requirements are summarized in a publication called 'Sound Levels for Stationary Sources' NPC-232.

This publication stipulates that no installation shall exceed a maximum noise level of 40 decibels during the evening and 45 during the day.

Science tells us that loudness of 40-45 decibels is equivalent to the noise level in a library. That statement is often touted by wind farm proponents and it is absolutely true.

Unfortunately, by itself, that fact is also totally irrelevant. The ambient noise in rural environments such as Silcote Corners is from 25- 30 decibels, since it is not influenced by other background noises of traffic, industry and the like.

So the question becomes, how disruptive is noise of 40-45 decibels from an industrial complex (such as the wind farm) when it is located in a natural environment with an ambient noise level of 25- 30 decibels (or 15-20 decibels less)?

Again, science informs us that when the volume of any noise is increased by three decibels that noise becomes noticeable. Increases of five decibels are loud enough to be considered annoying. Increases of 10 decibels represent a doubling of volume to the human ear.

Therefore, 40 decibels is twice as loud as 30 decibels to humans. That degree of increase changes a sound from noticeable to intolerable. Consequently, if we place our "library" in an environment where the natural volume is only half as loud, the "library" will be the noisiest thing in the neighbourhood.

What we also know from science is that human hearing is very subjective. What some find annoying doesn't bother others. Therefore, doubling the level of ambient noise in an environment such as Silcote won't be an issue for everyone.

However, to assume that it won't be dangerous to anyone would be naive. Those who find the noise increase intolerable have the greatest risk of negative health impacts.



Science is clear regarding the health implications, citing increased headaches, possible nausea and sleep deprivation as the most common symptoms. Prolonged exposure increases stress and the risk of depression, anxiety and cardiovascular disease. The sad reality is that, if the noise is permanent, the cure is to move away.

As an interesting aside, the Vestas wind turbines destined for Silcote Corners have a sound power rating between 95 decibels and 103 decibels per turbine, depending on wind velocity. When they are clustered together there is an incremental increase in the sound power as each turbine is added. As a result, in accordance with the Green Energy Act, to meet NPC-232 requirements wind turbines are “set back” 550 metres from a receptor.

The fact that the 95+ decibel noise will dissipate to a level of 40 or 45 decibels at a distance of 550 metres is only based on a mathematical (albeit scientific) formula. There is no requirement for measurement, validation or monitoring unless there are noise complaints after the fact.

Obviously, however, the closer to the turbine you are the louder the noise. So, to those folks who've relinquished their rights to setbacks and choose to use their property as a site for multiple turbines, best of luck! In Germany, if a wind farm is built in an environment characterized by a 35 decibel ambient noise level, the setback from any receptor is 1.5 km.

Unfortunately, all of this only focuses on part of the issue of environmental noise — that is, the part we can hear. The other part is low frequency noise and infrasound. We know from scientific research that low frequency and infrasound noise behaves differently in that it does not decrease over distance. That partially explains why elephants and whales use low frequency noise to communicate over great distances through the ground and oceans.

We also understand that solid structures such as houses can actually amplify the sound through vibration. That means it won't be blocked by going inside and shutting doors and windows. Only a portion of low frequency noise is audible. Infrasound, defined as less than 20 Hz, is below the hearing threshold of humans. It will only be “felt” through inner ears and body sensations. Thus the volume in decibels is irrelevant because you don't hear it. Increased volumes of infrasound will however, speed the body reaction.

We know from science that every organ in the human body can resonate or vibrate from exposure to low frequency noise. As examples; low frequency noise of 50 Hertz stimulates vibration in the chest cavity; at 30 Hz abdominal organs can do the same; at 17 Hz vision can be blurred due to vibration of optic nerves.

The science concerning the risk of exposure for humans is explicit. It has been acquired from years of occupational studies, military experiments and the life experience of individuals in neighbourhoods co-located with industrial factories.

The emission of low frequency noise from wind turbines is also well-recognized. Over the course of the decade from 1980 to 1990 NASA researched this specific problem and its efforts led to a fundamental redesign of turbines. Low frequency noise emissions have improved, but have not been eliminated. Unfortunately, with current industry standards on wind turbines, manufacturers are not required to specify low frequency noise emissions.

