



Carol Hoke
<carolhoke08@gmail.com>

10/11/2012 08:54 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject: Opposition to Bat "Take" Permits

Dear Mr. Amidon:

I am writing to you to voice my ***strong opposition*** to the USFWS providing incidental take permits for endangered species of bats for wind energy facilities in the Midwest. Understand that these bats are endangered; permitting them to be killed during your experimentation would further endanger them. Please do not proceed with this ill-considered plan. Instead, find some other means of developing a strategy that will not harm innocent, especially endangered, animals.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Carol Hoke
72 Lakeview Ct.
Brevard, NC 28712



Aaron Sargeant
<a_rostrata@hotmail.com>

10/01/2012 08:28 AM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Comments on the Midwest Wind Energy HCP

Attn: Rick Amidon
Re: Midwest Wind Energy Habitat Conservation Plan in Eight States

Please consider the following 10 comments regarding the current version of the Midwest Wind Energy HCP:

1. Considering the ever increasing scrutiny and spotlight surrounding animal welfare issues in agriculture and biomedical research, and the regulations that follow, it is surprising that the energy sector would have such a mechanism to obtain a pass. The proposed HCP conflicts with ODNR protocols and Ohio regulations. To justify overriding the current regulations, a thorough risk-benefit analysis of industrial wind energy, particularly including its measured benefits, is needed. This analysis will need to show that the measured benefits of industrial wind are sufficient to trump the protection of at-risk species as originally outlined by the ESA. Financial gain to landowners and municipalities should not be weighed against species survival.
2. Killing sexually mature bats will cause far greater harm than any benefit created by setting aside habitat. The complex life history of bats (low reproductive rates and long generation times) is not adequately addressed. Scientific evidence that the mitigation plan will effectively propagate the species is needed before committing to a 50-year experiment that will have permanent consequences.
3. Population recovery of bats would take several decades and may not be possible given the concurrent problem of White Nose Syndrome (WNS) in the United States. As expressed in a recent article co-authored by a US Geological Survey biologist¹, the combined threats of WNS and wind turbines are causing a sudden population decline of insectivorous bats on a scale rivaled by few recorded events affecting mammals. Indeed, there is no justification for killing an at-risk species in the face of an emerging fatal infectious disease, especially when bats are needed to control populations of insects such as mosquitos that transmit diseases like West Nile Virus to humans.
4. Estimates from the resulting disruption of ecosystems put the value of bats to the agricultural industry at roughly \$22.9 billion/year.¹ Preserving the integrity of ecosystems is in the best interest of both national and international economies. What may seem at first to be in the best financial interest of farmers may in fact have the opposite effect, causing us to look back and say "What were we thinking?".

5. The actual number of bats killed by wind turbines each year is difficult to assess given the absence of continental-scale monitoring programs.¹ Useful monitoring programs require at least a national approach which could be hindered by setting a precedent with the approval of the Midwest Energy HCP. Considering the Midwest Energy HCP, the Buckeye Wind HCP and others concurrently is a fragmented approach that makes it difficult to achieve constructive public advisement. A more inclusive and far-reaching strategy would have a better chance of achieving monitoring programs that would produce meaningful results for the affected species.
6. The suggested post-construction monitoring is substandard. Any unidentified bats in the project areas should be counted as Indiana bats, and any female Indiana bat carcass should be counted as two Indiana bat fatalities during the months from April through mid-August.
7. The current species list includes disproportionate numbers of insects and mollusks and needs more bird and bat species.
8. State wildlife preserves and hibernacula should be protected without exception.
9. The studies are financially supported by both the state and the American Wind Energy Association, a trade organization; however, it is not clear who the contractor is and what organization(s) receive direct reports from the contractor. HCP design and implementation should be based solely on biological principles with complete public transparency. A contractor reporting directly to the AWEA, for example, would represent a conflict of interest. All monitoring should be performed by a third party under contract with the USFWS, funded by the wind developer but with direct reporting to the USFWS.
10. The plan states “Where impacts cannot be avoided, mitigation will off-set species and habitat impacts to the maximum extent practicable.” It is unclear what “cannot” means here since all impacts are indeed avoidable simply by prohibiting a project. Likewise, “practicable” is too subjective so the specific intended strategy should be defined.

Thank you for your consideration.
Respectfully,

Aaron Sargeant, DVM, PhD

¹Boyles JG, Cryan PM, McCracken GF, and Kunz TH. Economic Importance of Bats in Agriculture. *Science* 2011 (332)41-42.



