



## Muskegon Area Sustainability Coalition

740 West Shoreline Drive  
Muskegon, Michigan 49441

Dear Mr. Schmitt,

We write in support of Michigan House Bill 6564, introduced by Rep. Scripps and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology. This proposed legislation seeks to enact many of the recommendations of the Governor's Great Lakes Offshore Wind Council, issued October 10, 2010.

In particular, we want to support the offshore wind siting provisions in the legislation including the establishment of an orderly and rational site permit and development process that protects the public trust while opening up appropriate Great Lakes bottomlands for offshore wind development.

Specifically, HB 6564 excludes any lease sites less than 6 miles from the shoreline unless the site is 3-6 miles from the shoreline AND is nominated for lease by the county commission representing the affected shoreline. Sites under 3 miles from the shoreline are excluded. Sites with multiple applicants will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

While not perfect, HB 6564 offers the State of Michigan and the proponents of wind energy and economic development a reasonable path to begin the critical work of developing Michigan's wind energy resources in the Great Lakes.

As members of the Muskegon Area Sustainability Coalition and its Leadership Committee, we urge you to support this legislation. Please contact us at the following address if you have any questions.

Grand Valley State University  
Lake Michigan Center  
740 W. Shoreline Dr.  
Muskegon, Michigan, 49441

Sincerely,

John K. Koches  
Arnold Boezaart  
Jack Kennedy  
Christopher Bedford  
Douglas Wood



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