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Projet de parc éolien Saint-Cyprien à Saint-Cyprien-de-Napierville

6211-24-075

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St. Bernard-de-Lacolle

Mme Renée Poliquin
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Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement

My name is Rocky Colizza. I have decided to write a memoire/opinion concerning the proposed wind park to be built in St. Cyprien-de-Napierville.

I have several concerns about this project and its impact on the surrounding environment.

I am a resident of St. Bernard-de-Lacolle. My wife and I moved here in 2007 after carefully choosing a location where there were no power lines or cell phone towers, just vast land, horizons and no obstructed views.

My first concern about this project is its impact on the health of the population living within a 10km distance from the industrial wind turbines. That is the distance where infrasound, a low frequency noise can travel from the turbine and can cause health problems on many individuals such as: sleep disturbance, headache, tinnitus, ear pressure, dizziness, nausea, visual blurring, tachycardia, lack of concentration panic attacks.

I already suffer from tinnitus and fear that the sound and low frequency noise emanating from the industrial wind turbines will cause permanent ear damage or even deafness.

These health risks have been diagnosed by Dr. Nina Pierpont, and have been confirmed by the Waubra Foundation in Australia in a study by Steve Cooper February 1, 2015. Here is the link:

<http://www.na-paw.org/Waubra-Cape-Bridgewater-150201.php>

Cooper used acoustic research to determine the difference between the sounds in decibels and frequency. With the approval of Pacific Hydro, Cooper was able to receive the proper data from the turbines, not the data that was omitted from government surveyors.

In his research, Cooper noted that wind turbines of 1.5 MW, received many complaints of noise and infrasound, which is concerning considering the St. Cyprien project are to be using 2.35 MW turbines.

My concern about these infrasounds is that there are several elementary schools, daycares and a high school, all within this 10km radius. Not to mention, all the homes within the same radius.

Dr. Pierpont reports, these infrasound's, are especially harmful for children under 18 since their brains are not fully developed. Infrasound can travel through walls and cannot be blocked.

Another worry I have is property value. There are class action suits against promoters in Quebec (St Jean-de-Brebeuf) and Ontario (Wallaceburg) for loss of property value because of wind parks. Some properties have lost 40% of their value. I have no interest in losing value on my home.

There are some inconsistencies on some of the information from the promoter KSE:

They chose St. Cyprien because it is very windy, but in BAPE document DA30, KSE claims that private planes that need to fly for agriculture (spraying, seeding), can do so with no problem of turbulence from the turbines. KSE claims from mid-April to August, the winds are weak. And early April and September are still under consultation. If the winds are weak for at least 5 months, how are they going to generate enough electricity?

According to the Enercon website, the model E-92 which is the model for the St. Cyprien wind park is designed for sites with less wind:

02.04. 2012

New turbine type for inland sites will be main attraction at this year's Hanover Fair

"At this year's Hanover Fair (23-27 April) ENERCON will be presenting its latest addition to the product range – the E-92/2.3 MW. The new machine, which has a rotor diameter of 92 meters and a rated power of 2.3 MW, is specially designed for sites with less wind".

If there is less wind, are we not starting the project at a disadvantage?

KSE claims St. Cyprien was a good place for the project since it is located in a rural area. Unfortunately, there are over 15 400 people that live in and around St. Cyprien that will be affected directly or indirectly by the project.

Another problem is migratory birds. BAPE document DA26 notes that spring migration they observed over 300 birds an hour and fall migration they observed almost 100 birds an hour. The information dates from 2010 and 2011. A wind park in St. Cyprien, will cause a disturbance not only with the migratory birds, but all animals within the area. Animals will leave the area never to return because of the noise and infrasound. Others will die flying into the turbines. These turbines will negatively impact the eco-system within several years.

Economically, only KSE and the Mohawk community will profit from the revenues generated from the wind park.

The community of St. Cyprien will receive 150 000\$ a year. The people leasing their land to KSE will receive 10 000\$ per wind turbine. I don't believe its good business when a few profit at the expense of the majority. The projected loss in property value on homes in St. Cyprien will nullify the 150 000\$ the community receives in compensation. Not to mention, the loss of value in the surrounding communities.

Also, what's not good business is Hydro-Quebec buying electricity from wind parks. In 2013, it was reported that Hydro-Quebec buys electricity from wind parks at 0.14\$ /kWh then sells it at 0.06\$/kWh resulting in a \$700 million loss that year. I am fed up of seeing my electricity bill increasing at the rate of 3-4% a year. Are they creating losses to justify price hikes? That is one big reason to abandon this wind park project. No one I know goes into business intending to lose money.

Quebec can only use 2% of its land for agriculture, and putting a wind park on fertile land is counterproductive. Are people aware that the Monteregie region is responsible for 90% of all produce produced in Quebec. I find it very difficult to accept that KSE is able to go anywhere in the Monteregie region to put wind farms. We are obligated to protect these precious lands, because once we become complacent, we will lose are heritage and have to import produce that was once produced here, at a cost of course. That includes loss of jobs, government programs and the increase cost in goods.

If we have no choice to develop a wind park in a residential area, the promoter and the government need to hire an independent company approved by a group of citizens to study all the possible negative effects of a wind park including, noise, infrasound(low frequency noise), health problems, quality of life, property values, environmental impact on wildlife and vegetation. Also, we need to know what the impact is after 20 years of operation. The government is very irresponsible to give carte blanche to develop wind parks without fully understanding its impact on the people living near them. We need all the facts before one can approve of this project.

If wind parks are to be developed, they should be far from agriculture and residential areas.

These are some of my opinions of what I think of this project. In conclusion, this project is already not accepted by the surrounding communities, and with so much negative impact, I believe it should not be developed.

I thank you for your time

Rocky Colizza

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