<seabird1@cox.net>

09/30/2012 09:30 PM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>

cc:

Subject: FW: Midwest Habitat Conservation Plan

All wind facilities should be monitored via camera 24/7 with the expense being paid by the landowner and the wind developer. Both should be fined as the incidences occur. This will act as a safeguard. As habitats and landforms change, land use will change. This is the ONLY WAY the USFWS will be able to monitor the immediate and cumulative affect. Any repeated fatalities should result in a modification including shut down of the wind turbines. Endangered and threatened species should not be subjected to a HCP or ITP. Instead, the USFWS should use common sense to keep these out of sensitive areas and at great distance from breeding and migratory pathways. Habitats specific to endangered or threatened species cannot be mitigated elsewhere.

Vicci Weeks

Parma, OH



<seabird1@cox.net>

09/30/2012 09:29 PM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>

cc:

Subject: Midwest Habitat Conservation Plan

All wind facilities should be monitored via camera 24/7 with the expense being paid by the landowner and the wind developer. Both should be fined as the incidences occur. This will act as a safeguard. As habitats and landforms change, land use will change. This is the ONLY WAY the USFWS will be able to monitor the immediate and cumulative affect. Any repeated fatalities should result in a modification including shut down of the wind turbines. Endangered and threatened species should not be subjected to a HCP or ITP. Instead, the USFWS should use common sense to keep these out of sensitive areas and at great distance from breeding and migratory pathways. Habitats specific to endangered or threatened species cannot be mitigated elsewhere.



"Diane Hoerth"
<dmhoerth@bugnet.net
>

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: FW: Bat/turbines

09/30/2012 07:43 PM

The issue with bats and industrial wind turbines is a serious one, one of which the bat loses. The wind industry knows there is a problems but does not care and only cares about their financial bottom line. From the Wind Power Finance and Investment Summit, Feb. 7, 2008 in San Diego comes this statement: "Bat problems are turning out to be a serious issue. Fifty or sixty kills per turbine are significant numbers and are causing concern. Fortunately, bats are not charismatic creatures, so this doesn't carry any weight." Doesn't care weight with the wind industry, but these little creatures are extremely important for an ecological balance in our environment! We have friends who live

within a wind farm but since the turbines came their bat houses are empty but they have stated that the mosquito population has increased, sometimes it's unbearable. This year the West Nile Virus has become a serious issue and without a good bat population this could continue to become even more of a serious issue. Because of health problems, my husband and I have been trying to go more organic with our food but without a strong bat population to control insects, farms have to use more chemicals and spray their crops to prevent losing that crop. This also is an added expense that farms do not need and many times is passed on to consumers. If you study the wind issue,

these are unreliable machines that are wasting taxpayers billions, as well as costing us as consumers more for our electricity. Personally, if you would shut these massive pieces of junk down, you would save the bats and other birds, save taxpayers, consumers and certainly help the health, safety and property values for those trapped in these wind farms. We are sending below an editorial from a few years ago. If you haven't, please research Dr. Thomas H. Kunz and his articles such as; "Ecological impact of wind energy development on bats." "Bat-gate: Cover-up Beech Ridge wind facility"

Thank You.

Ray & Diane Hoerth

Chilton, WI 53014

dmhoerth@bugnet.net

Issue: 2010-04-09

WindAction Editorial

Batting thousands in Wisconsin

Significant bat mortality at wind energy facilities first became widely known in the United States in 2003 when research scientists observed alarming numbers of bats killed at FPL Energy's Mountaineer wind energy plant in West Virginia. The forty-four turbine site located along the forested Backbone mountaintop was found to be slaughtering bats at annual rates of over 50 bats per turbine with some estimates placing the count at close to 100 bats. High mortality was also observed that year at the Meyersdale wind farm in Pennsylvania, another FPL project.

Researchers from Texas-based Bat Conservation International ("BCI") were invited to investigate the cause for the high mortality with the intent of trying to minimize and/or avoid the impact. FPL (now Next Era) initially agreed to cooperate, but in 2004 [abruptly changed course](#) and banned further visits by scientists to the sites. To our knowledge, bats kills are continuing unabated and Windaction.org has no independent information to suggest anyone is even monitoring the problem.

