



PROJECT OVERVIEW

WHO WE ARE

The Nor'Wester Mountain Escarpment Protection Committee (NMEPC) is a non-profit organization that was founded in late September, 2009.

We are a diverse group of volunteers aged 13 to 90 representing all areas of this City. To date, we have no paid employees, consultants or public relations firm. We were brought together because of our belief that we were being deliberately left out of the Nor'Wester Mountain Escarpment land-use process by both our City Administration and the Developer. We support a clean, green Thunder Bay and we believe in the City's slogan "Superior by Nature".

Our goal is to ensure the Nor'Wester Mountain Escarpment and the land known as Loch Lomond Watershed be protected for the value that it has in its natural state for future generations.

MAIN ISSUES

Ask Yourself: DO GOVERNMENTS EVER MAKE MISTAKES & COULD THIS BE ONE?

- Health Issues
 - Ministry of Environment admits they have no method to measure wind turbine noise and therefore can't ensure compliance or non-compliance with their own noise regulations – Is it any wonder we're concerned?
 - People all over the world, including Ontario are sick and abandoning their homes. Developers in Shelbourne ON recently bought out 6 (to date) homeowners and made them sign "gag orders"
- Environment
 - Ontario's Environmental Commissioner is on record stating that the Environmental Assessment Process is "broken" – Is it any wonder we're concerned?
 - There are no checks and balance safeguards in this system – Lets not allow the Big Wind Industry free reign like the the Big Oil Industry had in the Gulf
 - Location, Location, Location – If the main concern truly is the environment, these should be placed: 1) where infrastructure already exists such as burnt areas of land (no shortage in NWO), 2) where they are close to transmission lines, 3) where they are not near people, endangered species or naturally and historically significant sights. ****see recommendations by Sierra Club (at bottom)***

- Socio-economic Nightmare
 - Faulty Lease Agreement – Developer wins, City in Jeopardy (no guarantees on either number or location of future turbines)
 - The City taxpayer is on the hook for costs of transmission and decommissioning (millions\$\$\$\$)
 - Long-term Cost of Electricity will increase and be detrimental to our Industries. Projects like these unnecessarily cost NWO three times more than we pay for clean, green hydro-electric and have in abundance and can't ship. This Green Energy Policy did not take into consideration the uniqueness of Northwestern Ontario; another "Made in Toronto" policy.
 - The economic effect of the government's energy plan: Move to Quebec. Xtrata recently moved their 670 jobs from Timmins to Quebec where they can get power at half the cost of Ontario. Stoney Creek Ice Cream production as well is moving to Quebec due in part to energy costs as well as water costs. Thank you Dalton! Will Bombardier be next?

- Wind Developers Mislead the Public!
 - People were not properly consulted or educated. Wind Developers deflect from the real issues with "claims" of manufacturing jobs and other phantom jobs, the "way of the future"; "no problems elsewhere"; "afraid of change", etc.
 - Wind Companies never admit any problems and rely on "Trust Us". Why will they not make these guarantees in writing?
 - Wind Developers are not the "Environmental Saviours" they make themselves out to be but rather stand to gain huge sums of taxpayer money through government subsidies.

- Ontario Is Taking Action!
 - The Canadian Federation of Municipalities has asked for a moratorium on industrial wind turbines. This includes 61 Councils in Ontario (including Municipal, County, First Nations) along with and 2 school boards, including Thunder Bay
 - Environmental Attorney Eric Gillespie filed an Application to the Ontario Superior Court for a Judicial Review of the Green Energy Act (Regulation 359/09 on behalf of Ian Hanna. This would STOP current planned projects and FORCE proper medical studies which could lead to set-backs of a minimum of 1.5-2 km. This will be in court this September.
 - The Ontario Federation of Agriculture has asked the government for a moratorium three separate times as Wind Turbine Installations have been devastating for farmers.

***The Sierra Club** supports the development of wind power on agricultural land where wind production complements existing land use. **The Sierra Club opposes development in** protected areas such as national and state parks, national monuments, **wilderness areas**, wildlife refuges, designated roadless areas, critical habitat and designated habitat recovery areas for wildlife, and areas of cultural significance, sacred lands, and other areas that have special scenic, natural or environmental value. *The Sierra Club is a grass roots or member-driven environmental organization in the United States founded by the naturalist John Muir. It has about 700,000 members nationwide. The Club has a long history with energy issues.*