

From: Anne Bishop [REDACTED]
Sent: March 23, 2025 2:04 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Cc: MLA Office; Hants West Council
Subject: Re: Bill#24

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Submission to Public Bills Committee
Anne Bishop
West hants

Re: Bill#24

Members of the Public Bills Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to the clauses in Bill #24 that give greater powers to the Province to overrule the decisions of municipal councils. We elect our municipal counsellors because we trust them to make decisions for us at the local level. Being closer to the community, knowing many of their constituents personally, they are well equipped to express the overall will of the people at the local level. The province, from its more distant position should not be able to turn over these decision.

We had a recent example in West Hants. After ample community consultation, our council set up bylaws to make a well-supported compromise between the Bear River Wind Farm development and its nearby neighbours. The provincial government then overruled the council with no consultation whatsoever. This is a discouraging case of government over-reach. The provincial government has no mandate to give itself this degree of power over local decisions.

Please withdraw Bill #24.

With respect,
Anne Bishop