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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Commerce, Utilities, Energy, & Rail (SC-CUER)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... CR
- Executive Sessions ... ES
- Public Hearings ... PH

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... Appt (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- ➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

(ab = Assembly Bill)

(ar = Assembly Resolution)

(ajr = Assembly Joint Resolution)

(**sb** = Senate Bill)

(**sr** = Senate Resolution)

(sjr = Senate Joint Resolution)

Miscellaneous ... Misc

(CRUE 10-057?)

Dear Senator Plale and Committee Members,

October 14, 2010

This wind bunch doesn't think much of those in the opposition to their self serving schemes. They call us all sorts of names; NIMBYS, collateral damage, sacrificial lambs and those are just the names slung at us from the Wind Siting Council and PSC members.

During a Wind Siting Council meeting a wind developer compared wind turbines to Wal-Mart, I agree. Both depend on China, and for both the bottom line is money – lots of it. . But at least Wal-Mart offers useful stand alone products, and is fair and reasonable to the customer who always comes first. Also, there is a plus to Wal-Mart; it does not depend on government mandates and taxpayer subsidies to exist.

I'm concerned with attitude of wind developer Bill R. who sits on the Wind Siting Council. During a discussion on communication towers; he said he "wants wind developers to be able to put turbines any where we want and the County's can move its emergency communications towers." Having served as a county supervisor on the emergency management committee I understand the time and expense required to obtain a good emergency Communications System. Our County hired, at great expense and time, experts on emergency communications and tower placement for the most effective interconnectability of emergency communications for the county and to the surrounding area. Lack of good communications by the pubic and emergency personnel is a serious problem in Trempealeau County because of our rugged Driftless terrain – it is a diverse state. For a wind developer to minimize the costs to the taxpayer and minimize good communications for the public is irresponsible and arrogant. If you read their testimony, the wind developer afterward fixes promoted in these rules is not working for people living in the shadow of wind developments.

It just goes to show these rules make mockery of local people and local government. The Wind Siting Rules document confers restrictions on local citizens and governments. It says private citizens must sacrifice for the wind developer.

It is plain as day why this is so; because the Wind Siting Council was stacked with wind proponents and those with monetary interests in wind development even the public at large members. The PSC are Doyle administration appointees as was the global warming taskforce, selected to promote the political agenda of wind development over baseload, feasible electrical generation that is cost effective and reliable for the public.

At one Wind Siting Council meeting: wind developer lobbyist and go-to guy Vickerman was asked – "Michael, how did the 50 dba number come about?" He replied, "To fit more turbines in." No peer reviewed science there, just greed!

These rules do not serve the public good, but only serve the wind developer's interest. I ask they be rejected.

Deloras Vind, Arcadia WI 54612

- White Paper Wind Farms and their effect on Public Safety Radio Systems - Koehnen



WHITE PAPER

WIND FARMS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SYSTEMS

Revised February 24, 2005

SUMMARY OF WHITE PAPER:

In many parts of the country, wind farms are being installed to alleviate the need to build more electrical generating plants. These wind farms can have a profound effect on your public safety, utility, and governmental microwave systems by chopping and reflecting the microwave beam.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

Notify your city and county zoning authority that any application for a wind farm can profoundly affect your emergency communications system and a design review focused on the wind farm's effects on critical communication systems.

BACK GROUND:

As a source for renewable energy, wind farms are being installed throughout the upper Midwest. Being subsidized by the US Government heightens the interest of entrepreneurs in building these for profit. Some wind farms contain hundreds of windmills. One of the biggest is on Buffalo Ridge between Marshall and Pipestone, Minnesota. Other large farms are northwest of Mason City, Iowa near Joice and northwest of Algoma, WI. The largest of the windmills and farms are in the western US.

The zoning laws of each state vary based on the generating size of the group of windmills, called a wind farm. Below a certain size in generating capacity, local city and county planning and zoning regulate these farms. Above a megawatt threshold, the state enters the picture especially in Minnesota.

Wind farms have their down side that is often overlooked by champions looking for clean renewable energy and profits.

- 1. Windmills have aviation hazard flashing beacons displaying a flashing light display. Some are set in a sequence to flash together or individually as a marquee across the farm. Because most windmills are above 201 feet, the Federal Aviation Administration dictates they be marked as an aviation hazard. The hazard beacon can be red at nighttime, medium intensity white strobe lights used in daytime (sometimes at night), or a combination of both.
- 2. The metallic blades chop and reflect certain types of radio signals ruining the continuity of the communications circuit. This is the subject of this paper.

The attached drawing, WIND-01 Figure 1 shows the drawing of a typical windmill. They consist of a metal pole, a wind generator mounted atop the pole, and a 100 foot tri-blade. Because the installation is all-metal, radio signals passing through the windmill are reflected or blocked. Worse yet, the moving blades cause the signal to be chopped. Think of trying to shine a flashlight through an oscillating fan. The once steady light passing blades becomes pulsed on the wall behind the fan.

On television sets of homeowners in or near the wind farm, the viewer will see their TV picture as a high-speed flicker as the blades pass through the signals. This is especially bad where the homeowner is trying to pull TV signals from 30-60 miles away. This will worsen as the country switches to high definition television (HDTV) because that signal is a synchronized computer bit stream not the present and much more forgiving analog signal.

With microwave, similar fading takes place. Microwave is a digital computer bit stream synchronized (timed precisely) between both ends of the circuit. As the blade passes through the beam or its companion first Fresnel zone, it causes the microwave receiver at the other end to lose signal or synchronization with the other end. While the blade rotates, the microwave system struggles to resynchronize itself only to have the next blade chop the signal. In the end, the microwave never resynchronizes unless the blades stop turning.

Public safety microwave is built to telephone company standards and the signal is framed into blocks of channels. Communications must take place in a real time (no delays) state. On the other hand, microwave links used for computer networks are not necessarily real time. If a circuit fails due to an encounter with a windmill's blade, the computer system will simply retry repeatedly to pass the message. If a synchronized public safety signal fails, the ambulance or fire truck may not come to someone's door!