Moreover, the standards used are well known to understate the low frequency component. The Japanese, at the end of 2009, curtailed installations of wind farms and initiated a four-year epidemiological study on people living near turbines to understand the issue of cell damage in the human body due to low frequency noise exposure.

To perpetuate the debate on health issues and wind turbines is at best unproductive and at worst dangerous to the future health of all of those living near turbines. Those who dismiss the concern as illegitimate only demonstrate how hopelessly uninformed they are.



We have the science, the expertise and the intelligence to tackle the issue head on if we define it in the appropriate framework. It is not about a wind turbine. It's about protecting the health of the people in our community against the negative impact of environmental noise, whether they can hear it or not and irrespective of the source.

We need municipal politicians to use the knowledge we have, take the next steps beyond a moratorium and construct bylaws to get the sources of environmental noise away from inhabitants. We need to take that expertise and add it to a collective political voice that demonstrates we are prepared to take control of the development of our communities.

We do not need more health surveys to add to the portfolio of examples of human victims suffering from what science has already explained.

\*Dan Reid is a retired director with Bell Canada. He lives in Sydenham Township in the municipality of Meaford. He can be reached at [danbonreid@sympatico.ca](mailto:danbonreid@sympatico.ca).

#### [1 Comment](#)

1.  **cyndy aquino** ([Reply](#)) on Saturday 22, 2011

In Kodiak, Alaska our planning and zoning committee has authorized building a wind turbine utilizing the Skystream 3.7 in a "corner" of our middle school playground/parking lot. I received a copy of the site review, and our house is encompassed in the circle of projected sound area.

I'm not too happy with this. I believe in alternative energy, but do not believe it should be where children play nor does it belong in a neighborhood. Do you have suggestions of where to locate solid scientific or medical studies of consequences to those living near (approx 75 yards) a tower?

*Editor's reply: Have you read Dr. Pierpont's book?*

#### Leave a Response

name (optional)

email (optional -will not be published)

website (optional)



- Got Wind Turbine Syndrome? Did your property value plummet after the turbines went in? (Australia)

## [Acciona quietly buys out WTS victims—then gags them \(Australia\)](#)

By [admin](#) Saturday January 29, 2011



**Turbines declared a nasty neighbour as secret buyout is revealed. Victorians who have endured [health problems](#) from a nearby wind farm have been gagged from talking in return for the sale of their land.”**

—Peter Rolfe, [HeraldSun.com](#) (1/30/11)

Spanish multinational energy company [Acciona](#) has been [quietly buying farms adjacent to its site at Waubra](#), near Ballarat, as an increasing number of residents in the tight-knit community [complain of the ill-effects of living near turbines](#).

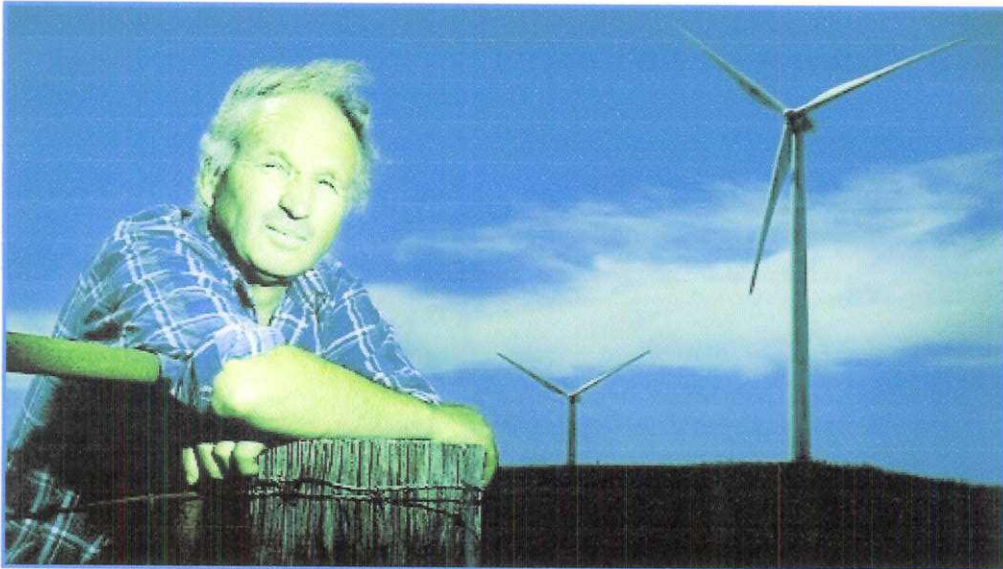
Since the wind farm started operating in July 2009, about 11 houses in the area have been vacated by [people complaining of noise problems](#).