In 2007, renowned bat expert Dr. Thomas H. Kunz and others published "[Ecological impacts of wind energy development on bats: questions, research needs, and hypotheses](#)", which detailed the significant risk that industrial-scale wind turbines posed for migratory and local bat populations in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States. The authors projected that by 2020, annual bat fatalities at wind energy facilities in this area alone could reach 111,000 bats.

The authors also made clear that their preliminary projections of cumulative bat fatalities were likely unrealistically low.

And developers' own consultants agree. During court proceedings before the U.S. District Court involving the Beech Ridge wind energy facility proposed for West Virginia, [experts predicted that more than 135,000 bats would be killed](#) by the turbines through a combination of direct collision with the turbine blades and [barotrama](#). The Beech Ridge project is close geographically to the Mountaineer facility.

Dr. Kunz elaborated on his concerns in [written testimony](#) submitted to the court as follows:

"the most severe threats facing bats in eastern United States are habitat loss, White Nose Syndrome, and proliferation of poorly sited industrial wind developments. Habitat loss and degradation as a result of human activity has been occurring for a long time, but the recent threats of White Nose Syndrome and industrial wind developments - and particularly the cumulative effects of the two simultaneous threats -could have especially deleterious effects on a number of bat species in the eastern United States, including the endangered Indiana bat."

Vermont's Agency for Natural Resources is taking bat mortality very seriously. In recommendations to the Vermont Public Service Board involving a 5-turbine project along Vermont's Georgia Mountain, the agency proffered maximum allowed [mortality thresholds](#):

"Adverse impacts to bat populations may occur as a result of the new wind facility and should be addressed when estimated bat fatalities for the period July 1 through September 30 at the Green Mountain site exceed 0.0 threatened and endangered bat species/turbine (Indiana or small footed bat), 3.0 migratory bats/ turbine (combinations of red bat, hoary bat and silver- haired bat) or 5.0 bats/turbine of other species (combinations of little brown bat, big brown bat, northern long-eared bat, and tri-colored bat)."

But wind developers building in agriculture areas or areas away from forests essentially ignored the bat problem believing it only applied to a few projects along ridgelines in eastern States.

In proceedings before the Wisconsin Public Service Commission on the [Blue Sky Green Field Wind Energy Center](#) (88 turbines), developer We Energies dismissed recommendations by the State's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that pre- and post- construction studies be conducted to understand the effect on resident and migratory bats. Their witness testified that the "project's bat mortality rate is reasonably likely to compare with the published mortality rates at wind farms located in similar agriculturally-dominated landscapes."

Still, the Commission required the project conduct post-construction studies and the results were staggering. Bat mortality was found to be *over* 40 bats per turbine per year with counts nearly split between migratory and resident species. In an expected 20-year project life, over 70,000 bats will be decimated by this single project.

Scientists at the DNR made it clear to the Commission that there were too few scientific studies completed nationwide for anyone to understand the estimated potential for impacts for a particular wind farm simply by performing a literature review and extrapolating the results from wind farms located in similar environments. And they were right!

The State of Wisconsin now has a decision to make on what to do about bat mortality. Windaction.org hopes Wisconsin and We Energies will act more responsibly than NextEra and the State of West Virginia. An important step is to first acknowledge that the problem exists.



"Diane Hemmert"
<dianeeh@watchtv.net
>

09/30/2012 05:49 AM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Midwest Wind Energy Habitat Conservation Plan

Attention: Rick Amidon

We hope the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services will continue to protect the bats and bat habitats and not favor the monied interests of the wind power industry.

Bats are of tremendous benefit to the agricultural community as they consume a large amount of insects which must otherwise be controlled with pesticides. Reductions in the bat population means an increase in the pesticides required. This has a double negative effect.

First, any reduction in the bat population means an increased cost to farmers for increased pesticides and thus an increased cost of food. Studies have shown this to be the case.

Second, an increase in pesticide use means more negative health impacts, not only on our generation, but on future generations.

The wind power industry has done a so-called "official bat study" near us recently. It is disturbing to us that the study was done at a time of the year and during weather conditions when bats are inactive. It illustrated to us that these studies are being rigged by the wind power industry to get the results they want.

It seems to us that bats, the least visible, most unattractive species is perhaps the most valuable species. Please resist the monied interests of the wind power industry and continue to protect bats.

