

<http://www.windconcernsontario.ca/ontario-lacked-scientific-evidence-to-approve-wind-projects-safely-ottawa-citizen/>

The government is being sued by one would-be wind-farm builder and has been taken to an international court by another, which claims it was specially harmed because it's American — a no-no under the North American Free Trade Agreement. The two companies are demanding about \$500 million each in compensation for their blown projects.

Both of them were very large wind farms that would have been built at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, off Kingston. Either would have generated as much power as a nuclear reactor.

Both companies allege the premier's office had to be involved in the decision to cancel their projects, and numerous others elsewhere in the province, all in one February 2011 announcement, and the fact that it's produced almost no documentation of that involvement shows deceit and impropriety. The Ontario Provincial Police are investigating it as a criminal matter.

<http://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/reevely-ontarios-wind-power-decision-makes-it-look-like-a-banana-republic-ex-deputy-premier-tells-tribunal>

Nobody ever brought that up while Smitherman worked for years on Ontario's Green Energy and Green Economy Act, the ex-minister of energy said. Nobody objected that the province lacked the scientific expertise to approve wind projects safely. Everyone knew for years that the government was planning to pay high prices for all sorts of wind-based projects — through a thing called a feed-in-tariff — to boost Ontario's renewable-energy industry.

"The rollout of the Green Energy and Green Economy Act was lengthy," Smitherman testified. "At no time whatsoever did colleagues of mine, formally or informally, raise concerns with me with respect to the implementation of wind power as one of our chosen fuel sources for the feed-in-tariff."

<https://mothersagainstwindturbines.com/2016/05/31/kathleen-wynnes-ontario-wind-power-fantasy-doubles-power-prices/>

Ontario was, once upon a time, an agricultural and manufacturing power house.

Alas, the former pursuit has been smashed by plummeting property values and sonic torture, making thousands of farm homes uninhabitable; the latter endeavour has been demolished by power costs that have risen 108% due to the fantasy of trying to rely on weather as a meaningful power source.

We'll hand over to Parker Gallant for more detail on how Kathleen Wynne and her wind power cult have destroyed a once happy and prosperous Province.

<https://stopthesethings.com/2016/05/31/kathleen-wynnes-ontario-wind-power-fantasy-doubles-power-prices/>

If it seems like power bill increases never end in Ontario, let's look back. The all-in average electricity rate as of November 1, 2008 was 6.02 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) so the 4.2 million ratepayers, at that time, consumed 40.3 terawatts (TWh), costing them about \$2.4 billion.

Fast forward to November 2015 and the 4.5 million ratepayers were paying an average of 11.6 cents/kWh, and the cost of the 43.2 TWh consumed was \$5 billion. The increase in just seven years was 108%. That's well above Ontario's inflation rate.

The rates for every kWh of electricity consumed since 2008 have cost ratepayers \$9.5 billion more than if the rates been maintained at 6.02 cents/kWh.

<http://www.windconcernsontario.ca/canada-shines-spotlight-on-wind-turbine-noise-at-world-conference/>

Research must begin with people, said **Dr. Robert McMurtry**, professor of medicine at Western University. His presentation, "Patient-Centred Medicine and Soundscape" focused on the need for care and research to start with people and their experiences with wind turbine noise.

"According to Bray (2012)," Dr. McMurtry said, "exposed people are 'objective measuring instruments whose reports and experiences must be taken seriously and quantified by technical measurements'." Health care providers need to consider applying patient-centred medicine in evaluating the impact on those exposed to wind turbine acoustical energy.

Dr. David Michaud of Health Canada also presented a paper, "An evaluation of how nightly variations in wind turbine noise levels influence wrist actigraphy measured sleep patterns" based on a study of sleep experience among over 250 people living between .25 and 1 km from a wind turbine. Michaud advised the audience that Health Canada is conducting a more refined analysis to assess wrist actigraphy measured sleep patterns regarding nightly variations in wind turbine operations. He also commented that some of the feedback relating to research gaps was valid.