Acciona has bought at least another seven houses, the purchase of two of which appear to have been prompted by the new State Government’s threat to shut down the farm unless noise and permit conditions were met.

Locals in the tiny town of 700, 35km northwest of Ballarat, say the sales took place on the proviso landowners would not talk about the price of the purchase or negative health effects they blame on the wind farm.

Residents who refuse to move have accused the company of trying to buy their way out of trouble.





Noel Dean and other residents believe the Waubra wind farms have caused medical problems.

Noel Dean moved from Waubra to Ballarat 18 months ago because he could no longer stand [headaches, tinnitus and poor health](#) he believes are caused by high-frequency vibrations from turbines. (Editor: The writer of the article got it wrong. It's [low-frequency noise/vibration](#).)

“The word is they’re buying everyone out and buying some of the other properties nearby just to hush them up,” he said.

“They know that we can’t fight them. We can’t win.

“They make you suffer so that you just want to get out of there. They know that it gets to you emotionally and physically.”

Mr Dean refuses to sell his property because he does not want future generations to suffer like his family. He only returns to the farm when he has to — about once a fortnight — and says every time he does he gets head pain within five minutes that takes up to 10 days to go away.

[Doctors’](#) certificates seen by the Sunday Herald Sun back his claims.

“Once (the vibrations) get inside the house it [bounces off the walls and makes you feel sick](#),” Mr Dean said. “If you’re exposed to it outside it goes into your inner ear and [affects your balance](#). It’s put tinnitus in my ears which stops me sleeping.”

He has met the company to discuss his concerns, but said they would only take statements, not answer his questions.

“I said ‘I don’t want you to buy me out. I want you to fix the problem’,” he said. “[It’s hell on Earth living out there](#). That’s what it is.

“And there’s nothing we can do about it. It’s a bloody terrible thing.

“It’s knocked us around. We’re in limbo. We’ve lost two years of our life and we don’t know where it will end. I’ve put nearly 40 years into that place. It’s prime property that I was going to pass down to my son. What am I going to do? I can’t work there without being ill.”







- Got Wind Turbine Syndrome? Did your property value plummet after the turbines went in? (Australia)

## “Inconvenient Truths: Wind Turbine Syndrome” (CounterPunch Magazine)

By [admin](#) Tuesday November 2, 2010



—Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD, [CounterPunch Magazine](#) (10/31/10)

Wind turbines majestically threshing the wind—what marvels of human engineering! To stand beneath one is breathtaking. To live near one can be hell on earth. So I have been told by countless people who suddenly find themselves grievously ill from the subtle yet devastating infrasonic jackhammer generated by these “clean, green, renewable energy” giants.

The explanation may be tucked away in the inner ear in a cluster of tiny, interconnected organs with a remarkable evolutionary pedigree. The vestibular organs—the semicircular canals, saccule, and utricle—function as Mother Nature’s gyroscope, controlling our sense of motion, position, and balance, including our spatial thinking. (Remember when you got carsick as a kid? Or seasick?)

Humans share these enigmatic organs with a host of other backboned species, including fish and amphibians. Some scientists indeed see them as a kind of pan-species master key for an extraordinarily broad range of brain function—amounting to a sixth sense.

One of those functions, it now appears, is to register and respond to the sounds and vibrations (infrasound) we don’t consciously hear, but feel—as from wind turbines. For many people, the response is swift and disastrous.

Sometimes it’s advantageous being a country doctor. Six years ago I began hearing health complaints from people living in the shadow of these gigantic turbines. At first it was merely local and regional, then global. Tellingly, virtually everyone described the same constellation of symptoms. Symptoms that were being triggered, I began to suspect, by vestibular dysregulation.

