**How to Write a Letter to the Editor on Wind Energy**

**What is a letter to the editor?**

A letter to the editor (LTE) is a letter sent by someone to a newspaper on topics of discussion or concern for its readers. LTEs can reach a wide audience in a certain region and sometimes all across the country. They can help facilitate public discourse and support for the issues you care about.

**How to write a letter to the editor**

1. Try to find a recent article or other editorial to respond to. Finding articles or opinion pieces that might provide a good angle for your letter is a skill and can require some creativity at times. Smaller newspapers are more likely to publish an LTE without the need to reference an article.
2. Find the submission criteria for the paper that you want to submit to. You can do this by simply searching for “name of publication + letter to the editor criteria.” You’ll need to find out:
	1. How many words are allowed?
	2. What e-mail address is used to submit the letter or is it done right on the website.
	3. What else do they require, like your name, address, and day and evening phone?
3. Read some LTEs in the paper you’re writing to understand how readers begin them and the general tone.
4. Share why you believe more wind energy will make a positive contribution to your family, your community and the state. Consider economic, health, and environmental benefits.
5. Share some supportive facts. You can find information on an array of subjects on the  [MATERIALS](https://www.powerofwind.org/materials) section of the AWEA website.
6. Make sure your letter doesn’t exceed the word allotment and submit!

**Not getting published? Here are some tips:**

1. Respond while the issue is hot. Be timely. Try to respond to something that has been written within the last 48 hours.
2. Be sure you’ve followed the specifications outlined by the publication.
3. Call to follow up and make sure your submission was received.
4. If your letter isn’t published, try again and submit to another publication.
5. If it is published, celebrate! Share it on social media, with elected officials, and with your friends and family!