A case study in wind turbine noise emission evaluation was presented by **Andy Metelka** of Acton, Ontario, principal in Sound and Vibration Solutions Canada Inc., in a paper "Measurements of infrasound blade pass frequencies inside multiple homes using narrowband analysis". Previous measurements in homes near wind turbines indicate higher pressure levels below 10Hz than audible pressure levels measured at the same time and location (ASA Vol 20, 2013 Dooley & Metelka), Metelka said. Long-term measurements of Infrasound pressures appear inside multiple homes as wind speed and wind direction vary. Metelka took data from four Ontario homes and compared broadband infrasound levels from wind to tonal infrasound Blade Pass Frequencies. In both cases broadband infrasound and blade-to-tower pressures increase with wind.

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/26/wind-turbine-study-is-not-dead/>

(Huron County) -The Chair of the Huron County Board of Health says a study on the perceived health effects of wind turbines is not necessarily dead. As we told you yesterday, the group Concerned Citizens for Health suggested the study was likely killed, and not just suspended.

Board of Health Chair Tyler Hessel says additional information is needed before the study can move ahead.

READ ARTICLE:http://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/news_item.php?NewsID=84811

<https://mothersagainstwindturbines.com/2016/05/27/europe-delivers-wind-industry-nothing-but-doom-gloom/>

Gone with the wind: Nordic alternative energy turns stagnant

Sputnik news 6 May 2016

Despite renewable energy sources being heavily hyped as a sustainable solution to humanity's growing energy problem, actual support for the green power has been shrinking. Falling electricity prices and henceforth lower profitability have led a dramatic drop in investment in the Swedish wind energy sector.

Last year, investments into Sweden's wind power fell by a dramatic 40 percent, compared to the year before. Nevertheless, the total amount of investment over the next four years is estimated at approximately 21 billion krona (2.6 billion dollars), CEO of the wind power company [Svensk Vindenergi](#) Charlotte Unger told [Swedish Radio](#). She also pointed out that the number of foreign investors is growing in comparison to local Swedes.

However, the overall outlook for wind energy remains rather dismal. Slumping electricity prices have...

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<https://mothersagainstwindturbines.com/2016/05/26/german-wind-farm-backlash-begins-bavarias-high-court-confirms-2km-setback-rule/>

A couple of weeks back [we ran a story](#) on the Bavarian government's new mandatory setback rule (10 times the height: 10-H) which, with turbines towering 200m, means a minimum distance of 2km from homes. In closely settled Bavaria that rule spells the end for hundreds of proposed projects; and, coupled with the German government's recently [imposed cap on new wind power capacity](#), the beginning of the end for the wind industry in Bavaria and beyond.

In a 'time-for-Stein' moment, the Bavarian High Court has just held in favour of, no doubt, delighted Bavarians that the 10-H rule is constitutional.

Major Blow To Wind Power ... Bavaria's Highest Court Upholds 10H Rule! Shoots Down Industrialization Of Idyllic Landscape

No Tricks Zone Pierre Gosselin 9 May 2016 Environmental sanity prevails

Bavaria's highest constitutional court (*Verfassungsgerichtshof*) has just...

[View original post](#) 537 more words

<https://stopthesethings.com/2016/05/26/german-wind-farm-backlash-begins-bavarias-high-court-confirms-2km-setback-rule/>

Under the 10 H rule, wind parks can be installed only if they have a minimum distance that is ten times the turbine's height away from residential homes. That means a 200-meter tall turbine needs to be at least 2 kilometers away from the nearest residential area before it can be approved. In Bavaria that would make the construction of most wind park projects virtually impossible.

Germany has some 26,000 turbines in operation producing some 85 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually – which is less than the country's remaining 8 nuclear power plants. SAT1 writes that wind turbines "*are also no efficient form of energy generation, as a glance at the power business shows.*"

SAT1 adds that without subsidies, most turbines would not even turn a profit.