Dave Hemmert
12649 Taylor Road
Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895
937-693-2731
dianeeh@watchtv.net



Robert Homan
<nancyhoman@me.com>
m>

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject:

09/27/2012 05:16 PM

Regional Director
US Fish and Wildlife Services Ecological Services
5600 American Blvd. West Suite 990
Bloomington, MN55437+458
Attn: Mr. Rick Amidon

I am writing in regards to the proposed Montra Hill Wind Project in Shelby County, Ohio. My wife and I have been in our home at 18782 Linker Rd. Jackson Center, Ohio 45334 for over 35years. We have a ranch house on 5 1/2 acres in a woods with an acre pond. We have raised four children and all have enjoyed our home and land. Since our children are all out of our home and married, we still enjoy our place in the woods.

My wife and I are 73years old, enjoy the the outdoors with our flowers, garden, the many birds, squirrels, deer and bats. Our mosquito population has diminished greatly to the point of not using bug spray this year.

Our presence at this address is the first house on our mile road for years before other houses started appearing.

The land across the road from our house and the field east of us have been signed up to put wind turbines on. This would bring disaster to our life style, our health life, and property value.

In the proposed Montra Hill Wind Project, the amount of houses should be no more than 10 per square mile. We have 88 per square mile. In other words no one wants these wind turbines in this area. Since the Honda Plant and all the other manufacturing plants have located in this area, there are a lot of new homes in the country and towns. Families, who, I'm sure do not want to raise a family having to worry about health issues or having their homes valued at less than they paid for it. Wind turbines decrease the value twenty to forty percent.

The Mainstream Renewable Power from Dublin, Ireland have 5984 acres signed up and they want 10,000 acres. Thirty-four landowners have signed up and one-hundred and six landowners refused to sign up their land consisting of 13,185 acres. In conclusion, my wife and I do not want these wind turbines to ruin our life standards. It has been a proven fact that wind turbines are not efficient and Mainstream selling them to China, then we shouldn't even be thinking of it. Do we want China owning more and more of America?? I don't think so.

Your consideration would be greatly appreciated so that we can continue to enjoy our birds and wildlife and quiet moments in the best days on earth.

Very truly yours

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Homan

18782 Linker Road
Jackson Center, Ohio 45334
e-mail: nanchoman@me.com
Ph.#937-596-6873



Brian Monnin
<bkmonnin98@yahoo.com>
om>

09/26/2012 09:31 PM
Please respond to Brian
Monnin

To: "midwestwindhcp@fws.gov" <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Midwest Wind Energy Habitat Conservation Plan for Ohio

September 26, 2012

Regional Director
Attn: Rick Amidon
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services
5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458

I am writing in regards to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits the "take" of certain bat species thru direct harm or habitat destruction. It is my understanding that the ESA also allows the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to issue Incidental Take Permits for the "incidental" take of endangered and threatened wildlife. We live in Shelby County, Ohio where a wind farm is being proposed and we are aware of numerous species of endangered species of birds and bats that live in our area and we want to ensure they are around for many years. The adverse affects that a wind farm has on the birds and bats habitat will greatly affect the population in our area. It is irresponsible to knowingly extinct any endangered animal.

The wind turbines have shown to reduce bat population and bats are extremely helpful in controlling insects, with fewer bats more pesticides are likely to be required, potentially increasing the cost of food and contaminating our water supply. We grow a large *organic* garden and don't use pesticides on our property. We have a bat house on our property to help reduce insects and we use beneficial insects.

In addition, there have not been enough long term studies that show the affects wind farms have on these endangered species and would like to see more independent studies on the impact industrial wind turbines have on the bat and bird population prior to any wind turbines being erected.

Finally, if a wind development is to proceed, only a portion should be constructed and a post construction mortality survey must be performed, by an independent company, for the bat and bird population for two years prior to any further wind turbine development/siting in the area and paid for by the energy company (not my tax dollars).

Thank you,

Brian and Kathy Monnin
18296 Southland Road
Wapakoneta, OH 45895



Chris Monnin
<CMonnin@garmannmi
ller.com>

09/26/2012 03:22 PM

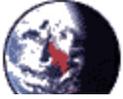
To: "midwestwindhcp@fws.gov" <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Wind turbines in Ohio

To Whom it may concern:

I am an avid outdoorsman who loves to see the wildlife in it's natural habitat. I have read how wind turbines can and will affect the areas where they are installed. There are studies now that the farmers crops are affected because the turbulence of the spinning blades dries out the ground faster so the crops do not produce as high of yield due to the dry conditions. I have read out west that the wind turbines have been associated with the flight path of migratory birds. The number of birds and insects killed by the spinning blades is a large number. So now we are considering allowing these eye sores to be installed in our backyards in Auglaize, Champagne, Logan and Shelby counties. This is an outrage. Then I read that these companies will not be required to any post-construction monitoring. How can this be? We are going to allow a company to install hideous towers all over the place but not require them to monitor the affects? These wind turbines have to be stopped. The risk definitely outweighs the minor benefit. Being an outdoorsman I want the environment to remain as natural as possible. Installing 480 feet tall wind turbines is not natural.

