



Orleans County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

P.O.Box 221
Albion, NY 14411

April 9, 2019

Secretary Burgess
New York State Siting Board
Department of Public Service
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

RECEIVED
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
EXEC-FILES-ALBANY
2019 APR 16 AM 10:16

Dear Secretary Burgess,

This letter is concerning case number 16-f-0546, otherwise known as the proposed Heritage Wind Project. The Orleans County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. would like to go on record as opposed to the Heritage Wind Project.

Our concerns are several environmental issues. Wind turbines are known to cause countless bird and bat mortalities. The NYS Oak Orchard and Tonawanda Wildlife Management Areas and the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge are major resting, feeding and breeding areas for large numbers of migrating waterfowl and marsh birds. These areas are in very close proximity to the proposed wind project. There are several species of Endangered, Threatened and of Special Concern birds using these areas. These areas have a population of endangered Black Terns nesting, found only a couple places in New York State. Short-eared owls use the Shelby, Barre area for wintering, foraging and roosting. These too are endangered birds. Threatened species nesting here include seven active Bald Eagle nests, several Pied-billed Grebe, Least Bittern, and Sedge Wren nests as well as Northern Harrier feeding and roosting. Species of Special Concern confirmed nesting on these areas include American Bittern, a variety of hawks, many Osprey, and several grassland birds whose numbers have been declining. Bald Eagles from surrounding nests will likely roam the area designated by Apex. The turbines could cause eagle deaths as reported at other wind turbine sites. Wind turbines have scientifically been proven to interfere with bat populations, which are also rapidly declining.

Also, there is the issue of habitat destruction and flicker and vibration that will have detrimental effects on both wildlife and humans.

These are industrial structures that do not belong in the rural setting of Orleans County. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Rice, President