In total Germany already pays out about **25 billion euros annually** in subsidies for green energy. Nevertheless CO2 emissions have not dropped in 7 years. In other words: well over 100 billion euros have bought nothing

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/24/wind-turbine-stress/>

That I did not complain about "noise" invalidated all my concerns. Mr Stykuc said that the possibility that my symptoms (headaches, imbalance and sleep disturbance) and my husband's symptoms (headaches, dizziness, insomnia and sleep disturbances) are related to the Dugwm turbine cannot be investigated because they are not "noise".

One thing is certain: I experience **none of them when the turbine is switched off or when I go beyond Stepside** (just under three miles away at the end of the valley), **and all of them if the turbine is switched on when I return home.**

17th September, 2015 was a memorably disturbed night. The blades were going around, woke me up at 02:30 and kept me awake until after 05:30. In the end I escaped by car, parked it in the middle of town (4.5 miles away) and rested for 3 hours. After that, I spent a long week-end in a wind turbine free area just to get some sleep.

<http://www.lfpress.com/2016/05/20/turbine-turmoil-mounts-despite-delayed-investigation>

The Huron County health unit was set to launch its investigation this month, inviting Huron County residents who live close to wind turbines to register online for the research.

Some residents have complained to the health unit they've suffered from a variety of disorders, including sleep problems, anxiety and nosebleeds since the wind farms started operating.

Huron is home to more than 250 industrial wind turbines, with more under construction.

In announcing the investigation on its website, the health unit said the project was in keeping with its legislative duty to investigate potential health hazards to the population.

It invited both people with health issues and those without to participate.

<https://stopthesethings.com/2016/05/17/wind-turbine-terror-collapses-spontaneous-combustion/>

Turbines keep crashing back to earth in frightening numbers – [from Brazil](#) – [to Kansas](#) – [Pennsylvania](#) – [Germany and Scotland](#) – [Devon](#) and everywhere in between: Ireland has been 'luckier' than most (see our posts [here](#) and [here](#)) and their luck is being enjoyed in Sweden too (see our post [here](#)).

A couple of months back, Swedes had the pleasure of waking up to the sound of a vertically-challenged 290 tonne, [whirling Danish Dervish](#) splattering itself across a country road, fortunately free of Volvos at the time:

<http://news.nationalpost.com/news/canada/david-reevely-u-s-wind-power-company-seeks-475-million-in-nafta-claim>

Then in January 2011, the Ontario government decided to impose a total moratorium on the grounds that the government didn't know enough to approve any wind farms in lakes at all.

"The Ontario government settled on scientific uncertainty despite the repeated assertions ... from staff at (Natural Resources) that they were confident that existing regulatory mechanisms were sufficient to deal with site-specific problems as they arose and despite the fact that (the ministries of energy, environment and natural resources) had all planned to have the requisite rules for offshore wind energy projects in place by January 1, 2011," the Windstream filing says. "It had not been suggested at the time that there was any uncertainty that would prevent that work from going forward."

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/10/health-controversy-continues/>

EPC Public Health could easily do what the health department in Brown County did, but they have chosen not to do anything, Wilson said. "I truly believe that each and every one of them has the attitude that they are too big to be accountable to anybody, and that is a problem."

According to the September issue of The New Falcon Herald, the Brown County Wisconsin Board of Health declared the Shirley Wind Farm Project a human health hazard.

Cobb said that with all the evidence the BOCC and EPC Public Health have received on the health hazards of the turbines, a similar declaration by the EPC Public Health board should be made.

Commissioner Dennis Hisey, who also sits on the EPC Public Health board, said he was not aware that the declaration handed down in Brown County was made by their board of health. "I did not read all of the information (presented to me)," he said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-03-03/jail-and-new-fees-threaten-key-european-market-for-wind-turbines>

Poland, Europe's top coal producer, notched up the continent's second-highest number of wind-power installations last year. Developers rushed to install 1.26 gigawatts of new capacity ahead of expected changes to government subsidies, that will require developers to bid in auctions for support. The country now has 5.1 gigawatts of installed wind capacity, equivalent to about 9 percent of the installed base in neighboring Germany.