Thanks,

Chris Monnin
401 East State Street
Botkins, Ohio 45306



Peter Schaps
<Peter@Schaps.com>

09/18/2012 09:38 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov

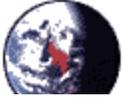
cc:

Subject: I have sent your office previous mail with no response

Maybe you don't remember, but I do remember very clearly when Minnesota had the largest number of Bald Eagle breeding pairs in the nation, I think the number was 150 pairs in the 1970's. One hell of a lot of work went into restoring the Bald Eagle, and all the other birds to boot, and now you folks seem to be sitting on your hands when it comes to these bird chopping farms sprouting up everywhere, where's the beef?

I am 56 years old, and I did not observe a bald eagle in the wild until my 35th year on this earth, since then I have seen the eagles soar just about everywhere that I travel . Now today in 2012 these clean energy folks come along shrouded in their phony green garments professing clean energy, though trying not to address what their turbines are doing to the birds and mammals of the air. I cannot even understand what in the sam hell the Federal Government is doing allowing these folks to get as far as they have building these bird killing sanctuaries all over the republic of America. Your map of states does not include South Dakota why not? as their is a huge wind farm near Aberdeen that is in the heart of bird country, I have been there, you don't see birds like they have in that area very often, how many birds are being slaughtered in that area of SoDak? I think government officials think that the people out in the field don't notice, or that we are to stupid to notice. Well thats BS, we do notice, and we are not stupid. We understand what we know to be true, and this ruse cannot stand. The USF&W had better get off their arses and do the job we pay them to do and put a stop to the bird slaughter pronto, I have worked and paid taxes for many years which go to pay government salaries and benefits to people hired to do a job, and one of the jobs is to make sure we have our birds.

Cordially,
Peter Schaps
North Branch



John Gavre
<biker2@att.net>

09/09/2012 11:52 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject: Bats and Large Wind Farms

Dear Rick Amidon,

Since I can be rather long winded, I've highlighted the most pertinent things in regards to bats and large wind farms. With that being said, I'll start off by saying that people say that the majority is for the large wind farm idea. But that simply has never been proven. No presurvey was done. No referendum vote was allowed on our particular wind farm issue on the Garden Peninsula in Upper Michigan or others like it. In our area, I hear many people say that they didn't even know for a very long time that a wind farm was even in the works. And communication continues to be so secretive or so poor that they won't even know that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agency is even asking for comments on the bat issue, as you are doing. But I do. I heard about it by way of the "snail mail".

I am a retired science and environmental education teacher and naturalist, who has just recently built a new home that incorporates green alternative energy ideas. We had given up on the idea of building a smaller wind turbine on our property, due to feasibility problems and went with solar instead. But we wanted to continue supporting wind projects, while the kinks of the smaller units were worked out. So we donated to We Electric Energy Company for (15) years to have a wind farm built in Wisconsin. In retrospect, that turned out to be a big mistake on our parts, one that we hugely regret, once we saw

how our own wind energy company went at the process of getting a wind farm established in our own retirement community. I was appalled at the total disregard this company, called Heritage Wind Energy Company, had when it came to any living thing that got in its way towards making Big Money. Money seems to drive all its actions. Bats, birds, people, farm animals were just unimportant things to be trampled on and plowed under along with the topsoil. The company arrogantly ignored all letters coming from the Michigan chapter of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agency to not build on the Garden Peninsula. And I was astounded at what I saw on one of the charts at a Heritage picnic event.

