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**From:** Jan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 23, 2025 2:48 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Cc:** melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com; allcouncil@westhants.ca  
**Subject:** Submission regarding Bill 24

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**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

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Dear Committee Members,

Here in West Hants we have had recent and direct experience with provincial interference in the functions of the West Hants Municipal Council. I respect that Council respected its citizens and conducted a rigorous consultation in regards the environmental assessment of the proposed Bear Lake Wind Project as submitted by the government. Citizens were overwhelmingly concerned about certain aspects of the assessments. Council listened to the citizens and approved the project subject to conditions - that there be a greater set back distance from dwellings than that in the provincial assessment. That attention be given to concerns about visual impact that would be experienced by local residents..

The Provincial Government response was to not only overrule Council's conditions of 2.5 Km set back but changed the set back from its own original assessment to even closer to the dwellings. In the correspondence from the Provincial Planning Director Christina Lovitt wrote that not only was WH Council's request overruled but it was amended "to bring Municipal Planning Strategy closer in alignment with provincial interests".

Minister John Lohr stated that he had rejected the WH Council's concerns in part because based on "very subjective opinion" and that province's requirements would become "minimum requirements for all municipalities".

I note that all this took place before the presentation of Bill 24 and other assaults on our democracy. This bill erodes democracy by overriding decisions made after consultation with the citizens. It gives the province the right to change municipal decisions and even enforce provincial interests and charge municipal tax payers for carrying them out.

This Premier and MLAs no longer have my trust. I urge the committee to withdraw this bill from the legislature.

With Respect, Janet Morrell  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad