

JUNE 2010

WHO WE ARE:

Lake Michigan P.O.W.E.R. Coalition committed to stopping the Scandia Wind Aegir Project in its present form. We represent a cross section of year-round and summer residents, local business owners, and long-time visitors. P.O.W.E.R. stands for Protect Our Water, Economy and Resources.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

We fully support efforts to develop renewable energy, but not at the cost of our lakeshore, our community, our environment, and our quality of life.

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News From the Lake Michigan P.O.W.E.R. Coalition

Legislative Update

Now that the Great Lakes Wind Council (GLOW) has finished its public meetings, they will be making final recommendations to the Michigan Legislature regarding the regulatory process for offshore wind. Workgroups have begun in Lansing this month to work on this process and Lake Michigan P.O.W.E.R. Coalition has been invited to participate. Being involved in the decision process at the state level has been one of our goals since creating this group, and that would not have been possible without continual support of advocates like you, fighting to protect Lake Michigan.



The Legislature is taking a very deliberative approach to developing a state regulatory process for offshore wind, and this process will not be rushed through. This makes it very important to continue contacting your state legislators and expressing your concerns about offshore wind development. For contact information for legislators in Northern Michigan and West Michigan, please see the *Stay Involved* section of this newsletter.

Recent News

Last week, the Mason County Board of Commissioners overwhelmingly rejected Scandia's proposal to build wind turbines in Lake Michigan by a vote of 9-1. The commissioners sent a clear message that our lakeshore is not the place for an industrial wind facility. This was a decisive moment in the fight against the Aegir project.

From the beginning, Mr. Dirdal and Mr. Warner, Aegir project developers, have promised that if a county rejected their industrial wind project, they will withdraw their proposal. Mason County has voted no. Now is the time for Scandia to announce that the Aegir windfactory proposal off Mason County is withdrawn.

This is a significant development, but the fight is far from over! It is critical to keep contacting state legislators as well as your local county officials, asking them to join Mason County, Pentwater Village and Pentwater Township officials in rejecting the Aegir offshore wind project. Contact information is available in the *Stay Involved* section of this newsletter and on our website at: <http://www.protectwithpower.org/take-action/contact-your-representatives>

Your continued efforts are helping to protect our shoreline from a Mistake in the Lake!

Recent News

The summer is a busy time for meetings on offshore wind in Northern and Western Michigan and we encourage you to attend these meetings and express your concern and opposition toward Scandia's proposals for Lake Michigan.

6/16- Northwest Ottawa County Informational Meeting- 7:00 p.m.
Grand Haven High School Performing Arts Center
17001 Ferris St., Grand Haven, MI 49417

Saturday, June 26: P.O.W.E.R. Town Hall Meeting in Ferrysburg- 9:30 a.m.
Ferrysburg City Hall (formerly Ferrysburg Elementary School)
17290 Roosevelt Road, Ferrysburg, MI

Monday, July 5: Rep. Dan Scripps' Coffee Hours in Ludington- 3:00 p.m.
House of Flavors, 402 W. Ludington Avenue, Ludington

Wednesday, August 4: Oceana Planning Commission Meeting- 6:30 p.m.
Hart Middle School, 308 Johnson Street West, Hart, MI

P.O.W.E.R. Volunteers Get the Word Out During Memorial Day Weekend

During the three-day holiday weekend, hundreds of people learned about the nearshore wind power plant proposal that threatens the environment and economy of coastal West Michigan communities. More than a dozen volunteers staffed a table at the top of Pentwater's Village Green each of the three days to answer questions, hand out fact sheets and explain P.O.W.E.R.'s opposition to the Aegir proposal.

Volunteers distributed more than 300 t-shirts and yards signs to a growing number of individuals who understand the potential impacts of such industrial development in Lake Michigan. Hundreds of individuals also signed a statement supporting P.O.W.E.R.'s position on the issue. Additionally, the P.O.W.E.R. rally drew a capacity crowd to the upper level of the Antler Bar in Pentwater, where attendees listened to a presentation made by P.O.W.E. R president Jeff Hoenle and board member Jeff Hodges.

Similar events are being planned for other involved lakeshore communities. If you would like to schedule a presentation on offshore wind, please contact us at info@protectwithpower.org.



In The News

Offshore wind continues to dominate news coverage throughout the state as the debate continues. Lake Michigan P.O.W.E.R. Coalition continues to be included in significant stories including recent stories in the *Ludington Daily News*, *Oceana Herald Journal* and *Muskegon Chronicle*.

Editorial boards across the state are also taking note and weighing in on offshore wind, urging caution and creation of the regulatory process.

May 30 - *Detroit News Editorial*: [Lawmakers must craft policy to keep up with development of windmills in state](#)

Additionally, Russ Harding of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy weighed in on the issue, noting that wind development is too risky. Read it [here](#).

June 8- 9&10 News- [Local Wind Farm Proposal Turned Down](#)
<http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=232572&cID=1>

June 9- *Muskegon Chronicle/Grand Rapids Press*- [Mason County board rejects Scandia proposal for offshore wind farm](#)

June 10- WJRW-AM- [Interview with Jeff Hoenle](#)

June 11- WTCM-AM- [Interview with Peter O'Neil](#)

Stay Involved

Our website: Protectwithpower.org

Our Twitter: [Twitter.com/LakeMIPOWER](https://twitter.com/LakeMIPOWER)

Phone: 231-709-9231 (someone will return your call within 24 hours)

Contact State Legislators and express your opposition:

Rep. Dan Scripps (D-Northport)- danscripps@house.mi.gov

Rep. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart)- goeffhansen@house.mi.gov

Sen. Gerry VanWoerkom (R-Muskegon)-

sengvanwoerkom@senate.michigan.gov

Sen. Mark Jansen (R- Grand Rapids)-

senMJansen@senate.michigan.gov

Sen. Wayne Kuipers (R-Holland)-

senwkuipers@senate.michigan.gov

Rep. Mary Valentine- (D-Muskegon)-

maryvalentine@house.mi.gov

Rep. Arlan Meekhof (R- West Olive)-

arlanbmeekhof@house.mi.gov

Rep. Doug Bennett (D-Muskegon)-

dougbennett@house.mi.gov

Rep. Robert Dean (D- Grand Rapids)-

robertdean@house.mi.gov

Sen. Patricia Birkholz (R- Saugatuck)-

senpbirkholz@senate.michigan.gov

Contact local officials:

[Ludington City Council](#)

[Mason Board of Commissioners](#)

[Oceana Board of Commissioners](#)

[Pentwater Township Officials](#)

[Ottawa County Board of Commissioners](#)

[Muskegon County Board of Commissioners](#)

Write letters to the editor to your local paper:

Ludington Daily News: sbegnoche@ludingtondailynews.com

Oceana Herald-Journal: editor@oceanaheraldjournal.com

Muskegon Chronicle: pholmes@muskegonchronicle.com

Grand Rapids Press: egolder@grpress.com

Manistee News Advocate: kgrabowski@pioneergr.com

Traverse City Record Eagle: dmiller@record-eagle.com

Grand Haven Tribune: lpainter@grandhaventribune.com

Holland Sentinel: <http://extra.hollandsentinel.com/>

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