A reasonable analogy might be a motion picture of an airplane propeller or a car tire turning. There are times that the moving device appears to slow, stop, and then reverse itself in the film. It is the strobe light effect as the pulsing interval of the film begins to match the rotating speed of the propeller or wheel and then leaves synchronization. It is possible and depending on the speed of the windmill's blades for the microwave beam to come in synchronization with the moving blades.

A microwave beam or a TV signal for that matter is not like a laser beam. Per the attached drawing WIND-02 Figure 1, as the beam leaves the antenna at either end, it fattens just like if you point a flash light at a wall and walk backwards. The main power of the radio beam lies in the main beam or the red area in the drawing. The first Fresnel (pronounced Fra'-nel) zone lies in the blue area. In Figure 2 of WIND-02, the white zones are higher Fresnel zones and contain little power. The main beam and the first Fresnel zone must pass through the wind farm and not be reflected or chopped by any metallic members of the wind farm. Depending where the microwave terminal points are and the frequency of the microwave signal, the Fresnel zone can be hundreds of feet wide. A complex mathematical formula can calculate the size of the Fresnel zone for any frequency passing through the farm.

Some but not all of the problem can be alleviated by the windmill designer using non metallic blades. However, I have been told a metal blade is part of the lightning protection for the facility and thus there is a resistance to using non-metallic blades. Even if they did, you still have the metal pole and generator units to block and reflect radio waves,

The wind farms do not seem to bother regular two-way radio transmissions. As the mobile communications industry switches from analog signals to synchronized digital signals (APCO-25 Standard), problems could develop because of the same mechanisms exist as with microwave.

I would not want a user to build a critical communications tower in a wind farm unless the windmills were at least ½ mile away—better yet a mile. As the electrical energy is generated, signals from high electric fields and degrading generating equipment can radiate noise that will degrade two-way radio system receivers in the range of 25-200 Megahertz.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IF SOMEONE WANTS TO BUILD A WIND FARM?

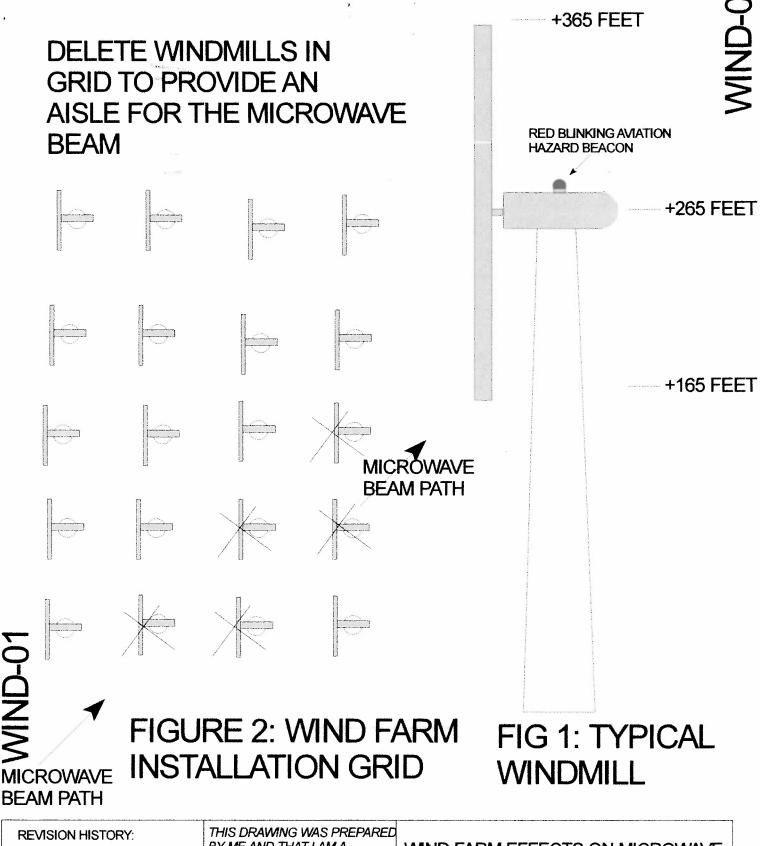
All is not lost if an application for a wind farm is submitted to a zoning authority. If one is received:

- 1. The applicant should employ a microwave search firm such as Micronet in Plano, Texas or Comsearch in Ashburn, Virginia to identify which FCC licensed microwave paths will pass through the proposed wind farm.
- 2. The zoning authority should alert City and County public safety, utility, pipeline company, and your school district to provide their licensed and unlicensed microwave point to point routing to the applicant. The wind farm can especially effect:
 - a. Point to point microwave.
 - b. Wireless computer networks- 802.11 systems, WAN.
 - c. Instructional TV for schools
 - d. DTN Weather used by farmers and construction companies.
 - e. Intercity wired telephone via microwave
 - f. Cellular cell-site interconnection via microwave
 - g. The real problem is the unlicensed data links. They are not in any database. You must seek out potential critical use owners.
- 3. The applicant should retain a Registered Professional Engineer with radio experience to be part of the design team for the wind farm to allow for microwaves to pass unaffected through the farm as shown in the attached drawing WIND-01 Figure 2. This may be as simple as leaving aisles open in the wind farm windmill-grid.
- 4. A wind farm advocate has suggested to me that some form of registration system of windmills and critical wireless communications circuits by the state might be reasonable to the work above.
 - a. Critical communications circuits,
 - i. Whether FCC licensed or not.
 - ii. Planned or existing,
 - iii. Can be registered in a GIS file along with the precise location of the planned and existing windmills
 - b. Then, as new critical communications circuits are designed, engineers can consult the GIS system and be advised of the presence of a proposed or existing wind farm. They can register funded but not yet build circuits.
 - c. The same is true with the planner of a wind farm.
 - d. This sounds reasonable but the big issue would be keeping the data current and informing the planners and installers in both industries.

