

July 5, 2024

To: Chatham-Kent Mayor and Councillors

Turbines have been negatively impacting Chatham-Kent citizens since the industrial wind industry arrived many years ago in our municipality.

A brief sample of the impacts that have been reported to the Chatham-Kent Wind Action Group includes:

- some people have abandoned homes
- some are dealing with disrupted sleep and negative health impacts
- some are trying to cope with impacted water wells
- some have moved away
- some have to live with noise pollution and shadow flicker
- wildlife has been displaced from traditional migration routes and feeding sites or maimed or killed by blades
- all electricity users in Ontario have seen the cost of electricity rise due to the unnecessary addition of intermittent and unreliable turbines to the power grid

Government has ignored the complaints and pleas for help for years.

Please say "no" to more turbines and stop those already doing harm !

Sincerely,  
Monica Elmes for the Chatham-Kent Wind Action Group

## Keith BENN – Notes for deputation regarding Motion – Unwilling Host – Councillor Jubenville

Date: 2024-07-15

- This Deputation is in support of the Motion put forward by Councillor Jubenville to declare that Chatham-Kent would be an Unwilling Host for future Industrial Wind Turbine (IWT) installations.
- I am a Geological PhD and Professional Geoscientist who served on the Expert Panel that advised the All-Hazard Investigation of Well Water in Chatham-Kent.
  - That Investigation was initiated in response to reported interference of IWT with the private water wells of residents in C-K.
  - As a result of the Investigation, the Expert Panel formally reported to the Minister of Health in December, 2021 that there was, in fact, a significant deterioration of well water quality following the construction of IWT; for example, suspended solids in domestic water supplies were increased, on average, by 51%.
  - Further – as I reported in my Deputation to this Council on May 29, 2023, it has been **unequivocally** demonstrated that the solids in the well water are enriched in multiple potentially toxic metals, which indicates a very significant Potential Health Hazard.
  - **Please note** that, to this day, the Potential Health Hazard arising from IWT interference with private water wells remains to be studied, **despite** Chatham-Kent having reached out to the Minister of Health on May 30, 2023, to request that such studies be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations of the Expert Panel.
- In my estimation, given the **documented fact** that IWT in C-K **do interfere** with private well water resulting in a very significant Potential Health Hazard, it would be highly irresponsible for the Municipality of C-K to not close the door, **now**, to further IWT developments.
- **A status as Unwilling Host** would also alleviate other risks to Human Health associated with IWT such as infrasound (<20 Hz) and low-frequency noise (20-200 Hz) that are shown by **peer-reviewed science** to be associated with **Adverse Health Effects** such as sleep disturbance, anxiety and stress.
- Of course, it would also prevent the needless destruction of more prime agricultural land by future IWT developments.
- Finally, it is generally recognized by, and blindingly obvious to the vast majority of objective observers that **inherently unreliable and intermittent** IWT will never serve as a resource for the dependable and affordable supplies of electrical energy that will be required in the coming decades.
- In closing, I sincerely hope that Council will vote in favour of the Motion, thus sending a clear and welcome message to the residents of C-K that they will no longer be at risk of any future destructive, dangerous and ineffective IWT developments within their communities.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [CKclerk](#)  
**Subject:** deputation re: July 15  
**Date:** July 14, 2024 10:17:50 PM

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Good evening

My name is Christine Burke and I am submitting a deputation in support of Councillor Jubenville's motion to declare that Chatham-Kent would be an unwilling host to the installation of any further Industrial Wind Turbines.

My last time standing here was on May 29, 2023 requesting that our mayor and council contact the Ministry of Health to complete the promised All-Hazard Investigation, and test the sediments, as recommended by the current government's selected expert panel in their final report. To this date, we have yet to hear of any response.