The Heritage chart said, "no significant migratory bird and bat populations on the Garden Peninsula." Just by eyeballing the area, as a naturalist, I could see that that was not true. Then I talked to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife agent, who said that the bird and bat study was done poorly and inappropriately, with the research being done during a time when birds were gone. I was furious because now it sounded like either the researchers that were working for Heritage were totally incompetent. Or they purposely corrupted the research so as to get the project through and appease potential resistors. It was my first experience with how conniving, underhanded and to what low depths Heritage people would stoop to. It goes way beyond just slightly misrepresenting the facts. The wind energy company seemed to go straight to just outright lying about things. And it seems to be not the only lie that this company has given to an agency.

Our first installed wind turbine just had an oil spill this summer of 2012, after being in operations for around a year only. And it had been learned by a citizen's investigation that the company reported it as a miniscule amount of oil. Yet large, heavy equipment was witnessed removing soil from the base of the turbine by a local. And an expert evidently was flown in from California to help deal with the problem. "Was Heritage engaged in a cover up of some sorts?", was the question being asked.

What's important to note about this event is how potential oil spills are even worse for such places as the Garden Peninsula. The Garden Peninsula can not afford any oil spills, not even little ones. It's known as the "Black Water District" or an area with little top soil but much porous limestone bedrock, whose many crevices send any oil straight into the groundwater below. The local health department had condemned the Garden Peninsula area at one point in its past in regards to ground water contamination. So once word got slowly out about the wind farm in our area, people began showing up at the public meetings to express concerns about the wind farm and potential oil spills. But the wind company ignored them and blithly said that everything, including the water, would be okay. Months later the oil spill occurred.

This public meeting in regards to oil spills was not the only noteworthy item at this time. We found out later the Fairbanks Township chairman on the Garden Peninsula, who is a promoter and lease signer with Heritage, had its own committee member supress an

independent study and report on how bad the wind turbine contracts were. And now residents feel that they can't trust their own local politicians anymore, as well.

It all boils down to a lack of accountability and responsibility and integrity in regards to all living things. It is this that has turned me totally against large wind farms. Money, lots of it, motivates these poor behaviors. And it all seems to be reminiscent of what the President of Heritage, Marti Lagina, has done before when he was in oil and gas.

A news story was written on Marti Lagina, the president of Heritage Wind Energy Company, and others in his past gas and oil field adventures in regards to tampering with royalty monies meant for gas and oil lease signers. A state investigation was done. Lawsuits were started. And Marti Lagin quickly left the gas and oil industry and the country a very rich man, while his investors lost their shirts. Some years later he popped up in the wind energy sector, where the subsidies and free money was vastly superior to that of oil and gas.

Heritage Wind Energy Company is Marti Lagina's new money maker. And a self absorbed man could care less about bats and birds on the Garden Peninsula. But I do. We need the bats for such things as eating the mosquitoes that carry WEST NILE DISEASE. There is no cure, no vaccine to fight West Nile Disease. We only have the bats to keep this disease from becoming epidemic. And what's really scary is the state of Michigan wants to up the (10%) alternative energy

requirement to (25%) by amending its constitution. If that bit of unprecedented legislation goes through, there won't be one bat or bird in the whole state that will be safe. They'll have to fog the entire Garden Peninsula with insecticides just to keep the disease carrying mosquitoes in our most watery world under control. That certainly won't be good for the health of all wildlife, the ground water and people and lease signers.

Thus siting considerations for new potential wind farms and mitigating blade speeds for wind turbines at existing or old wind farms is absolutely necessary. The wind farm capetbaggers have to be told that they don't exist in this world alone. They need to do the responsible things, when it comes to large wind farms. And we're hoping that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agency will fight tooth and claw on behalf of our bats and birds and other critters. The bat and bird meters on the Garden Peninsula has gone off the charts, which tells us that we, as citizens, have alot to lose.

Cris Currie
Box 193
Garden, Michigan
49835



"Charlie Weaver"
<ctejedor@Copper.Net
>

09/08/2012 05:27 PM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Draft Midwest Wind Energy Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan
within Eight-State Planning Area, 52754-52755

Attn. Rick Amidon

I strongly feel that the development of such a plan is a much needed project.

I would hope that the American Bird Conservancy organization is invited and agrees to participate in the plan's preparation. (American Bird Conservancy , Main Office, P.O. Box 249, 4249 Loudoun Ave.,

The Plains, VA 20198-2237)

Thank you for considering this.

Charles Weaver
PO Box 1308
Kalkaska, MI 49646



<seabird1@cox.net>
09/05/2012 09:07 PM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: FW: Attn: Rick Amidon RE: Multi-state HCP

From: seabird1@cox.net [<mailto:seabird1@cox.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2012 6:38 AM

To: 'midwestwindhcp@fws.gov'

Subject: Attn: Rick Amidon RE: Multi-state HCP

I have the following questions about your intent to conduct a multi-state HCP in partnership with the AWEA.