- (1) Sleep disturbance. Not simply awakened, but **awakening in a panic** (“flight or fight” response).
- (2) Headache. (3) Tinnitus. (4) Ear pressure. (5) Dizziness. (6) Vertigo. (7) Nausea. (8) Visual blurring. (9) Tachycardia. (10) Irritability. (11) Problems with concentration and memory. (12)



Panic episodes associated with sensations of internal pulsation or quivering, which arise while awake or asleep. (This latter involving other, non-vestibular organs of balance, motion, and position sense.)

None of these people had experienced these symptoms to any appreciable degree before the turbines became operational. All said their symptoms disappeared rapidly whenever they spent several days away from home. All said the symptoms reappeared when they returned home.

Many had supported the wind farm project before all this happened. Now, some became so ill, they literally abandoned their homes—locked the door and left.

Taking my cue from a British country doctor who was reporting identical “wind turbine” symptoms among her patients, I did what clinicians call a case series. I interviewed 10 families (38 people) both here and abroad, who had either left their homes or were about to leave. I found a statistically significant correlation between the telltale symptoms and pre-existing motion sensitivity, inner ear damage, and migraine disorder. Each is a risk factor for what I now christened Wind Turbine Syndrome. My data suggest, further, that young children and adults beyond age 50 are also at substantial risk.

The response from ear, nose, throat clinicians (otolaryngologists and neuro-otologists) was immediate and encouraging. One was Dr. F. Owen Black, a highly regarded neuro-otologist who consults for the US Navy and NASA on vestibular dysregulation.

Another was Dr. Alec Salt at the Washington University School of Medicine, who recently published an NIH-funded, peer-reviewed study demonstrating that the cochlea (which links to the vestibular organs) responds to infrasound without registering it as sound. Infrasound, in fact, increases pressure inside both the cochlea and vestibular organs, distorting both balance and hearing.

Salt thus effectively shatters the dogma that “*what you can't hear, can't hurt you.*” It can indeed hurt you. The growing uproar among wind turbine neighbors testifies to this inconvenient truth.

My role is over. My waiting room is full. It's time for governments to study this wind-generated scourge whose cure is simple. A 2 km setback (larger in hilly or mountainous terrain) fixes it. Wind developers, not unexpectedly, refuse to acknowledge the problem. They ridicule it as hysteria and NIMBYism (“Not In My Back Yard!”)—and refuse to build their machines 2 km (1.24 miles) away from homes.

“It's difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it,” suggested Upton Sinclair. Perhaps so. In that case, expect more empty houses and (easily avoidable) suffering.

*Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD, is a pediatrician and author of “Wind Turbine Syndrome: A Report on a Natural Experiment” (2009). She is the keynote speaker at this weekend's international symposium in Picton, Ontario, “The Global Wind Industry and Adverse Health Effects: Loss of Social Justice?”*

#### [4 Comments](#)

1.  [Sheila K. Bowen \(Reply\)](#) on Tuesday 2, 2010



I guess I shouldn't be surprised that the Times and the Post refused to print your excellent op-ed, Nina. If the Boston Globe also refuses, I would suggest submitting it to the Boston Herald. Please keep us informed!

*Editor's note: Sheila Bowen is responding to the fact that this editorial was rejected by the NY Times before CounterPunch took it.*

2.

[Quixote \(Reply\)](#) on Tuesday 2, 2010

So-called “Media” is basically “dysfunctional” and has “sold out” like all politicians today to corporate interests. There is no “honour” today in any media outlet that depends on their funding from Industry and Government sources and in turn perpetuates their grip of misinformation being spoon fed to the masses!

“Collateral Damage” which is the description of the Wind Industry or, “human beings” in the real world, is quite acceptable today as if it is negligible to ruin people's lives for the Greater Good. (Shades of 1939)

The NY Times is not unlike every other news outlet in mainstream media today that helps create the “fake reality” that “Green Energy is Good”!

When this “bubble bursts” which indeed it will, will make the “Dot Com Bubble” look like a hiccup!

*Editor's note: The writer is responding to the fact that this editorial was rejected by the NY Times before CounterPunch took it.*

3.

[Mike McCann \(Reply\)](#) on Tuesday 2, 2010

Whether involved in rural enterprise or just seeking a quiet place to live, it is clear that a significant number of people are having their lives changed by wind projects being sited too close to their homes.