I presented a jar, quite similar to this one, of our drinking water pulled from our well after the construction and operation of Industrial wind turbines in the former Township of Dover. Nothing has changed. I also mentioned that in June of 2017, the previous Mayor and council at the time, as well as the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change at that time, were warned that if the construction of the North Kent 1 wind project continued to move forward, more families were going to be impacted in this same manner, if not worse. And it happened just as we said it would. Thankfully, the residents outside of Wallaceburg were protected from this same demise with the cancellation of the Otter Creek wind facility.

In reminding you of the above, a friend contacted me in April of this year, stating that her family member's neighbor, in the former Township of Dover, was approached by the wind industry asking if she would allow wind turbines on her property. Thankfully she said no. I've also come to find out that the Grace Congregational Church in Dover Township, is now polluted with the same black shale sediments in their water. They have a kitchen and hall available for functions.

It's my personal belief that the newly released Kettle Point black shale sediments, potentially consisting of toxic heavy metals are now migrating through this aquifer and more families may be impacted yet. I personally believe that there has been enough irreparable damage done to this delicate aquifer that we should all be protecting it at this point. As you may have heard or read, the wind industry is entertaining the thought of turbines in our Great Lake Erie on the American side, a drinking water resource for millions on both sides of the border. And what will happen if that major resource becomes contaminated? You can't rely on our underground resource as your second choice if it's destroyed. We need to protect our aquifers.

In closing, I don't believe anyone in this room would want to go through what all these families went through and continue to live through with regards to our drinking water, and health effects caused by living amongst these industrial wind projects. Water is one of 3 essentials for life and we need to protect it.

Please vote in favour of this motion and protect your rural families, our aquifer and what remains of our agricultural part of this community.

Thank you,

Christine Burke

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [CKclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Monday council meeting deputation request  
**Date:** July 15, 2024 11:02:08 AM

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Good Evening,

I am here to speak against the motion brought forward by Councillor Jubenville to declare C-K an unwilling host for future wind turbine projects for a number of reasons.

1 The environment and the battle against climate change. Council knows first hand the issues in this battle and wind power is one tool in the tool box that is being used around the world, and in Chatham Kent currently. To deny even the consideration of future projects in this battle is nonsensical.

2 Diversification of income. C-K, business owners and many property owners are always looking for diversified and stable forms of income. Wind power can help accomplish this for all of these parties. As weather becomes more unstable and unpredictable my income as a farmer does as well. Many families across C-K have invested millions of dollars in solar power, to not only help the environment, but to provide a stable form of income for our farm businesses. Internet, cell and wind towers can do the same while helping to maintain financially viable operations through out C-K. Denying even the consideration of these projects can mean the loss of millions in future income to reduce the cost on the taxpayers of all C-K. It also denies the opportunity for more community benefit payments along with future dividends to improve infrastructure that is sorely needed in C-K.

3 Declaring C-K an unwilling host for future wind projects is shortsighted. I am well aware of the various arguments against wind power but as science, research and technology constantly advances those arguments often fail to hold up. Wind power cost per kilowatt hour is now among the cheapest sources available. New projects must be cost competitive, they do not get heavily subsidized like earlier projects. The government subsidized these projects to advance the technology to where it was commercially viable and it worked! Now this motion tries to throw all that away, without further consideration, for no scientifically proven reason.

4 Jobs and keeping our people healthy and employed. Power generation from wind, solar and biogas are currently the only commercially viable forms of electricity produced in C-K that I am aware of. The unnecessary elimination of possible future wind development curtails what much of the younger generation sees as ensuring, not only their health, but future employment opportunities as well.

I am willing to acknowledge that wind power has its opponents and that there are local issues to be addressed, but this motion is not the way to do it.

Water well owners blame the wind towers for destroying their wells. If that is true, then I agree that needs to be addressed before developing new projects, but to the best of my knowledge that has not been scientifically proven. Even so, a solution that addresses future wind turbine projects from not affecting the water table has already been proposed. Unfortunately that was not properly considered before the project was cancelled for political reasons. This motion will do that once again.