"Poland has excellent wind resources and has the potential to be a European power house in wind energy," The threat to imprison turbine operators for violating potential rules is "deeply concerning and misguided," Joy said.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/ontario-wind-farm-halted-by-endangered-turtles-crossing-the-road/article24040374/>

The Ontario Court of Appeal ruled on Monday that a 324-hectare, nine-turbine wind farm proposed for the south shore of Prince Edward County puts a population of endangered Blanding's turtles at risk of dying out in that region's wetland. The risk is posed not by the wind farm itself but by 5.4 kilometres of roads to and from the site. Experts said the turtles, which range widely as part of their natural life cycle, would inevitably try to cross those roads, exposing them to vehicles, predators and human poachers.<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/.../ontar.../article24040374/>

<http://ontario-wind-resistance.org/2016/05/08/wind-developments-are-resonating-across-the-grid/> video Poorly located and integrated alternate energy sources may not only be impacting the localities of wind farms with barometric/infrasound pollution, but also be impacting the entire power grid with destructive harmonics and resulting RFI (radio frequency interference) pollution. The "Green Energy Act" may well have simply replaced one form of environmental pollution with two new forms of environmental pollution .. and in the process have jacked-up the public's energy costs and select parties' profits. Negative impacts of alternate energy could be affecting the health of everyone who's connected to the grid, not just the rural folk close to the wind farms. It's time for everyone to ask some serious questions!

<http://www.windconcernsontario.ca/wind-turbines-an-invasion-of-ontarios-power-grid-says-engineer/>

When gridmonsters were in their infant stage, we were able to store their fluctuating output in rechargeable batteries for later use in electric cars or household power. But they have grown much too big for batteries, and they keep growing because governments keep feeding them subsidies. Gridmonsters were created by huge wind and solar corporations that lobbied governments for subsidies that guaranteed ongoing profits. That was the beginning of the scam, to which governments and citizens succumbed because of our fear of climate change. But unlike other energy sources, the sun and the wind cannot be turned on and off when demand fluctuates. On dark and still nights, gridmonsters lurk in rural fields. Then, when the sun shines or the wind blows, they invade power transmission lines. With government permission, they replace cheaper electricity from hydroelectric power, nuclear, or gas plants. Electricity rates then rise. When the wind dies or when the sun is obscured, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) routinely fires up recently-added backup natural gas power plants. Rates routinely rise again. Whenever we can't find consumers for this unneeded electricity, we pay solar and wind energy producers to not produce power. Rates rise more! Gridmonsters keep metastasizing. Ontario is exporting more and more excess green energy to Quebec or Michigan, at a loss of millions more dollars every month. Rates keep rising. Amazingly, the Ontario government recently invited proposals for even more subsidized, unneeded and unreliable wind factories and solar farms. ... Read the entire article [here](#).

Wind Energy....VERY Little Bang, for your Buck! The Colossal Cost of Intermittent & Unreliable Wind Power May 9, 2016 by stopthesethings **** There are 3 electricity essentials – that the power source and its delivery to homes and businesses...

<https://mothersagainstownturbines.com/2016/05/04/prof-sir-david-mackays-last-interview-tells-of-the-futility-of-wind-turbines/> Prof MacKay said he loved wind turbines, describing them as "the cathedrals of the modern age", but said that if the country managed to build enough low-carbon supplies to get it through periods of no wind or sun in winter, then there was "actually no point in having any wind or solar". Wind turbines were a "waste of money" in that scenario since "when the wind blows you are going to have to either turn those wind turbines down or something else down that you have already paid for like the nukes or the CCS", he said. Solar panels were a "really good idea" in hot countries where solar power supplies correlated with times of high demand, he said, while a combination of wind and storage might make sense in a country where "price doesn't matter". **Professor Sir David MacKay, physicist – obituary**