The Federal Communications Commission, when licensing a microwave system, offers no protection from new man-made objects obstructing a microwave system. Critical infrastructure communications systems are expensive and usually in planning for a long time. The very owners of most critical infrastructure systems are the approvers of wind farms. Therefore, the governmental entity should protect their interests otherwise, the fire department may be signaled by the 911 center and never show up at the fire. A signal may go out from a pipe line to shut the valves on a leaking line and the valve never close.

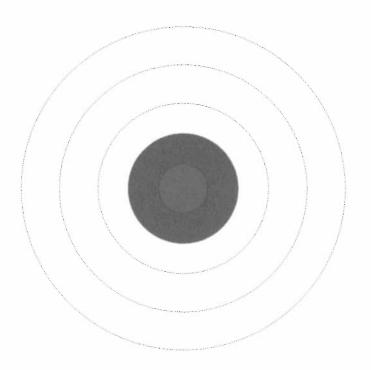
Leonard J. Koehnen, PE Consulting Engineer-Wireless Telecommunications Systems and Facilities Registered Professional Engineer (Electrical) Saint Paul, MN We have written many other White Papers that may be of interest to you. They are freely distributed to clients and other interested parties at no charge. Please write for a copy.

Spectrum Re-Farming	Tower Ordinances	Over Renting of Community Water Tanks
		Community water ranks
FCC Licensing Issues with Channels Adjacent	Installation of Minneapolis/Saint Paul	Consulting Services
to New Mutual Aid	Metro 800 control stations	Utility Data Systems
Channels		



BY ME AND THAT I AM A WIND FARM EFFECTS ON MICROWAVE REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER IN MINNESOTA. STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS 12-20-04 Leonard J. Koehnen, PE DATE: Consulting Engineer REVISION: **ORIG** LEONARD J. KOEHNEN, PE Leonard J. Koehnen & Assoc., Inc. 9348 Jonathan Road DWG: WND-01 9298 **MINNESOTA** Woodbury, MN 55125 651-739-1614

FIGURE 1: MICROWAVE BEAM RED IS MAIN BEAM BLUE IS FIRST FRESNEL ZONE



WIND-02

FIGURE 2: CROSS SECTION OF A MICROWAVE BEAM RED IS THE PRIMARY BEAM BLUE IS THE FIRST FRESNEL ZONE WHITE ARE THE SECOND-THIRD ETC FRESNEL ZONES

REVISION HISTORY:

THIS DRAWING WAS PREPARED BY ME AND THAT I AM A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER IN MINNESOTA

Affellow

LEONARD J. KOEHNEN, PE

MINNESOTA

9298

MICROWAVE BEAM

STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

Leonard J. Koehnen, PE Consulting Engineer Leonard J. Koehnen & Assoc.

Leonard J. Koehnen & Assoc., Inc. 9348 Jonathan Road Woodbury, MN 55125 651-739-1614 DATE: 12-23-04

REVISION: ORIG

DWG: WIND-02



FIELDS OF **EXPERTISE:**

EXPERIENCE EDUCATION & EXPERTISE:

Leonard J. Koehnen, and Associates, Inc. Consulting

Engineers

Communications Engineering Services For the new Millennium

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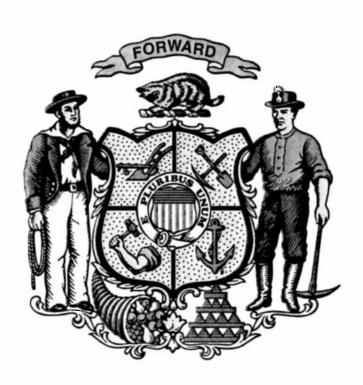
Bachelor of Electrical **Engineering-University** of Minnesota 1965

Registered Professional Engineer (State Licensed)

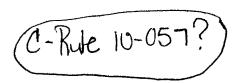
> Minnesota Wisconsin Iowa Nebraska Missouri Kansas

MEMBER:

APCO Lions Club Editorial Review Board of Radio Resource Magazine



10/14/2010



Summer Shannon*Bradley P.O. Box 7882 Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882

Dear Summer Shannon,

With this letter are a few DVDs of wind turbine noise that I recorded from my residence in April of this year. This recording was requested by Senator Cowles at Energy Committee hearing on the Wind Siting Rule on October 13th. I have sent his office a copy of the DVD as requested. I am making a few other copies available to the committee members if they want. You can feel free to reproduce this video if you like. If you have any questions, feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Larry Wunsch

W6876 County Road F

Brownsville, Wisconsin 53006

Long Wenner

(920) 583-2210

Cessna4542c@gmail.com

Ryan Smith 319 South Wisconsin State Capitol P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707

Dear Ryan,

Attached to this letter is a DVD with a recording of a wind turbine that is located about 1100 feet from my home. It is about 90 minutes in length. It was taken somewhere around the second week in April of 2010. It was meant to be a demonstration for the Public Service Commission Wind Siting Council in which I am a member. I had asked the chair of the council if I could conduct a demonstration using this DVD because we were discussing sound and the working on establishing a rule. The experiment was going to consist of playing the DVD in the background while we conducted the meeting. I going to be able to set the sound level to match that of the recording that was taken at my home because I had the same sound meter along that was used in the video. This was going to be a simple demonstration but I was denied this by the chair even after a few members asked that it be granted.

The purpose of the video was to duplicate the experience that I and my wife have when there is aggressive winds in our wind farm. To experience this, do the following:

Use a sound measuring device that will record dba

Set up a computer with external sound in a quiet room such as an office or home living room.

Play the video and adjust the sound until it reaches 45 dba

Run it in the background and go about you normal business

Tell me if this would be annoying during sleep hours if exposed to this numerous times.

Notice that about 1:13:00 time measure in the video that a form treater compare between the

Notice that about 1:13:00 time measure in the video that a farm tractor comes between the turbine and the camera. It is clear that the turbines noise is just as loud or louder than and huge farm tractor going by pulling a heavy trailer.

In the beginning of the video you can see the sound measuring device showing that the dba is going from 43dba to 47dba.

