

Mr Stephen Harper and
Mr. Michael Gravelle,

My name is Jerry Van Velden. I live along the North Shore of Lake Erie in Selkirk Ontario. I am writing to you in the hopes that you can investigate a situation that happened in my neighborhood yesterday, January 5 2013.

I am sure with your busy schedule that you may not be aware of a travesty that has happened in Selkirk.

Let me give you a little bit of back ground on the issue at hand.

A few months ago a Bald Eagle nest became visible to the area in a 100+ year Cotton Wood tree as the Fall season approached and the foliage began to fall away from the Branches. We were aware that there was a nest somewhere near buy but not exactly sure where as we had seen Eagles in the area for the first time,,,,, ever. The problem is the nest is positioned such that it would interfere with the proposed 3 wind turbines scheduled for that exact location. After myself and many other local resident TAX payers contacted the local MNR office in Niagara region a window of common sense was opened and a cease and desist order on the road work was issued to NextEra and they complied. As a result almost all the people in the area were very excited to see that something was being handled by the Government properly. I had conversations with 2 separate biologists with the MNR one of which was Anne Yagi and she did her political non committal side step about her report, that we still have not seen and also the file was transferred to another person in the MNR. We as a group felt something was finally going to be done properly and stop the installation of these three units.

Time moved on and we were not allowed to have a copy of any reports with regards to this situation.

Well as we are all aware the wheels of common sense fell off the wagon, there was a permit issued on December 31 2012, with an expiration date of Jan 06 2013 to destroy the nest! Furthermore, the posting on the MNR web site was not completed until after the offices were closed at 5pm on Jan 4 2013.

As a result of this permit issuance, the Bald Eagle Nest was removed by NextEra contractors, and there was not a single representative there from the MNR. They were at home so that their voice mail in their offices could handle the outcry of anger from who? The TAX payer that watched them destroy one of gods great gifts to us all! See the attached file for reference of the irreversible damage done here. Where is this the solution, destroy Nature to enable installation of Wind Turbines that no one other than the lucrative lease agreement holders want?

My questions are numerous. Why was this permit issued without any input from the TAX payer, why is the environment and health of the Natural Resources of the area being put at risk, why when the government had the opportunity to do something right, they ignore

the pleadings and wishes from the TAX payers and residents of the area? Not the people that will be benefitting from the ridiculous financial contracts for the turbine placements! Why was the public only informed of the permit via the internet after there was no way to contact any one at the MNR offices? Do I feel there is corruption here?, absolutely,,,, a slip of the hand was definitely in play here.

When did our country become a dictatorship, my understanding is that Communism was only known to my generation to be in the now defunct Russia and Cuba, when did we start having to bow to the actions of madness?

I was once a very proud Canadian and I am ashamed to be associated with what has become a full blown dictatorship!

I must admit that I probably do not expect any response from either yourself or Mr. Harper as the wants of the people are so blatantly ignored in this province any more, but wanted you to know exactly what the feelings of many people of Haldimand County are.

I feel an inquiry would be appropriate at this time!

Does it matter, do we matter, do I matter anymore to my country?

If you feel that my concerns actually warrant a response I can be reached by response to this email or in writing to;

Jerry Van Velden
305 Lakeshore Road
Selkirk Ontario
N0A 1P0

Sincerely,

Jerry Van Velden