In the interest of full disclosure, I was part of the proposed Otter Creek wind tower project. At that time I stated I would be against it if it was proven to destroy wells in the area, and I still say that today. I also remember a statement from the Water Well people that they were not against wind towers if they didn't harm wells. When the project developers of Otter Creek brought forward a new tower design that had a much larger cement base and did not require going anywhere near the water table or bedrock there was nothing but silence from Water Wells First! That, in my mind, makes it a nimby cause and not just about their wells! What is the condition of wells currently? I do not know. Has the lower water level in the Great Lakes solved the problem? Was that the cause? Again, I don't know, but facts are the reason to make smart business decisions. Please make your decisions on facts and not unproven political motivation.

Water well in C-K got worse, and better over time, long before wind towers and that is a fact.

The argument about decommissioning wind towers is also a false flag. New and improved contracts can address those concerns, and besides an old wind tower will never blow up and destroy the center of a town because no one knew it was there! If you do believe oil and gas is still the way of the future than I hope you would at least support new contracts that ensure the proper decommissioning of them! Does C-K now require decommissioning plans for all other commercial buildings?

In conclusion, I ask you to vote this motion down and consider any future wind projects based on their merits at the time they are proposed. Science advances. Technology improves. New facts come forward. Please act like any good business does and consider any new project, wind or not, based on facts available to you at the time. This may mean you approve no future wind projects but it is very short sighted to do it, as this motion would do, and not consider any project based on its merit at the time.

Thank you.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [CKclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Written Deputation for July 15, 2024 Council Meeting  
**Date:** July 15, 2024 10:38:17 AM

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Hello Madame Clerk,

I would like my written deputation on item 17. a) - Expanding Housing Options in Rural Areas be emailed to all of council.

Here is my written deputation:

"Dear Mayor and Members of Chatham-Kent Council,

My name is Jaclyn Faubert. I am a rural resident of Tilbury and I would like to take this opportunity to discuss item 17. a) Expanding Housing Options in Rural Areas.

I understand the need to explore expanding rural housing options in CK, as a large portion of our population is aging and housing options are limited throughout all of CK. I am happy to read that CK Staff will be asking for input from stakeholders and the public to help shape this policy. A large amount of public engagement is key to creating a well-informed policy.

I ask that Staff please consider including the following strategies while forming this new policy:

1. Include an invitation for public engagement in all local newspapers, to help reach more residents that do not follow the municipality online.
2. Start stakeholder engagement as soon as possible and end on October 1, 2024, to ensure that farmers can respond with comments during non-peak farming time.
3. Create a map showing areas in CK where above and underground infrastructure can currently handle residential development on agricultural lands; for the purpose of showing the amount of infrastructure upgrades (ie. drainage, water and waste-water, or internet access) that would be necessary for new housing developments.

I look forward to sharing my thoughts on this policy, as it has the potential to really change the landscape of rural CK and we must do all we can to get it right for the future of our municipality.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my ideas and I hope you consider my suggestions while forming a new housing options in rural areas policy.

Sincerely,  
Jaclyn Faubert"

If possible, could you please send me a reply email confirming receipt of my deputation.

Many thanks!

July 8, 2024

**Deputation to the City of Chatham-Kent and its Elected Representatives**

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am here representing a significant number of local citizens from the areas surrounding Blenheim and Ridgetown. We wish to raise a matter of urgent concern regarding the safety of the intersection at Kent Road 15 and Ridge Line. Our primary request is for the installation of a four-way stop at this intersection due to its dangerous nature.

Recently, the intersection has been the site of two serious collisions occurring just one day apart. Fortunately, there were no injuries in these incidents, but they serve as a stark reminder of the inherent risks at this location. Since I moved to the area, I have heard of numerous accidents and near-misses.