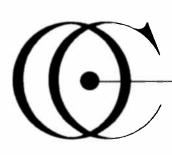
If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Larry Wunsch W6976 County Road F Brownsville, Wisconsin 53006 (920) 583-2210 cessna4542c@gmail.com



Added to the LRBs legal library collections





OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

410 S. WALNUT ST. APPLETON, WISCONSIN 54911

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Robert N. "Toby" Paltzer Jr., County Executive

Sherri McNamara, Deputy Executive Administrator Ginger Hipke-McCabe, Executive Administrative Assistant Telephone 920/832-1684 FAX 920/832-1534 E-MAIL mcnamasl@co.outagamie.wi.us

October 22, 2010

Senator Jeff Plale PO Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Plale:

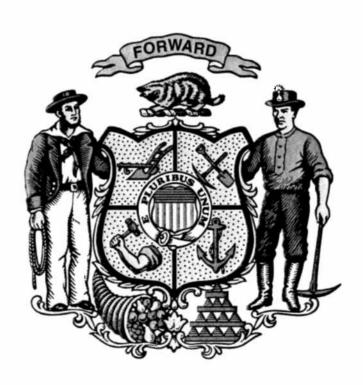
In writing you today, I would like to oppose the decision to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057, relating to the siting of wind energy systems. I support that the siting of wind towers must be made by the local units of government where wind towers will be located. I would like the rule to be sent back to require local input and decisions.

Sincerely,

Toby Paltzer

Outagamie County Executive

TP/ghm





Memorandum

To: Members, Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail

From: Tom Larson, Chief Lobbyist and Director of Legal and Public Affairs

Date: October 25, 2010

Re: Wind Siting Rule - Clearinghouse Rule 10-057

The Wisconsin REALTORS® Association supports the creation of statewide standards for the siting of wind turbines and was actively involved in the wind energy system enabling legislation (2009 Wis. Act 40).

However, we oppose the proposed wind siting rules as currently drafted because they fail to adequately protect the interests of Wisconsin property owners. Specifically, we are concerned that the proposed rules (1) will allow wind turbines to be located too close to neighboring homes and buildings, and (2) fail to adequately protect the interests of property owners from a consumer-protection standpoint.

1. Proposed setback is inadequate to protect human health, property values and use and enjoyment of property

The proposed rules establish the following setbacks from homes and property lines:

Medium and Large Wind Energy Systems

Participating residences
Nonparticipating residences
Participating property lines

1.5 times the maximum blade tip height 3.1 times the maximum blade tip height

None

Nonparticipating property lines 1.1 times the maximum blade tip height

<u>Small Wind Energy Systems</u> (wind energy system up to 300 kw that consists of individual turbines up to 100 kw (can be up to 150 ft))

Participating residences Nonparticipating residences Participating property lines

None

1.0 times the maximum blade tip height

None

Nonparticipating property lines 1.0 times the maximum blade tip height

For example, if a wind turbine is 300 ft high, the setback is 930 ft from a home or building on a neighboring piece of property, and only 450 ft from the home or building of the owner who has agreed to allow wind turbines on his/her property.

These distances were chosen, in part, for safety considerations (in case the turbine falls over) and fail to adequately address the following possible impacts of wind turbines on human health, use and enjoyment of property, and neighboring property values:

- Health problems After wind farms have located in the area, some residents have complained of insomnia, anxiety, headaches and nausea. They have blamed their health problems on the pulsing noise coming from spinning turbines near their homes. (See "Turbines Too Loud? Take \$5000," http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/01/us/01wind.html?ref=wind-power)
- Noise Depending on the turbine model and wind speed, wind turbines can create a constant "whooshing" or pulsating noise that can be heard both inside and outside a home (day and night), if located too close. Studies have shown that an "average-size" turbine (2 megawatts, 100 meters high) located 1,000 feet away can produce the same amount of noise as a suburban area during the day (51 decibels). Many studies show that repeated noise levels of 45 dBA can have adverse consequences on human health. (See "For Those Near, The Miserable Hum of Clean Energy," http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/06/business/energy-environment/06noise.html?ref=wind-power)
- Excessive shadows on neighboring property -- Depending upon the number of clouds and angle of the sun, wind turbines can create a "shadow flicker" (a term used to describe the shadow of the turning blades as it hits the ground) on nearby property. Some property owners have described the shadow effect on their home as being like "someone turning lights on and off inside the house at a rate of 80 times a minute" and lasting for almost an hour on sunny days. (See Wind Siting Council Final Recommendations to the Public Service Commission, August 6, 2010, Appendix E, Minority Report, pg. 12)
- Property values A recent study of several Wisconsin wind farms showed that prospective buyers had a negative perception of nearby wind turbines. While the exact impact is difficult to quantify, the study indicated an average decrease in vacant residential property values ranging from 12% to 40%, depending on the size of the lot and the distance from the wind turbine. (See "Wind Turbines & Property Value," presentation by Kurt C. Kielisch, President/Sr. Appraiser Appraiser Group One)

Similarly, a survey of REALTORS® working in a wind turbine area indicated that the impact on neighboring vacant land ranges from a 43% decrease if the wind turbine is located very close (within 600 ft) to 29% if the turbine is located in near proximity (½ mile away). With respect to the impact on improved property, the impacts are believed to be similar, but slightly lower (39% and 24%, respectively). (See "Wind Turbines & Property Value," presentation by Kurt C. Kielisch, President/Sr. Appraiser – Appraiser Group One)

Moreover, the proposed setback limits fail to meet setback limits (a) established by European countries, (b) recommended by wind turbine manufacturers, and (c) that are necessary to adequately protect against noise disturbance.