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/07/unifors-hypocrisy-on-noise-hazards/> MOE knew — as did everyone else — **how important noise monitoring would be.** Unifor's turbine is located just 210 metres from the nearest home, less than half of the 550-metre distance required by provincial noise regulations. MOE approved Unifor's turbine after the union had the community's zoning changed from a rural tourist/recreational classification to city semi-urban to allow for increased noise. To further address noise levels, the union stated that its powerful 800kw turbine would operate at just 500kw (despite reduced revenue generation) and that it would self-monitor its operation. **Since its startup, Unifor and MOE have received hundreds of noise complaints, day and night, from the nearly 200 families who live within the turbine's 550-metre radius. Still, the noise testing has not been done.**

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/05/living-with-wind-turbines> Abingdon Community Hall, 9184 Regional Road (Silver Street):

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?hl=en&mid=1ToLNLuNtV1jj25jc1BN6lu1W4> This will be a small drop-in style open house which will provide a private opportunity to compare experiences, share resources and learn from others living within Industrial Wind Turbine areas. It will give us the opportunity as a community to better understand how IWTs are affecting us and learn what to do about it. We hope to empower you as we discuss the issues. Please invite your neighbours.

<http://www.windconcernsontario.ca/wind-farm-fight-in-eastern-ontario-no-democracy-no-truth/> She also looked into the Health Canada study done on wind turbines and found out of the 2,004 people originally selected for the study, 430 had abandoned or demolished their houses due to the turbines. "It significantly decreased the number of people in the study," she said. She said they interviewed people who were 550 metres away from turbines, but the only people who were that close were the landowners who were under contract with the wind turbine companies. Benke then asked to be a delegation at a council meeting so she could present council with the information she researched on the wind turbines before council made any decision on whether to support the turbines or not. "Immediately anybody with money sense, their antenna goes up, there is money in this," she said. As every municipality is aware, there have been cutbacks into how much money they are receiving from the province, and that money has to come from somewhere. "We did a very balanced overview of what the map looked like and what it would look like if you had a one-kilometre setback which is what the experts recommend," she said. "There were only two fields that would have qualified." The one-kilometre recommended setback refers to a paper put out by the Ministry of the Environment where it recommended a setback of one kilometre for a wind farm of 10 turbines with noise level of 105 decibels. Benke also found out each turbine generated just over \$4,000, which was about the same amount of tax revenues from a home valued at \$300,000 to \$350,000. "If you go ahead with the wind turbines, it pretty much kills any new development," she said. "I couldn't let this happen without at least being a voice in the wilderness. We needed to have our voices heard." Benke said wind turbines give the illusion they are "green" but they are not.

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/03/danish-workers-at-siemens-chronically-ill/> **Scandal**

As part of its 21 Søndag series, DR yesterday revealed it has access to reports from the National Board of Industrial Injuries in Denmark dealing with 64 compensation cases brought by employees against the company. According to DR, the National Board of Industrial Injuries has reached the decision that the illnesses developed by the employees in question, including asthma and eczema, are a direct result of exposure to the toxic chemicals epoxy and isocyanates. The chemicals are known allergens, and they are on the EU's list of carcinogenic substances. Rasmus Windfeld, a public relations officer at Siemens Wind Power, stated that Siemens was committed to improving working conditions and called the current situation "totally unacceptable". "Sixty-four people injured working for us is 64 too many. We're committed to working at it, and the number will soon be down to zero," he told DR. **According to DR, Siemens has confirmed it illegally used isocyanates during the manufacturing process for wind turbines from 2003 to 2011.** READ ARTICLE: <http://cphpost.dk/news/business/dr-news-reports-danish-workers-at-siemens-have-become-chronically-ill-after-prolonged-exposure-to-dangerous-chemicals.html>

