

Dear Editor,

The letter from Mr. Eric Renaud published yesterday in the Windsor Star is an example of how false information about renewable energy is being spread in this province without any proof.

According to this reader *"facts are that only 27 jobs have been created"*. As the General Manager of Siliken Canada, just one of hundreds of companies already in the province, I can assure you that I currently have 121 employees, I'd be happy to share my payroll list with your newspaper.

Then he states that *"the green energy industry in Ontario depends on government subsidies"*. Well, we are currently manufacturing 5,120 solar modules for export to Europe, I can also show you the purchase order. The only other subsidy we have received is training support for our new employees through the Ontario Works Program. A small contribution for which we are grateful, but it certainly doesn't make our business viable. The municipal taxes we pay in Windsor are higher than the subsidies we receive.

Finally, the letter says that *"in countries like Spain and Portugal the job losses are now being confirmed"*. We are a Spanish multinational that survived the cancellation of our own Green Energy Act 2 years ago by marketing internationally. Many of our local competitors did not and over 35,000 green jobs were lost in Spain: engineers designing the systems, manufacturers making the equipment, crews installing them, lawyers, consultants, financiers, maintenance people and so on, an entire industry. The Spanish Government is now considering coming back with a new program, Germany and Italy are extending theirs, and new ones are popping up around the world. We can tap into those markets from Windsor.

Every single energy source is subsidized in order to keep hydro bills low and maintain voter support. Renewables receive less taxpayers money than coal or nuclear. It makes perfect sense to subsidize a source that is clean, safe, reliable and which benefits local communities without harming future generations. It surprises me that precisely a Windsorite, a town that has attracted more renewable companies than any other in Ontario, would want see this industry killed in its infancy. Support the party you want, but let your neighbors back to work. Don't let jealousy blind your common sense.

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