- In Europe, turbines are commonly located over 1200 ft away from residences. Moreover, many countries have adopted a setback of 4 x the height of the turbine or a maximum of 40 dBa at any time during the day. See Letter from Professor Jon McGowan, Renewable Research Energies Laboratory, March 14, 2008, http://www.notuscleanenergy.com/images/UMass_RERL_Letter.pdf)
- Wind turbine manufacturers recommend a safety zone of at least 1300 feet from a turbine. See Mechanical Operating and Maintenance Manual for the V90-3.0 MW turbine published by Vestas (http://www.windaction.org/documents/16496)
- According to a survey of residents living near wind turbines in Kewaunee County, individuals living within 2400 feet found noise to be problematic, 32% within 4800 feet and 4% greater than 1 mile were disturbed, and 67% reported disturbed sleep if they lived within 1200 feet. (Kabes 2001) (http://www.windaction.org/documents/28688)

Recommendation – To adequately address the negative impacts of wind turbines on neighboring property owners, we recommend that the proposed setback be increased to a more reasonable distance, such as to a minimum distance of at least (a) 3.1 times blade height from neighboring property lines), or (b) 1500 feet from a neighboring residence, whichever is greater.

2. Proposed rules fail to contain adequate consumer protections for property owners

In addition to insufficient setbacks, the proposed rules fail to adequately protect the interests of property owners in several other ways, as identified below.

a. Attorney review of contracts – Unlike in most transactions, property owners entering into contracts involving wind energy system easements generally receive very little, if any, independent, professional advice as to how the terms of the contract will impact them. These property owners are often pressured to sign lengthy and sophisticated lease agreements without fully understanding the meaning of the lease terms because they were not given the opportunity to obtain advice from an attorney, REALTOR®, or other knowledgeable professional before entering into the contract. Moreover, the proposed rules allow these lease agreements to contain provisions that would override the minimum state standards designed to protect the health, safety and other interests of the property owners. See e.g., PSC 128.13(5).

Recommendation -- Because the terms of these leases could have an adverse impact on the health and safety of the property owners and the value of their property, we recommend that the rules be modified to provide property owners with up to ten days after entering into a contract with a wind energy company to have an attorney review the contract and, if necessary, terminate the contract if the attorney believes that the terms of the contract are not in the best interests of the property owner.

b. Information brochure – Many property owners are unaware of the potential health and safety risks of wind turbines if located too close to their homes or livestock. Moreover, most property owners will be unaware of the specific standards included in the wind energy rules designed to protect their interests. Most importantly, these property owners will be unaware that the proposed wind siting rules allow written lease agreements to include "waiver provisions" which allow wind developers to follow lesser standards if the property owner agrees to them in the writing.

Recommendation -- To better inform property owners about some of the potential risks related to wind energy turbines, we recommend that (a) the state produce an informational brochure that describes wind energy systems, state standards (including the waiver provision) and some of the possible impacts on property owners, and (b) wind developers be required to provide property owners with this pamphlet prior to entering into a contract. This requirement would be similar to the informational brochure given to property owners neighboring a proposed large livestock facility, as required by Wis. Stats. s. 93.90 and Wis. Adm. Code ch. ATCP 51.

c. Clarification that lease negotiators must have a Wisconsin real estate license -- Under Wisconsin law, anyone who negotiates an interest in real estate for another person (including leases) and receives compensation must be licensed in Wisconsin as a real estate broker. See Wis. Stat. §452.01(2)(a). Real estate brokers owe certain fiduciary obligations to the public (e.g., must provide services honestly and fairly, prohibited from giving false information, must disclose all material adverse information) and are regulated by the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing. See Wis. Stat. § 452.133.

Recommendation -- To ensure that those who are responsible for negotiating leases on behalf of wind developers are aware that they must be licensed as Wisconsin real estate brokers and have certain fiduciary obligations to the public, we recommend that the proposed rules be modified to specifically state that anyone who negotiates a lease on behalf of wind developer for the purpose of siting a wind turbine must have a real estate license, as set forth under Chapter 452 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

d. Additional research – The rule fails to include a requirement for the state to perform additional research on the health impacts of wind energy systems or the impacts of wind energy systems on neighboring property values. This information is important to better understand the true impacts of wind energy systems on human health and property values and whether any future modifications to the rules may be necessary.

Recommendation -- We recommend that the rules be modified to require the state to gather information and conduct further studies about the true impacts of wind energy systems on neighboring property owners.

e. Time period for addressing complaints – The proposed rules provide owners of wind turbines with 30 days to responds to a complaint and up to 45 days to make a good faith effort to resolve complaints related to the wind turbine. See PSC 128.40(2). These time periods could cause property owners to be subject to unreasonable noise, shadow flicker and disruptions in cable and cell phone service for excessive periods of time.

Recommendation -- We recommend that the rules be modified to require owners of wind turbines to resolve all issues related to complaints within 14 days after receiving such complaints.

f. Definition of "<u>affected</u> nonparticipating residence" — The rule requires wind developers to provide notice of the shadow flicker requirements to owners of "affected nonparticipating residences" but the rule does not define the term "affected." See PSC 128.15(5). Other sections of the rule specifically define the distance a nonparticipating residence must be away from the wind energy system. (See e.g., PSC 128.14(6)).

Recommendation -- We recommend that this term be further defined.





December 9, 2010

The Honorable Jeff Plale, Senate Chairperson Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail State Capitol, Room 313 South Madison, WI 53702

The Honorable James Soletski, Assembly Chairperson Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities State Capitol, Room 21 North P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708

Chairmen Plale and Soletski,

I am writing to you today to request that you formally object to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057. I have reviewed the changes made by the Public Service Commission and it appears the changes that were made did nothing to address the serious concerns raised by many people including me about the effects of these rules.

Among these concerns are the potentially unconstitutional takings of land rights from property owners adjacent to wind projects who will be unable to use or develop significant portions of their property, the reduction of local home values, the possible detrimental health effects from noise and shadow flicker, and the removal of any substantive local control over these projects.

For these and other reasons I am requesting that you object to the proposed rule prior to December 22, 2010 so that it may be taken up by the Joint Committee on Review of Administrative Rules.

GAREY BIES

State Representative 1st Assembly District

First for Wisconsin!