<https://mothersagainstturbines.com/2016/05/03/wind-turbine-investigation-begins/> Health Unit investigation based on perceived health effects of wind turbines. (Huron County, Ontario) – May 2, 2016 The first phase of a Huron County Health Unit investigation on the perceived adverse health effects of wind turbines is about to get under way. **Leading the investigation is Health Unit epidemiologist Doctor Erica Clark.** Doctor Clarke says the Health Unit will share survey information with the provincial and federal governments. She stresses that the Health Unit initiative is not related to the Health Canada survey of health issues connected to wind turbines that was done in 2013 and 2014. Acoustical measure analysis is still being examined, and findings of the federal study have not been released yet. READ MORE: http://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/news_item.php?NewsID=84200

http://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/news_item.php?NewsID=84200 Wind Turbine Investigation Begins Monday, May 2, 2016 9:03 PM by Peter Jackson *Health Unit investigation based on perceived health effects of wind turbines. (Huron County)-* **The first phase of a Huron County Health Unit investigation on the perceived adverse health effects of wind turbines is about to get under way. Leading the investigation is Health Unit epidemiologist Doctor Erica Clark.** She tells Bayshore Broadcasting News that the first phase launching this month will be dedicated to information gathering. Doctor Clark says she will interview each participant personally, before any turbine-related information is received. The questions asked will include the number of turbines located near where the participant lives, and what kind of structures are on their property. Doctor Clark notes that each person taking part will then be given a personal code to use when answering questions in the on-line portion of the survey. For those without Internet access, the survey is available in hard copy form. She points out that further action in the second phase of the survey will depend on analysis of phase one questionnaires. Phase two will involve actual measurements of things like ambient noise coming from the turbines. Doctor Clarke says the Health Unit will share survey information with the provincial and federal governments. She stresses that the Health Unit initiative is not related to the Health Canada survey of health issues connected to wind turbines that was done in 2013 and 2014. Acoustical measure analysis is still being examined, and findings of the federal study have not been released yet.

<http://www.windconcernsontario.ca/ontarios-green-energy-policy-disaster-you-should-be-worried/>

he result is that the cost of generating electricity in Ontario has exploded, even as power costs plummeted elsewhere. Between 2004 and 2014, power generation costs in Ontario increased by 74 per cent, according to the auditor. This benefits no one. The higher prices don't come from carbon taxes; they come from higher electricity production costs. And that imposes a heavy cost on the economy. However, because prices were rising, Ontarians started using less energy. Power use dropped by 7 per cent between 2006 and 2014. But at the same time, thanks to subsidies to encourage greater power production from green sources, the province's generation capacity grew by 19 per cent. As a result, the province is now a major exporter of electricity – sold at prices far below the cost of production. The more power the province exports, the more taxpayers and ratepayers lose.

HOW DOES NOISE AFFECT US? [MAY 1, 2016](#) [MUM4KIDS](#) [2 COMMENTS](#)

The following article is about a researcher who is mapping an American city's soundscape. Community noise audible and non audible impacts our health and wellbeing both in urban environments and quiet rural settings.

Listen: There's noise we can hear and noise we can feel. Both can affect our health

MAPPING BOSTON'S SOUNDSCAPE

Erica Walker, SD '17, biked around Boston to take the measure of a city's noise and its effects on residents.

Hot coffee dripping. Steamed milk hissing. Muzak droning. Keyboards clacking. Patrons murmuring: Erica Walker's soft voice was almost drowned out by the ambient noise in a Starbucks. It was an ironic touch, considering that Walker has spent the past five years intently tuned in to Boston's cacophonous urban soundscape.

The 36-year-old researcher, who will receive her doctorate in environmental health next year from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, has pedaled nearly every inch of the city on a purple commuter bike—hauling a bulky sound monitor, a boom microphone, and a camera in her backpack—all in the service of plotting sound levels in 400 separate locations and collecting residents' subjective responses to the aural onslaught.

Most people have approached her with curiosity and, on learning her mission, gratitude. A few, alarmed by the paraphernalia of her sonic surveillance, have reported her to the police.

It's all in a day's research for Walker, a former artist who was *compelled to undertake the study after suffering her own noise nightmare. The children living in the apartment above hers "ran across the floor literally 24 hours a day, and it drove me crazy,"* says the Mississippi native.

Plagued with headaches and sleeplessness, she sent out an impromptu Craigslist survey asking about annoying footstep sounds and was flooded with responses. She began to suspect her auditory torment was not isolated.