1. What are the lands involved, especially in Ohio.
2. What is the duration of this effort?
3. What is the protocol for conducting this?
4. Has the USFWS ever partnered with any other industry in a multi-state HCP?
5. Why would you even think to include the bald eagle when you spent 40 years bringing it back from the brink of extinction? Who is making these decisions?

Vicci Weeks



"Kim Schertz"
<kdschertz@frontier.co
m>

09/05/2012 11:31 AM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Public Comment on Bird and Bat Deaths Due to Wind Turbines

I have been very disturbed by all I have seen and read about US Fish and Wildlife absolutely and completely
Rolling over and allowing habitat and wildlife destruction by industrial wind turbines.

Grow a backbone, support the ouster of this President who seeks to destroy our environment by placing
A wind turbine or solar panel on every square inch of public lands and allowing the slaughter of birds,
bats
And entire ecosystems in the process.

It is folly to be even talking the game of wind developers – they have shown a complete unwillingness to
Curtail – their only goal is to slip the next game past you to allow them to continue doing what they have
been
Doing in California for the past THIRTY YEARS – slaughtering endangered species of birds – no fines have
been
Levied, there has been nothing to stop them.

Now the absurd idea of allowing them PERMITS to kill an acceptable amount – this is pure folly –
especially since
There are no real accurate numbers of the deaths they have already be the cause of since most reported
is
VASTLY UNDERESTIMATED or done by the very people who are doing the killing.

Stop the madness – grow a backbone – and hold these people responsible for their actions.

Kim Schertz
POB 347
Hudson, IL 61748
309-726-1168

Learn more at Wind Action, Wind Watch, Illinois Wind Watch, Wind Cows, Nina Pierpoint, Wind Turbine
Syndrome



Edna Armstrong
<empressgold@att.net
>

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov, midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject: "Planning Partners?"

09/04/2012 09:46 PM

SHAME ON YOU U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service! Since when has "partnering" with the duping of The American people about wind energy become the business of The US Fish and Wildlife Service? And since when, does the agency that is SUPPOSE to protect our wildlife and our national resources, involve themselves with "partners" who agree it's OK to murder our national bird and other endangered species so these so-called "partners" can make millions of dollars by destroying our landscape, bats, birds, marine life, etc., by raising those monstrosities on our federal lands?

You who are involved in this travesty should hang your heads in shame!

You sold your soul to the devil...the love of money!

I've never been more disgusted with government "servants"!

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Edna Armstrong



"mortimer"
<mortimer@adams.net
>

09/04/2012 03:53 PM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Attn: Rick Amidon TAKE PERMITS

Remember the Fish and Wildlife Mission-----DO NOT PERMIT THE WIND TURBINE INDUSTRY TO HAVE INCIDENTAL/KILL PERMITS FOR BIRDS AND BATS. You are supposed to protect wildlife for all Americans to enjoy--Not bow to the pressure of private industry.

L. Mortimer
Golden,IL.



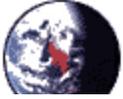
<seabird1@cox.net>
09/04/2012 05:37 AM

To: <midwestwindhcp@fws.gov>
cc:
Subject: Attn: Rick Amidon RE: Multi-state HCP

I have the following questions about your intent to conduct a multi-state HCP in partnership with the AWEA.

1. What are the lands involved, especially in Ohio.
2. What is the duration of this effort?
3. What is the protocol for conducting this?
4. Has the USFWS ever partnered with any other industry in a multi-state HCP?
5. Why would you even think to include the bald eagle when you spent 40 years bringing it back from the brink of extinction? Who is making these decisions?

Vicci Weeks



Jeff Terry
<terryj@iit.edu>

09/03/2012 10:53 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov

cc:

Subject: Do not allow wind turbine facilities to "take" endangered bats

Bats are facing extreme pressure from White Nose Disease. They do not need further pressure from increased use of wind turbines. Wind turbines are an ineffective means of providing power to the US. At best, they are a niche generator. Bats pollinate crops, eat insects that kill crops and carry disease. It is ludicrous to kill off the bats in the US for 1000 of square miles of wind turbines that at best operate 50% of the time (closer to 30% cap factor) and are backed by CO2 emitting Nat Gas plants. You may as well just build the Nat Gas plants and skip the bat and bird killing wind turbines.