Home: 2520 Settlement Road, Sister Bay, WI 54234 • (920) 854-2811





Al Ott

State Representative • 3rd Assembly District

December 10, 2010

Representative Jim Soletski Chairman, Assembly Committee on Energy & Utilities 21 North, State Capitol Hand-Delivered Senator Jeff Plale Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy & Rail 313 South, State Capitol Hand-Delivered

Chairmen Soletski and Plale:

I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully request your consideration in promptly scheduling an Executive Session of your respective Committees in order to object to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057.

Upon review of the changes made by the Public Service Commission (PSC) to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057, it is clear the Commission did virtually nothing to address the serious concerns raised by the numerous citizens who testified before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail in October.

I sincerely appreciate that the Senate Committee did the right and responsible thing by holding a Public Hearing and ultimately sending the rule back to the PSC for modifications. I also appreciate that the PSC did make some improvements to the rule; however, I find it unfortunate that the PSC seemingly chose not to listen to the vast majority of the concerns brought forward during the October 13th hearing. Further, I would argue that the modified setback provisions relative to occupied community buildings and nonparticipating residences show a blatant disregard for the citizens of areas targeted for wind farm development.

This is an issue that will impact people's lives and is not to be taken lightly. I believe it is absolutely necessary for your respective Committees to utilize the legislative oversight authority provided by law to ensure that the people who stand to be impacted the most by the siting of wind turbines are afforded every opportunity under the administrative rule process to protect their rights and their communities.

The process for developing this rule has been flawed from the start. I ask that you bring that flawed process to a halt by objecting to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057 prior to December 22, 2010 so that it may be taken up by the Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules.

Thank you for your consideration of my request. I look forward to your response.

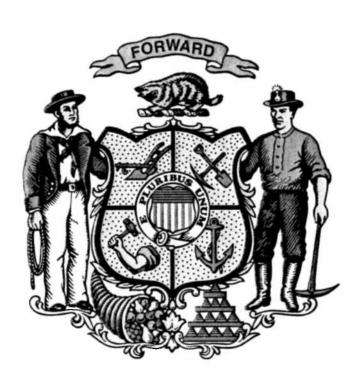
Sincerely,

Al Ott

State Representative 3rd Assembly District

cc: Assembly Committee on Energy & Utilities

Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy & Rail



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BOB ZIEGELBAUER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE . TWENTY FIFTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

December 13, 2010

Senator Jeff Plale, Chair Senate Committee on Comerce, Utilites, Energy and Rail 313-South

RE: Clearinghouse Rule 10-057, relating to the siting of wind energy systems

Dear Senator Plale:

Attached, please find my testimony indicating my concerns and thoughts with Clearinghouse Rule 10-057. Since there continues to remain many concerns with this Rule, I respectfully ask that you object it.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

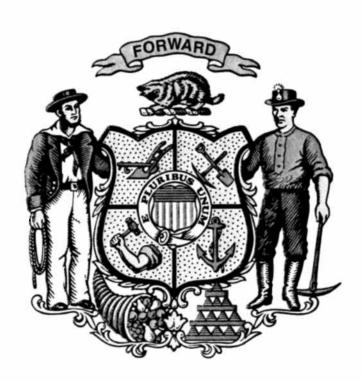
State Representative

25th Assembly District

BZ/lwk

Enclosure







WISCONSIN STATE SENATE

December 14, 2010

Senator Jeff Plale Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail PO Box 7882

Madison, WI 53707-7882

Chairman Plan

We are writing today to respectfully request that you schedule a vote to object to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057, which was recently returned to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail from the Public Service Commission (PSC).

As you know, CR 10-057 implements 2009 Act 40, which relates to the siting of wind energy systems in Wisconsin. We appreciate the fact that you scheduled a public hearing on this rule in October and agreed with the rest of the Committee that the rule needed to be sent back to the PSC for modifications.

Unfortunately, the PSC's modifications to the rule did not satisfy the concerns voiced by the majority of the members of the public who testified at the hearing or the concerns of several members of the Committee.

In particular, the PSC's modified setback provisions affecting nonparticipating residences and occupied community buildings in the revised rule brazenly disregards the concerns voiced by the public and members of the Committee at the hearing.

We are disappointed that the PSC failed to take into consideration the concerns of the public whose lives will be greatly impacted by the siting of turbines near their houses. Therefore, we see no alternative but to object to the rule and we ask you to schedule a vote by December 22, 2010 so we can do just that.

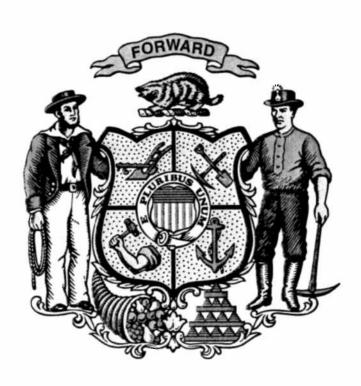
Thank you for your consideration of our request, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Sen. Robert Cowles

Sen. Néal Kedzie

Sen. Sheila Harsdorf





WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

State Capitol - Madison, Wisconsin

December 16, 2010

Senator Jeff Plale, Chairperson Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail State Capitol – Room 323 South Madison, WI 53707

Representative James Soletski, Chairperson Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities State Capitol – Room 21 North Madison, WI 53708

Dear Senator Plale and Representative Soletski,

We are writing to express our concerns regarding Clearinghouse Rule 10-057 which sets state-wide standards for the siting of wind towers. The Rule pending before your committee should be sent back to the Public Service Commission for modifications.

We appreciate the work of both committees on this proposed rule. Much of the citizen reaction, including that of our constituents, raised serious concerns about the effects of the rule. We are grateful for the committee action in October to return the rule to the PSC for modifications.

Unfortunately, the PSC modified Rule sent back to your committee this month does not address the concerns expressed by citizens or members of your committee.

Specifically, we are deeply concerned about the setback provisions and its effect on neighbors to properties containing wind towers. Substantial testimony was provided by citizens describing this setback as completely unacceptable. It seems the PSC has entirely disregarded the will of Wisconsin's citizens and elected officials.

