

2012 RNAO AGM Resolution

Recommendation and Resolution:

WHEREAS current, peer-reviewed medical evidence presented since 2009 indicates a “non-trivial percentage”¹ of Ontarians exposed to the environmental noise produced by industrial wind power generators can be expected to experience adverse effects as an indirect result of “annoyance” or stress,² such as sleep disturbance, headache, tinnitus, vertigo, nausea, and tachycardia associated with noise and infrasound, reduced quality of life, and other social and economic impacts when industrial wind turbines are sited in close proximity to schools and residential developments; and

WHEREAS Ontario’s Auditor-General has recommended in his December 2011 report that the Ontario public be provided with “the results of objective research on the potential health effects” of industrial-scale wind power generation;³ and

WHEREAS the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario recommended that sound measurements be taken in the field to assess actual noise levels produced by industrial-scale wind turbines, and that monitoring should be enacted to ensure compliance with regulated sound levels⁴ acknowledging that comprehensive noise testing protocols for the measurement of audible, low frequency noise and infrasound from industrial wind turbines is “a key data gap”,

Therefore be it resolved:

That the RNAO support the need for independent clinical and epidemiological research on the adverse health effects resulting from the environmental noise produced by industrial wind power generators to assist with determining authoritative guidelines for setbacks and appropriate noise levels for industrial wind power generators/turbines to protect health and safety for Ontario residents is complete and further be it resolved:

RNAO advocate for a moratorium until the clinical/epidemiological human health research is complete.

We the undersigned support this Resolution



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¹ Howe Gastmeir Chapnik, 2010. Low Frequency Noise and Infrasound Associated with Wind Turbine Generator Systems, p.39.

² Van den Berg, F., Pedersen E. et al, 2008, Project Windfarm Perception, Final Report, p. ii.

³ Auditor General for Ontario, 2011, Annual Report, p. 120.

⁴ Chief Medical Officer of Health Report, 2010, The Potential Health Impact of Wind Turbines, p.10.