SIGNATURE SOUNDS

Walker has discovered that each Boston neighborhood carries a unique acoustic signature. The dominant note of Dorchester, for example, is transportation. "You have planes, you have trains, you have automobiles," Walker says. But Dorchester's rich cultural diversity also lends evocative counter melodies to the main theme. "Something I hadn't planned on is people standing outside and yelling across the street to each other, or sitting on their porches talking really loud—that human element," Walker laughs. She wonders: "If people are part of that cultural landscape, is it 'noise' or just 'sound'?"

By contrast, East Boston, which abuts Logan International Airport, is perpetually assaulted by the din of low-flying jets. In a community survey that Walker created, one resident called the commotion "a regular horror." Another lamented, *"Everybody is walking around looking wrong out, some are getting nasty, kids are crying more, kids with behavioral issues are out of control. People don't know what to do."*

THE MISMEASURE OF NOISE

Most formal surveys of sound gauge what are known as "A-weighted decibel levels," or dB(A)—sounds that are perceptible by the human ear. Boston's noise ordinance defines "unreasonable or excessive noise" as that in excess of 50 dB(A) between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., or in excess of 70 dB(A) at other hours. To put this in context, normal human speech at about 3 feet apart takes place at between 55 and 65 dB(A). Walker found that the city's ordinance thresholds are routinely flouted. Boston's two loudest enclaves—East Boston, with the roar of jet engines, and Savin Hill, awash in jangling nightclub noise from across Marina Bay—average 80 dB(A). Passing ambulances clock in at 105 decibels. Construction site jackhammers reach 112. Even those neighborly conversations between porches can hit 85 decibels.

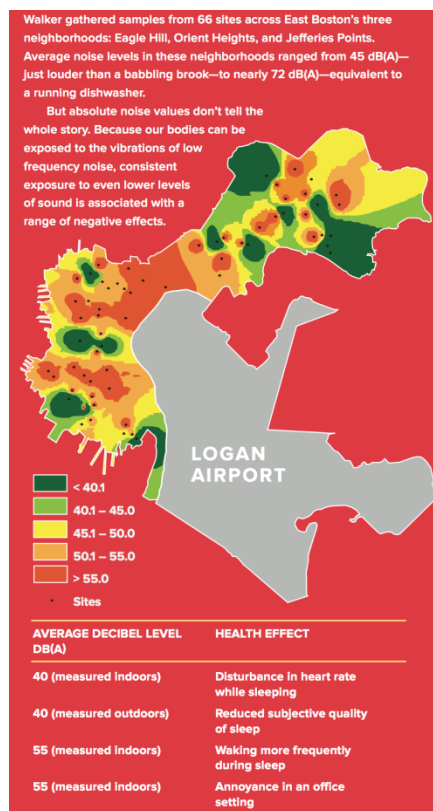
And these numbers don't tell the whole story. Walker is also measuring a type of low-frequency noise called "infrasound." *Although vibrations at this level are not picked up by the ear, our bodies still register them. "Infrasound is totally inaudible; we don't hear it, we just feel it, such as when a bus passes by or a plane takes off,"* Walker says.

In nature, low-frequency vibrations take the form of thunder, earthquakes, volcanoes, or nearby herds of wild animals. Such vibrations signal approaching danger—a clue to the toll they may take on mental and physical health in modern urban environments. "Maybe our body is processing these vibrations and we don't know it," Walker suggests. *Making matters worse, infrasound is not only highly prevalent in cities but also persistent, hard to mitigate, and it travels long distances.*

What Walker wants to know is: Are these low-frequency noises, which are rife in urban environments but not included in standard A-weighted decibel measurements, exacting a hidden public health toll?

Read rest of article: <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/features/mapping-bostons-soundscape/>

To listen to an interview (first 5 minutes of podcast): http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/multimedia-article/podcast-noise-health/?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=Chan-Twitter-General



<https://stopthesethings.com/2016/04/28/texan-senate-to-curb-wind-farms-threatening-americas-naval-aviators/>

The large turbines can make tracking planes difficult or impossible, because the arms can spin at speeds faster than some aircraft fly — a fact that makes maintaining mission safety impossible, according to a presentation the committee heard from Wichita Falls' Sheppard Air Force Base. Kingsville Mayor Sam Fugate emphasized the state will need to intervene in some cases to ensure bases' mission capabilities are not compromised. "Our (extraterritorial jurisdiction) only goes out 2 miles. We've done everything we can do," he said. "What we really need is a moratorium on constructing wind farms within 25 miles of our base until they can come up with technology to remedy the problem." Thursday's meeting was focused on fact-gathering, but Sen. Donna Campbell, R-New Braunfels and the committee's chair, indicated she'd consider intervening if a development threatened student pilots' training. "We're actually making our military installations more vulnerable to closing when our military bases are situated surrounded by wind turbines," Campbell said. "We don't want that." "If we don't have enough pilots, then anything that affects pilot training ... is a threat to our defense," she added.

[Caller Times](#)

Playing 'dodge' with a few MIG 28s is a breeze, but tackling these things is a whole different ball game.

<http://www.windconcernsontario.ca/unions-hypocrisy-on-health-evident-on-day-of-mourning/>

Unifor owns and operates the controversial CAW Wind Turbine, located on its property in Port Elgin, Ontario on the shore of Lake Huron. The turbine began operation in 2013 to generate money for the union. At the time, the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) approved the turbine on the condition that the Union would conduct noise audits within the first two years of operation and provide MOE with the results.

Now, as the turbine begins its *fourth* year of operation, the tests and results are, at a minimum, two years late.

140 noise complaints prompted town council to pass a motion asking the CAW to honour President Ken Lewenza's commitment to shut down the turbine if it harmed residents.

MOE knew — as did everyone else — how important noise monitoring would be. Unifor's turbine is located just 210 metres from the nearest home, less than half of the 550-metre distance required by provincial noise regulations. MOE approved Unifor's turbine after the union had the community's zoning changed from a rural tourist/recreational classification to city semi-urban to allow for increased noise.

To further address noise levels, the union stated that its powerful 800kw turbine would operate at just 500kw (despite reduced revenue generation) and that it would self-monitor its operation. Since its startup, Unifor and MOE have received hundreds of noise [complaints](#), day and night, from the nearly 200 families who live within the turbine's 550-metre radius. Still, the noise testing has not been done. Back in 2013, during the turbine's first six months of operation, 140 noise complaints prompted town council to pass a motion asking the CAW to honour President Ken Lewenza's commitment to shut down the turbine if it harmed residents. The union dismissed the request.



<https://stopthesethings.com/2016/06/08/wind-power-the-wick-just-aint-worth-the-candle-energy-return-vs-energy-invested-explained/>

Wind Power: the Wick Just Ain't Worth the Candle: Energy Return vs Energy Invested Explained

June 8, 2016 by [stopthesethings](#)

Concluding thoughts

The energy debate continues to be partly driven by emotion and not by the laws of physics and needs of human society or nature.

My own opinion is that understanding EROEI is vital to the continuance of industrial society as we know it. That does not mean projecting economic growth infinitely into the future but managing the energy and human resources and natural resources we have in a rational and responsible way. One that optimises benefits for humans and nature.

Understanding the intricacies of the human energy web is enormously complex and requires substantial resource to fully understand it. But it is not nearly as complex as understanding the climate system and I would argue that understanding our energy web is far more important. And so here is a challenge for the United Nations. Establish 10 working groups globally to study the human energy web, deliberately choosing ones with opposing outlooks at the outset (fossil fuel v nuclear v renewables v collapse) and challenge them to model the human energy web and to explore the multitude of outcomes.

And to then use that information to answer if asking Africa to skip over the fossil fuel stage of their energy development is beneficial to Africans?

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About stopthesethings

We are a group of citizens concerned about the rapid spread of industrial wind power generation installations across Australia.