We respectfully urge you to consider the will of the people and those whom they have elected. We ask the committee to either return the rule to the PSC for further modifications or act quickly to object to the proposed rule so it can be taken up the Joint Committee on Review of Administrative Rules.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

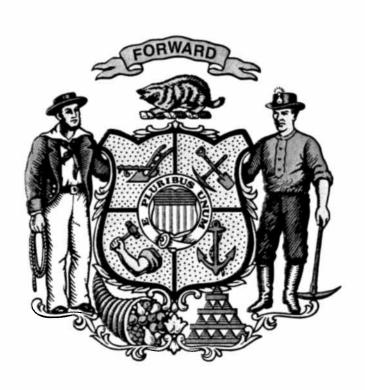
State Senator

31st Senate District

Chris Danou

State Representative

91st Assembly District





December 20, 2010

Senator Jeff Plale, Chair Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy & Rail PO Box 7882 Madison WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Plale:

I write today to respectfully request that a vote to object to PSC Clearinghouse Rule 10-057 be scheduled for consideration by committee members.

The rule, which had a substantial public hearing this fall, had been sent back to the PSC for modifications. Unfortunately, the modifications that I requested seemed to go unheard. In fact, the setback distance was reduced instead of increased, as the testimony clearly supported at the hearing, and seemed to have unified support for modification by committee members present.

I would again support returning the rule to the PSC for further modification. Perhaps the Committee should outline a set of parameters regarding modifications in addition to our vote.

Thank you for your consideration, I hope the committee will be allowed the opportunity to vote on the rule.

Sincerely,

JON ERPENBACH

State Senator 27th District

JE.tk





December 22, 2010

Senator Jeff Plale, Chair Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail Room 104 South State Capitol

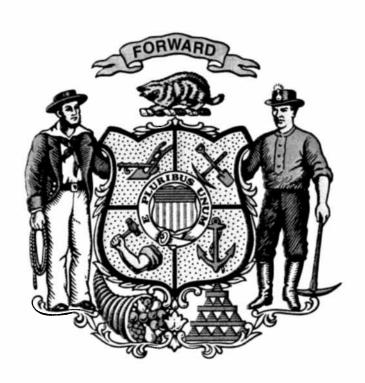
Dear Chair Plale,

I am writing to you today respectfully requesting the Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail send Clearinghouse Rule 10-057 back to the Public Service Commission for further modification. A number of my constituents have concerns with the proposed rule and I believe it would be appropriate to allow the Public Service Commission more time to work out any issues that may affect the constituents of the 9th Senate District.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Joe Leibham State Senator 9th District





December 22, 2010

The Honorable Jeff Plale, Senate Chairperson Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy and Rail State Capitol, Room 313 South Madison, WI 53702

Chairman Plale:

I am writing to you today to request that you formally object to Clearinghouse Rule 10-057. I have reviewed the changes made by the Public Service Commission and it appears the changes that were made did nothing to address the serious concerns raised about the effects of these rules.

I would like to see these rules further modified so I would ask you to reject these rules tomorrow, December 23rd so that the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules may seek further modification of the rules.

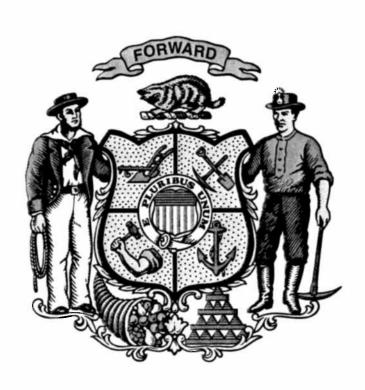
Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions concerning my request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.

GAREY/BIES

State Representative 1st Assembly District

First for Wisconsin!





Senator Jeff Plale Chairman of Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy, and Rail P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Senator Plale:

The Wind Siting Council had a huge majority of pro-wind development members. For example, one "public member" is on the board of directors of Renew Wisconsin. Renew Wisconsin is essentially a lobbyist for wind development. The "public member" should have had a neutral position on wind development. The minority report sums up this disparity in council makeup. It is hard to get someone to see the truth when they have a financial interest not to see the truth.

The pro-wind development members ignored first hand testimony from the two members who are wind project residents. The wind project residents said a half mile setback greatly reduces noise and impact. A half mile setback from property lines also prevents the "taking" of resident's property rights. Instead the wind development members approved a setback of 3.1 times the turbine height from resident's homes. This setback allows more turbines at the resident's expense.

The wind development members approved 45 decibels at night for sleeping. The WHO (World Health Organization) stated 40 decibels night time as the beginning threshold of serious health effects from sleep disturbance. Night time noise should be 5 decibels over ambient or 35 decibels at night.

The state should pay for a independently conducted, industrial wind turbine health effects study, testing the epidemiological differences between Fond du Lac turbine residents, and a control group of rural residents. If the state has enough money to provide turbine subsidies, then it has enough money to study if turbines are safe and at what distance.

Factual evidence of health and safety issues were ignored because too many members of the Wind Siting Council have a direct or indirect financial interest in wind development. The wind industry is obviously drafting its own regulatory guidelines.

I wish this letter to be submitted for the record for the

Senate PUBLIC HEARING

Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy, and Rail

Clearinghouse Rule 10-057 Relating to the siting of wind energy systems. Darch ettmann

Dave Hettmann 3055 Lark Road Greenleaf, WI, 54126 hettmann1@hotmail.com

State of Wisconsin

County of Brown

On this day Och 12th 2010, personally appeared before me,

Dave Heffman.

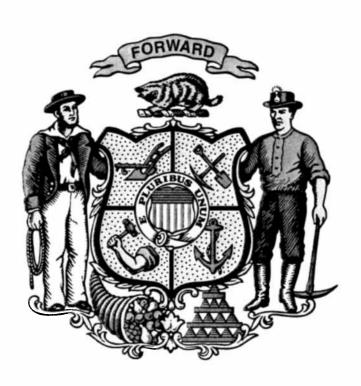
to me known to be the person described in and who executed the within and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she signed the same as his/her voluntary act and deed, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

Notary's Signature

Notary's Expiration Date

Notary's Seal

KERRI J SCHMIDT Notary Public State of Wisconsin



Senate PUBLIC HEARING



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Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy, and Rail

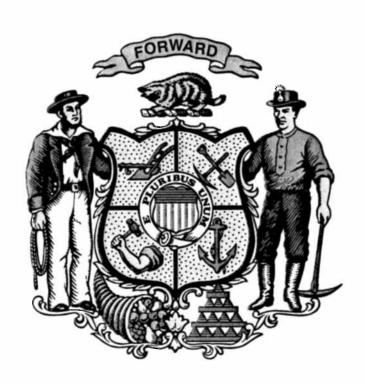
Clearinghouse Rule 10-057
Relating to the siting of wind energy systems.