After 30 years of appraising, studying and consulting on all types of real estate and development projects, I have never seen the effects, impacts and reactions of the magnitude or severity that turbine neighbors and their property rights are subjected to. Short of a nuclear reactor meltdown, (i.e., Chernobyl) nothing has caused so many people to experience the physical and health-driven need to relocate, and it is amazing that industry and government both are doing absolutely nothing to address this trend, and correct it before it is too late for even more citizens.

If this continues unchecked, I predict a series of rural “ghettos”, of abandoned unmaintained homes, and an economically disadvantaged class of people finding these devalued homes to be the only place they can afford. Great places to hide illegal operations....few neighbors, cheap structures and the ability to vacate in a hurry if the heat gets turned up....much like the old buildings in poor neighborhoods in the cities....who else is going to want them?

Wind companies should be required to offer buy-outs at market value (pre-project value) within 2 miles of projects, and certainly within the massive footprints, and then they can prove they are not destroying value by reselling for the same price. However, in each instance I know of when a wind developer did indeed buy and resell a neighboring home,



they re-sold for 60% – 80% below their purchase price. Thus, an erosion of homeowner equity has in fact been proven by the cause...wind industry itself.

Any readers who have factual information and/or personal accounts of this nature are invited to email details to me or contact me to discuss.

Mike McCann  
McCann Appraisal, LLC

[mikesmccann@comcast.net](mailto:mikesmccann@comcast.net)



4. **Neil Andersen** ([Reply](#)) on Tuesday 2, 2010

Thank you, thank you, thank you! We have been patiently coping for the past 7 months, 1320' from Falmouth's turbine (Massachusetts). It has been hell.

Neil

## Leave a Response

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- Got Wind Turbine Syndrome? Did your property value plummet after the turbines went in? (Australia)

## The court case that might stop wind turbines (Ontario)

By [admin](#) Monday January 24, 2011



—Lee Greenberg, [The Ottawa Citizen](#) (1/24/11)

An Eastern Ontario man has launched a court case that could put the brakes on the province's green energy plans.

Ian Hanna, a 56-year-old property owner from Prince Edward County, says the government wasn't fully informed when it concluded industrial wind turbines could exist 550 meters away from the nearest home. Hanna and his supporters say there is no medical evidence to support the decision and are asking a Superior Court judge to halt all wind development until a full medical study is performed. The case will be heard in Toronto on Monday.

"They didn't look at the dangers, at what these things can do to people," says Hanna, who operates a wine importing business. "We maintain they had an obligation to seriously consider the health of Ontario citizens before they allowed companies to come in and stick these things so close to their homes that they make them sick. So we've asked the court to declare those four sections of the act void."





Anti-wind activists contend the low-frequency noise emitted from turbines leads to chronic sleeplessness, stress and even hypertension causing heart disease.

While these claims were initially given short shrift, they have lately gained greater currency.

Two-and-a-half years ago Hanna would have been thrilled to have spoken to an audience of 15 people. Anti-wind gatherings now regularly attract hundreds of people.

About 125 braved frigid temperatures Sunday afternoon to hear Hanna and two other activists speak at a public meeting organized by the North Gower Wind Action Group.

A rumbling hum filled the meeting room at the Alfred Taylor Centre as people filed in and took their seats. Organizer Jane Wilson said it was the sound of three wind turbines as recorded by a landowner in Maine who lives about a kilometre from the nearest wind turbine. "What is missing from this recording is the vibration," Wilson said.

Wolfe Island resident Janet White painted a bleak picture of life among wind turbines. She said corporate wind developers have driven a wedge in the small community between those who oppose the development and those, like her neighbours, who support it and have allowed a company to install three turbines on their property.

White said the Wolfe Island wind turbine developments have created few jobs or other economic benefits for the community as a whole. "We're not building anything, there's no legacy here," she said.

Underpinning the anti-wind movement's new-found credibility is the presence of Dr. Bob McMurtry, an orthopedic surgeon and former dean of the University of Western Ontario's medical school, who initially began researching turbines in the hopes of owning one himself.

His findings turned him against wind.

