



# Advisory Councils: *Speak Out*

---

## ADVISORY COUNCIL QUESTIONS Policy Development

*See article on Page 3*

Advisory Councils are groups of friends and neighbors that are at the heart of Farm Bureau grassroots by speaking up for agriculture and suggesting policies and ideas that influence Farm Bureau policy at the local, state and national levels. What county, Ohio and/or American Farm Bureau policy ideas or recommendations does your council suggest? Your ideas will be shared with your county policy development committee. If you are not responding online and need more room to share your ideas, feel free to add additional pages using standard notebook or printer paper and attach it to your minutes. List your responses as follows:

1. County Farm Bureau policies:
2. Ohio Farm Bureau policies:
3. American Farm Bureau policies:

**Reach out idea:** This special topic is a key opportunity to invite someone new to experience an advisory council meeting and Farm Bureau at its grassroots best. Who could you ask?

### ***A selection of responses to previous Advisory Council questions:***

## Wind Energy

**What advantages/benefits do you see to Ohio agriculture by adding wind farms in Ohio?**

- Farmers get money for leases, save on energy, clean energy
- Wind energy should eventually lower the cost of electricity for the farmers.
- Land can be leased for wind farms and still used

for crops. In rural areas each farm could supply its own power.

### **What disadvantages could wind farms pose to Ohio agriculture?**

- It could change the rural appearance, cause noise and take land out of food production. The price of oil will affect profitability. A steady wind is needed.
- The wind energy would take some farm land out of production and also there is the inconvenience of farming around the windmills.
- It could lower the value of the neighbors' properties which may make it difficult on neighbor relations.

### **How can Farm Bureau use energy projects to promote the value of agriculture to the non-farming consumer?**

- It keeps us less dependent on foreign energy and keeps jobs in Ohio.
- Wind turbines are green and lower the dependence on foreign oil. It's good PR for the value of farmers retaining land.
- By promoting the use of ethanol, biodiesel and using energy efficient ways of farming.
- It's not where our focus should be, it should be on food.

### **If a wind farm were going to be built in your own community, what would your response be and why?**

- There wouldn't be a problem. It is much safer than nuclear power.
- "Not in my backyard" attitude.
- No problem as long as they are built on my farm. No objecting as long as it was safely installed.