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Clerk

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Karen Hildebrant
Superintendent



Al Rosekrans
Trustee

Ryan Fewins-Bliss
Trustee

Cheryl Kellerman
Trustee

Bath Charter Township

Dear Members of the House Committee on Regulatory Reform,

On behalf of the Bath Charter Township Planning Commission, I would like to express the commission's unanimous opposition to House Bills 5120, 5121, 5122, and 5123, which strips township authority and oversight of utility-scale wind and solar facilities.

House Bills 5120, 5121, 5122, and 5123 eliminate local jurisdiction. Utility-scale wind and solar operations can have a lasting impact on a community without proper consideration of the existing land uses and the effects it will have on the community, its residents, the local economy, and property owners. Local governments have always been best equipped to balance the needs of the community with the impact of renewable energy facilities. The legislation would overturn decades of granting local control in Michigan related to the land use of utility-scale wind and solar facilities. Local communities deserve the right to adopt reasonable regulations, land use policies and conduct site plan reviews of proposed renewable energy facilities. These practices are vital in order to meet the needs of not only the developer and the market, but the needs of the community's residents as well.

Sincerely

John Reich
Planning Commission Chair
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Cc: Representative Penelope Tsernoglou (penelopetsernoglou@house.mi.gov)

Cc: Committee Clerk Molly Wingrove (mwingrove@house.mi.gov)

Cc: Township Superintendent Karen Hildebrant (Khildebrant@bathtownship.us)