Jeff Terry
Munster IN



Michael Miller
<memillermail@gmail.com>

09/02/2012 11:35 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject: Protecting endangered species from turbine blades

Has a study been done using the deer whistles (used on automobiles) on the blades of the big turbines? They are cheap and could be glued 3/4 the way out on the blades. This should keep bats and birds away and keep noise to a minimum.

Thanks,

Mike Miller
315 Thompson
Palmyra, MO 63461
memillermail@gmail.com



<pemer@new.rr.com>

09/01/2012 11:23 PM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov

cc:

Subject: Comments re: wind turbines

I am so happy to know there is concern about bird being killed by windturbines. Below are my comments and suggestions:

1. Take down the windturbines. They are a scourge on the landscape and kills millions of birds. Use other energy sources. I have read wind turbines are not very efficient anyway.
2. Build big mesh cages around the turbines. Or enclose them in some other way.
3. Have the turbines emit some kind of energy or force field or something! (I don't know what) to divert the birds
4. The idea stated in the newspaper about having the turbines slower is ridiculous. Are the birds supposed to learn how to fly in between the blades?
5. The other idea about locating wind turbines in areas not frequented by endangered birds and bats is also ridiculous. Where exactly would that be? Do the birds follow designated sky highways? And about all the other birds that live in those areas but are not migrating?
6. Make it mandatory for the energy companies that profit from the energy put money into researching how to stop killing birds.

Thank you for looking into this.

Patty Emer
Appleton, WI



Patrick Carey
<pjcareyiii@gmail.com
>
08/31/2012 10:21 PM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject: RE: Associated Press story - "Conservation Effort Focuses on Bats and Wind Turbines"

To Whom it may Concern;

I have seen devices smaller than an aspirin bottle called "deer alert whistles" that supposedly deter deer from running out in front of you while you're driving. These devices supposedly put out an alarming sound so that deer hear it long before they are in a position of getting run over by a vehicle.

While I don't know if that actually works on deer, similar devices could be installed on wind turbines to deter bats and birds - bats in particular would avoid an area where the ambient noise is sufficient to deter them:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18805817>

My idea is this can be done fairly cheaply by installing noisemaking devices on a wind turbine without affecting operator variables like when the turbines should start spinning.

As far as birds, my own experience is anecdotal - my father used to keep birds away from our garden by installing simple tin foil pie plates in the bushes and trees. As long as there was wind, there were no birds eating seeds and fruits. My hunch is this would work on birds and bats equally well.

In this case, if there is no wind there is no fear of animals being destroyed by a turbine on the part of the operating entity, and when there IS wind, the noisemakers would deter them from flying too close. It's a simple and elegant solution.

Thanks,

Patrick Carey



maggie jones
<mhjones@countryspe
ed.com>

08/31/2012 11:42 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov
cc:
Subject: Down with windpower in the midwest /wildlife

Everything should be done to help ALL home owners and businesses get **solar PV panels** on or beside their buildings.

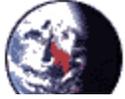
and wind towers **DOWN** so they no longer kill birds and bats and fragment the land they are eating up.

Power produced at the place where the power is consumed is better than running lethal-to-birds huge power lines across the countryside, which also cause habitat destruction, fragmentation and are an eyesore.

Common sense dictates that the federal government **INCREASE** financial help for placing smaller scale electric power production at points of use.

When, oh when, will we start to use our brains?

Maggie Jones
41425 Spring Valley Ln
Blue River WI
53518



Osagebeach38@aol.co
m

08/31/2012 10:25 AM

To: midwestwindhcp@fws.gov

cc:

Subject: Input on endangered species and wind turbine facilities

Hi!

In my husband's and my opinions, any and all economically feasible measures -- and by that we mean those that don't cost 1000 times as much (in other words, the measures can cost MORE than average, but not exorbitantly more, maybe up to twice and three times as much, but not 100s of times more) -- to mitigate or eliminate, as much as humanly possible, damage to endangered species.

We will never get these creatures back, once they are gone forever, so it behooves us to be good stewards of the Earth and do whatever it takes, within reason, to make sure they don't disappear.

Thank you.

Bob and Kathy Etling
6830 St. Tropez Circle
Osage Beach, MO 65065
573-348-2868