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Hello,  
My name is Shellie Correia. I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today on this very important issue.

The majority of people are very concerned about the health and well-being of their family; but in my case, I have serious cause for concern.

My family has been very hard hit with cancer. I have had to watch my 16 year old daughter, 19 year old niece, my mom and two aunts all suffer terribly with cancer, and then die.

When I asked the doctors why our children had developed cancer, when there had been no previous family history of it, even in the adults.

The doctor said it was very likely environmentally caused. My brother and I were raised in an area of Hamilton surrounded by an electrical power generating station and 2 large steel companies. He said children raised in an industrial environment can suffer chromosomal damage which can then be passed on to the next generation. The damaged chromosomes can result in an inability for their

bodies to defend themselves against certain types of cancers because of a susceptibility to toxins and carcinogens in the environment. It can also lead to many other types of disorders that you wouldn't normally see until much later in life after many years of exposure.

So naturally, when you know your family has a predisposition toward the development of environmentally based cancers, you avoid exposure <sup>to toxins</sup> whenever and wherever you can. There were 3 other kids in our neighbourhood (that we knew of) who later had children who died from cancer. The experts call this a "cancer cluster", and industrial areas are full of them.

Losing a child to cancer was a nightmare I never awoke from. When your child is terminally ill, the guilt you feel from being unable to protect them is crushing; you would give anything to take their place. You feel completely and utterly helpless.

Two and a half years after I lost my daughter, I was blessed with another child; a miracle in itself since, sadly, Rachael had been my only child and she had been born 19 years earlier.

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I vowed that this time I would not raise my child in the city, so my husband and I diligently searched for a quiet, clean, peaceful area to raise our son, and we found it in West Lincoln.

I have been treated for depression and anxiety since the death of my daughter, and I thought that this would be the perfect place to heal & try to start over. I grow my own fruits & vegetables as well as can them. We buy our meat, eggs, dairy locally, and lead a quiet peaceful life.

When our son Jey was 2½ to 3 years old we began to notice he had issues with noises such as the sound of ripping velcro, repetitive type noises, white noise and many others. He reacted very negatively to this type of stimuli, much more than you'd expect, even from a young child. He had extremely high sensitivity to some materials and textures. When Jey began school in Smithville at St. Martin School, these issues became problematic. The school insisted he see a doctor. We took Jey to our family doctor who then referred him to a specialist in Paediatric neurological Disorders. Dr. Calvert was highly recommended and well respected in her field; and

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she made amazing progress with our son. With a combination of one-on-one therapy and a ~~combination~~ <sup>several</sup> of meds. which she regularly fine-tunes to meet Joey's needs. Soon Joey was stable enough to be able to attend school regularly, and he went from being withdrawn, unwilling and unable to focus or communicate and frustrated to being able to participate in class at least most of the time. Accommodations are made for Joey when the noise becomes intolerable for him. The school has been very supportive over the years.

But now the progress Joey has made is being threatened. We've been told that soon we will be surrounded by gigantic, 3 megawatt Industrial Turbines. At 572<sup>ft</sup> high, they are the largest ever installed, and one of them will be in the field behind our home at the absolute minimum setback of 550m. I've done a mountain of research since learning of this, and what I have found is very scary. When I took Joey to see his specialist, I asked her what she thought about this situation, and she gave me her opinion in the form of a letter which I will read to you soon.

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~~But~~ This issue is not only affecting my family, but the entire community, pitting neighbour against neighbour, and even family members against each other. Stress levels are way up and still climbing, as more and more people are realizing what is happening. Everybody is either scared or angry. People are worried that they won't be able to live in their homes, and they won't be able to sell them either.

And once again, I am put in the position where I need to try to protect my child ~~the~~ and I am going to do it before it is too late.

As our elected council, your first moral and legal obligation is to protect the people in your community, especially the most vulnerable of us. And we must insist that you do that.

These private, for profit companies are insisting we forge ahead, regardless of the fact that we are awaiting a health study on Industrial Turbines from the Federal Gov't, not due to be released till 2014. If the study says the health risks are too great and the benefits too small, will they remove them? Of course not, the damage will be done. We must be the conscience

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of the Turbine Companies and the people who have been "bought" by them. Because it is obvious they've all been blinded by dollar signs.

Unfortunately this "free money" is coming out of all of our pockets in the form of higher taxes to pay for these turbines and skyrocketing electricity prices. We are being forced to pay for expensive wind & solar power while our inexpensive power is being sold off at rock-bottom prices. CHECK THE FACTS. Find out the truth about these over-priced, inefficient pieces of machinery. They don't belong in my backyard, they don't belong in your backyard, they don't belong in anyone's backyard!

Don't let anyone say "I didn't know what harm the turbines would cause." Educate yourself - read - search the internet - and spread the word. This needs to go viral!  
Ignorance is NO excuse!



Now I'll read the letter from Dr Calvert.

**Dr. Chrystella Calvert**  
**109 King Street West**  
**Dundas, ON L9H 1V1**  
**905-628-9200**

October 5, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

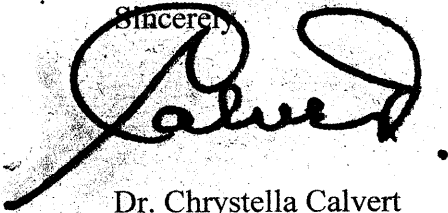
I am a behavioural Pediatrician and I specialize in assessment and care of children with developmental and mental health problems. My patient, Joey Correia, has been under my care since May, 2007. He has complex developmental issues including significant Sensory Processing Disorder.

He has always been sensitive to sensory environmental stimuli, which is quite noxious and problematic. Through sensitive and thoughtful interventions, by school and family, Joey has been able to cope much better. Much focus has been placed on reducing strong or noxious stimuli in the immediate environment.

Every human attempt to understand their world via input through the sensory organs which detect changes or threats in the environment. Noxious stimuli (or unexpected, or unnatural stimuli) are a source of environmental stress that affect the human brain and mounts a physiologic response to restabilize. For "typical" brains, known sources of environmental stress include airports, highways and industry. Wind turbines concern me, given my strong knowledge of neurobiology. Due to well-documented disruption to the "normal" environment (vibration, noxious repetitive sound) this is potentially a danger to health. There is also a rational fear that families living near these structures are being exposed, and have no reassurance of the long-term effects on health, particularly brain biology. In children, the developing brain is exquisitely sensitive and plastic – it relies on clean inputs to develop normally. Science has no evidence that this abnormal, incessant stimulus does not have long lasting effects on the developing fetal child and adolescent brain. Applying basic principles in fact suggest great danger of disrupting normal human neural networks. Certainly Joey is exceptionally more vulnerable. I have seen him become destabilized and quite impaired due to sensory overload. It results in agitation, insomnia, and mood changes. He is currently functioning very well and has a very good quality of life. His mother purposely moved to a quiet, rural home as an accommodation for Joey.

I, as a "normal brain" (or typical brain) individual would not want this risk to my mental health (or my children's) in my neighbourhood. The placement of these devices must be thoughtful and, of course, "first, do no harm." In a developed society like Canada, we must advocate and protect the most vulnerable members. Joey, and all our children deserve our thoughtful and ethical best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Calvert', written over the word 'Sincerely'.

Dr. Chrystella Calvert