McMurtry, who, like Hanna, owns property in Prince Edward County, will serve as one of three expert witnesses in Hanna's court case, where he will testify that the turbines cause what is medically referenced as "annoyance."

The condition "manifests itself in various ways including difficulties with sleep initiation and sleep disturbance, stress and physiological distress," according to court documents filed in the Hanna case.

McMurtry is the brother of former Attorney General and Ontario chief justice Roy McMurtry. He has advised the federal government on health policy and was special adviser to the Romanow Commission.

After spending more than 2,000 hours researching the issue, he concluded that people living within two kilometres of the turbines are in danger of experiencing adverse health effects.

"Stress and sleep deprivation are well known risk factors for increased morbidity including significant chronic disease such as cardiovascular problems including hypertension and ischemic heart disease," according to Hanna's factum.

Another Canadian doctor, Michael Nissenbaum, will report on his study of 22 people living within 1.1 kilometres of a wind farm in Mars Hill, Maine.

Nissenbaum found a range of health concerns among his subjects, including weight changes, metabolic disturbances (including diabetes), psychological stresses that resulted in chronic



depression, anger and other psychiatric symptoms, headaches, auditory problems and overall increased use of prescription medication.

Nissenbaum's study is believed to be the first of its kind, according to Hanna's lawyer.

The province, through the Attorney General, says it took "every reasonable step" to consider the impact of its policies on human health.

"These steps included the consideration of all of the available studies and public comments respecting wind energy," the government says in its court-filed factum.

"We believe we have put in place a protective and cautious approach to developing renewable energy in Ontario," Kate Jordan, a spokeswoman for the Minister of the Environment, said in a statement to the Citizen.

"Our approvals are based on science, modelling work and jurisdictional comparisons."

The application, if it is successful, would pose a serious challenge to the province's Green Energy Act, which was designed not only as an environmental legislation but also as a solution to Ontario's flagging manufacturing sector.

Subsidies and domestic content provisions in the legislation are aimed at kick-starting a homegrown industry, which includes a \$7-billion deal with a South Korean consortium led by Samsung.

The Canadian Wind Energy Association, a powerful industry lobby group, will be represented as an intervener at the trial. A spokeswoman for the association declined to comment.

"We're not saying anything until after the court case," said Ulrike Kucera. "It's premature."

Hanna said Sunday he has raised about \$200,000 for the legal challenge and, depending on the court's decision, is prepared to launch an appeal. "If we don't prevail at this level, please believe me, we're not done."

## [2 Comments](#)

1.  **Alan Harper** ([Reply](#)) on Monday 24, 2011

Norfolk, England

Hello Calvin and Nina. (Or do you prefer Nina and Calvin? My wife always insists on female precedence.)

It is heartening to see the campaign groups across the world highlighting, especially, the medical mental trauma which we all know is associated with idolatrous worship at the financial altar of the green eco-loon religion "Windology," otherwise known by the zealots as "Sustainable Existentialism." (Is that the right description?)

I am an electrical engineer and it is very easy for me to write down on paper the proofs which condemn renewables, no matter what discipline they may appear from, or through which political door they are thrust, to the wastebin of history. However, I do really appreciate the constancy of Nina, against both a worldwide politicised derision and a



multitude of government-funded ignorant experts. Thank you for your continued perseverance. But remember, as if you do not need telling, there is always a good man behind a good woman!

Even the French Academy of Medicine was advising caution with a 1500 meter separation distance back in 2006.

To have reached the stage where parliamentary legality can be reliably challenged seems unbelievable. The tide is turning just as King Canute forecast! But we will maybe get our toes wet in the process.

As it will be easy to guess, I am vehemently ANTI-wind power stations because they do not do what the box says. Moreover, with a humanitarian hat on, WPS are as responsible for famine and drought.

So, keep on Ontario, and take the battle right into the enemy's front lines.

*Editor's reply: I've been trying to persuade Nina for years that I'm her better half. Without success, so far. But I'm persistent.*

2.

**Alan Harper** ([Reply](#)) on Monday 24, 2011

My use of English "as she is writ" seems to need attention!

The second from last line should have been: "....., WPS (wind power stations) are ALSO responsible for famine and drought. I cannot bring myself to call them 'windfarms' because a farm and farming means "to cultivate" and in doing so, create life and abundance for people.

By comparison wind power stations snuff out life."

P.S. Calvin, we are having some sexist issues over here as well. Have you noticed what proportions of news pages are either about, aimed at or blatantly extolling the merits of the other half. As the history of life tells us, we mere males do not stand a chance! But we must never give up just as we should never give up fighting the politicised injustices and technical illiteracy of the eco-loon renewables scam-wagon.

## Leave a Response

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- Got Wind Turbine Syndrome? Did your property value plummet after the turbines went in? (Australia)

“There is a measurable and significant loss of [property] values within 2 to 3 miles”

By [admin](#) Tuesday January 25, 2011



**From:** McCann Appraisal, LLC

**To:** The [OttawaCitizen.com](#)

I am writing regarding the [Ian Hanna case](#) being heard presently in Ontario, and to offer a little more information and insight than was described in [Lee Greenberg's article today](#) (1-24-11).

My expertise is not in **health issues**, but there is a direct relationship between **those impacts** and my professional studies **of real estate impacts**.

For example, numerous families have been forced to abandon their homes due to the factual impacts to health, sleep disturbances and the like, which the [Canadian Wind Energy Association](#) and the [American Wind Energy Association](#) prefer to dismiss as “concerns.” Many others have been unable to sell their homes due to the presence of nearby turbines, and which a growing list of realtors and estate agents report as being the deciding factor in would-be buyer’s decisions to look elsewhere.

There is a measurable and significant loss of values within **2 to 3 miles**, and noise impacts have been broadcast as far as **5 miles or more**, in some instances, with 1 to 2 miles being commonplace. Value losses have been measured at 20% to 40%, *with a total loss of equity in some instances*.

**Wind developers have been known to buy out the most vocal neighbors who refuse to roll over and play dead when they are initially ignored, and then turn around and sell those same homes for 60% to 80% below the appraised value—thus confirming value losses by their own actions.**

Other developers have avoided future liability by bulldozing the purchased homes.

In fact, wind developers and the existing Canadian setback are even inadequate to protect neighbors from ice throw or from sections of turbine blades, which are documented as occurring up to half a mile from the turbines, and I have personally heard of a blade throw (piece) that went about 1 mile.



Regardless of these facts, the wind industry often tries to convince the siting decision makers that safety issues are satisfied by setbacks of 1.1 X the height of turbines (550 meters in Canada), as if preventing a toppling turbine from landing on a neighbors house is the correct standard.

It is obvious what is happening here: *The wind industry is playing a numbers game, under the assumption or actuarial calculations that it is less costly for them to fight a number of lawsuits from citizens who do not have deep pockets, than it is to buy out the property they need to create huge projects.*

The solution is simple, also: Mandate that all property they seek to encompass with industrial overlays be purchased outright, so people have an option as to whether they choose to live in a large, noisy industrial setting.

I am quite certain any of your staff can confirm my factual comments by simply driving to any number of projects and counting the abandoned and for sale homes, talking with a few remaining neighbors, etc. Maybe start with the Clear Creek project, where a dozen homes are reported abandoned, due to proximity of about 3 dozen turbines. The list will grow as large as time devoted to research of this issue will allow.

Like most other people, I initially assumed that wind energy would be a good trend. Unlike most people, I have expended something on the order of 2,000 hours looking into it, and my findings are quite contrary to the “positions” of the wind industry and their lobbyists. However, even the wind industry’s counterpart to my profession, Mr. Ben Hoen, has now gone on record saying that Property Value Guarantees should be used for nearby homeowners, and that “if wind developers won’t guarantee that, then they really don’t have a leg to stand on.”

Your publication can do much to bring the truth to public view, and I am available to answer any questions you may have. Also, you have my permission to publish this letter as you see fit.

Incidentally, if you Google my name + Adams County, Illinois, you will find a [lengthier report which provides more details of property value impacts](#), along with public documents on buyouts made by Canadian Hydro of turbine neighbors homes.

Respectfully,

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## [1 Comment](#)

1.  **TurbineTurmoil** ([Reply](#)) on Tuesday 25, 2011

We know the facts are ignored by officials across the globe. What do we do about it? Civil disobedience is the answer, and increasingly we need to begin to learn to use social