**Current Intersection Conditions and Problems**

Currently, the intersection features a stop sign and a flashing light for traffic crossing Ridge Line from the north and south. However, two specific issues exacerbate the dangers at this intersection:

1. **Hill on Kent Road 15:** When approaching Ridge Line travelling south on Kent Road 15, there is a hill that creates blind spots. Farmers hauling grain, for example, feel particularly vulnerable when turning left and moving slowly through the intersection due to their heavy loads and limited visibility.

2. **Curve on Ridge Line:** There is a bend in Ridge Line as it approaches the intersection from the west. This bend obscures oncoming traffic, making it difficult for drivers to see approaching vehicles. For example, one farmer recounted an incident where a motorcycle had to take evasive action to avoid colliding with him while he was making a wide left turn using both lanes.

**Weather Conditions**

Foggy and snowy weather conditions further increase the risks associated with this intersection. The combination of limited visibility and the topographical challenges creates a hazardous environment for all motorists.

**Ineffectiveness of Current Measures**

Despite recent efforts to enhance safety by installing flashing lights and larger stop signs, accidents continue to occur. The two most recent collisions are evidence that these measures are insufficient.

**Proposed Solution**

The most logical, practical, and cost-effective solution is to install a four-way stop with flashing red lights at the intersection. Additionally, a "Stop Ahead" warning sign should be placed on Ridge Line, approaching the intersection from both the east and the west, before the curve. For additional safety, a flashing orange light should be affixed to the warning sign for vehicles travelling from the west.

**Long-term Considerations**

While some have suggested the installation of a roundabout, this would be a lengthy and expensive process due to the topography. It may be a valid long-term objective; however, the immediate priority should be the installation of a four-way stop.

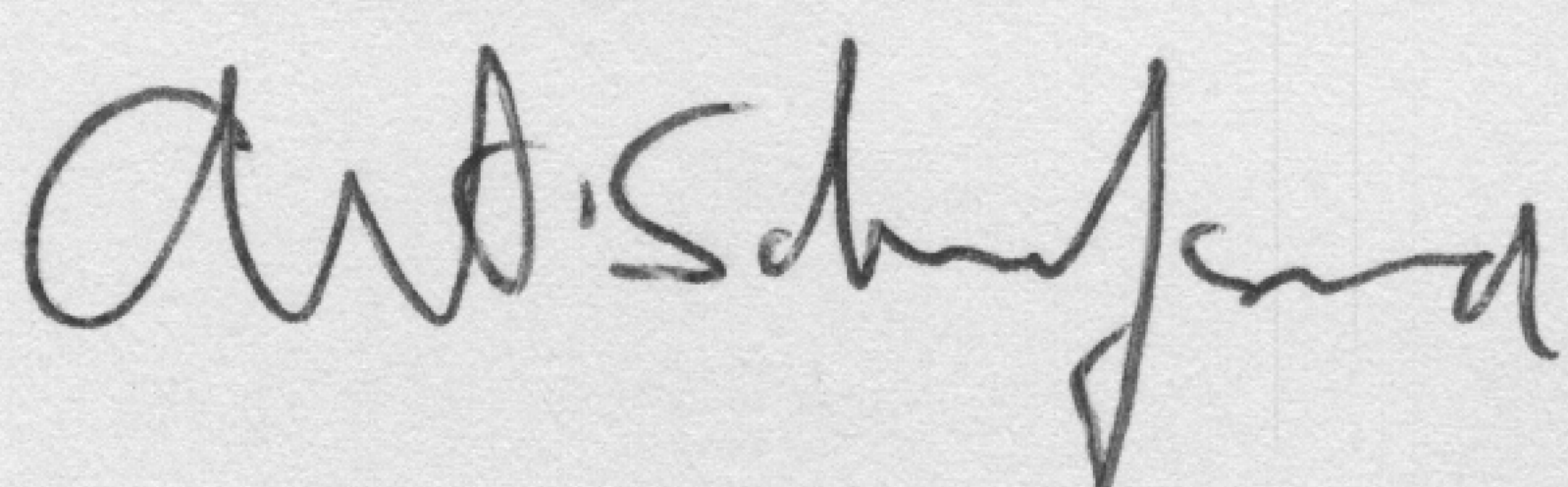
**Duty of Care and Legal Obligations**

I would like to remind the Council of your obligations regarding due diligence and liability, including criminal liability. During my tenure as Director of the Ridgetown Campus of the University of Guelph, it was underscored that informed risks that are not addressed could lead to serious legal consequences. Now that the risks at this intersection have been formally communicated, any future incidents could expose the city to civil and criminal liability.

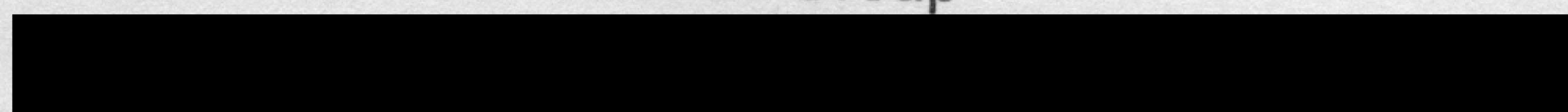
In conclusion, we urge you to act swiftly to implement the proposed safety measures at the Kent Road 15 and Ridge Line intersection. Doing so will not only fulfill your duty of care but also ensure the safety and well-being of our community members.

Thank you for your attention and prompt action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Art Schaafsma  
On behalf of Local Citizens Group



**DEPUTATION - IMPACT STATEMENT - July 12, 2024**  
**To: Municipality of Chatham-Kent Council**  
**Re: Intersection of Ridge Line and Kent Bridge Road**

Over the past year, I wake up every morning having to deal with emotions due to accidents that changed my life forever.

On July 22, 2023, my husband and I were returning to Ridgetown from Blenheim on the Ridge Line. We were discussing what a beautiful summer day it was and we planned to have dinner with friends on the patio in Erieau. All was happy in our world.

Travelling through "Rushtons Corners" (intersection of Ridge Line and Kent Bridge Road), we were suddenly smashed by a vehicle heading south. My husband screamed. Airbags went off. Our van broke off the sign and the mailbox on the other side of the road. My husband was knocked out and was not responding to me.

It is the worst feeling ever to be trapped in a smashed vehicle, airbags pushing on our bodies – and that grey smokey powder in the air made it very hard to breathe. It was so hot in that vehicle! I was so scared.

My husband had broken ribs on both sides, a sideways whip lash and several painful areas in his abdomen and back. I suffered from severe abdominal bruising and neck and back pains.

Following our care in the emergency dept., our life was just continuous doctors' appointments and weekly physiotherapy. Using walkers and canes, we gradually progressed to some normalcy. But our pain and soreness never left.

We were both frustrated, angry and bitter. Our personality changes were evident to family and friends. Our lives had changed.

My husband passed away on April 2, 2024. He had never entirely recovered after this horrific accident. A scheduled physio appointment for the next day never happened. The loss of my husband and so many hopes and dreams for our future is so hard to accept.

On June 15, 2024, I was in a second collision at this same corner – the dreaded "Rushton's Corners". Again, our vehicle was smashed and spun around. It was so hard to stay awake. The pain was immediate. I instantly felt angry. I knew what I had to go through again...

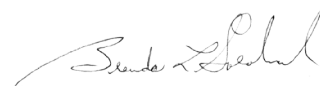
Being in a collision is a life-changing experience – and now, twice, I'm experiencing this pain, unbelievable anger and anxiety to deal with.

I'm still angry and depressed and have so much anxiety to deal with. I am unable to sleep at night. My world has changed due to this intersection. I know I will need more therapy to be physically better.

Once again, I have been unable to enjoy the summer, my garden, and my plans.

Emotionally, I struggle daily.

I question, "Why?" after so many collisions over the years, has this intersection never been dealt with properly?



Brenda Goldhawk