As I lie in bed throughout last night I couldn't help but to wonder how many more peaceful nights I will be able to enjoy in my own home. I can't believe people like Jennifer Heinzen who referred to us as "collateral damage" is making decisions that will directly affect me and mine. She was also quoted as saying she didn't know why people are so against these wind projects but "it doesn't matter what they think." The Wind Siting Council is loaded with bias as most of the members have a financial gain in the wind industry. This fact must be considered. These are the people that are blatantly ignoring the safety and health issues that are pouring in daily from projects all over the world. I have seen photos and videos of turbines exploding, breaking, and catching on fire. There are issues with shadow flicker, ice throw, noise and each and every one of these issues could be curtailed with a more reasonable setback distance of no less than 2640 feet from PROPERTY LINES.

If I had a dog that was a nuisance to my neighbor, I would have to do something about that dog, like get rid of it. And yet, these turbines – which have been proven to my satisfaction to have tremendous health and safety risks are being allowed to be built too close to my home. The setback in the current rules MUST be increased to alleviate these issues. The World Health Organization has deemed safe noise levels in RURAL communities to be 35 decibels during the day, 30 in the evening, and 25 overnight. To say 45 and assume it's just a "little louder" is not correct. 45 decibels is TWICE as loud as 35 decibels. I live in a rural community, not an urban one. I've heard mention of compensation for people with issues. I do not want money for these issues. You cannot "pay" for my health and safety. That is a price only I could pay and it's because of decisions you are making. You must consider the safety and health of the residents of Wisconsin and err on the side of caution. You are elected officials and are here to represent the citizens of the state, not the special interest groups.

Jeannie Cleven, 6830 Bla	ke Road, Greenleaf, WI 54126	Jamo Clim
On this day	his day personally appeared before me,	
to me known to be the p	erson described in and who execu	nted the within and foregoing instrument, and intary act and deed, for the uses and purposes
Notary's Signature		

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Written Testimony of Representative Garey Bies Senate Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy, and Rail Clearinghouse Rule 10-57 – Siting of Wind Energy Systems

Good afternoon Chairman Plale and committee members, I appreciate the opportunity to submit my testimony on Clearinghouse Rule 10-57, relating to the siting of wind energy systems.

We have a full room today so I will keep my comments brief. What I would like to see is that these rules be thrown out, along with the change in oversight to the Public Service Commission (PSC) of where wind farms are constructed in local communities. My belief is that the regulation for the siting of wind farms should remain with local government who best understand the needs of their residents.

However, understanding that this is not the issue before the committee today, I would then request that these proposed administrative rules be set aside pending further research on what impact wind turbines have on residents in close proximity to them.

Today the committee is going to hear testimony from people who live close to giant wind turbines and the committee will learn about the impact of these turbines on their lives. These are not people here lobbying against the placement of a wind farm in their backyard, that deed has already been done. They are here to share their experiences of having a wind farm in their backyard so that the committee can understand the potential consequences to other Wisconsin residents.

If a utility company receives approval for the placement of wind farm, and builds the giant turbines, those turbines are permanent and the impacts of those turbines are permanent. It is not a matter of simply taking down some scaffolding and moving them when it turns out the turbines are harming nearby residents. Too many questions remain in this regard and it only makes sense to me, that the state takes a step back and further investigates the potential harm to those living close to wind turbines.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony on Clearinghouse Rule 10-57. Again, I would request that these rules be set aside pending further research.

First for Wisconsin!



C-Rule 10-057?)
Dote?)

TO: SENATOR PLALE AND REPRESENTATIVE SOLETSKI
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, UTILITIES, ENERGY, AND RAIL
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND UTILITIES

RE: NECESSARY CHANGES TO WIND SITING RULE

As businesses and organizations involved in the production, installation, and maintenance of wind energy systems, we support uniform wind siting standards for Wisconsin. We respect the rulemaking process and appreciate the hard work of the Public Service Commission. However, there are a number of problematic provisions in the rule that we need changed before we can support the rule.

Concerns with the rule include:

- SETBACKS. The rules include a setback of 3.1 times wind turbine height from community buildings and nonparticipating residences. This setback requirement will hurt wind development and stifle the installation of taller, more efficient and productive models, without any health or safety justification.
- PAYMENTS TO NONPARTICIPATING LANDOWNERS. The rules allow political subdivisions to require developers to make annual payments to nonparticipating landowners within one-half mile of a wind turbine in an amount up to 25% of the amount the developer pays to wind turbine hosts. This requirement is unrelated to health or safety and increases project development costs.
- SOUND AND SHADOW STANDARDS. The rules require overly strict sound and shadow standards that exceed standards used for projects currently operating in Wisconsin. These standards eliminate otherwise feasible wind turbine sites, even though there are no demonstrated health impacts from turbine sound or shadow.
- DECOMMISSIONING. The rules grant political subdivisions substantial control over decommissioning requirements, including the authority to extensively regulate the type and form of financial assurance that must be provided. These provisions are inconsistent with the intent of Act 40 to establish uniform standards and could increase project costs.

These provisions are overly burdensome and do not protect public health or safety. The intent of Act 40 is to eliminate the uncertainty, project delays, and economic losses caused by unreasonable restrictions. Yet in many respects, the rules would establish the most stringent statewide restrictions in the country for wind development.

We appreciate the effort of the Legislature in passing Act 40 and of the Public Service Commission in promulgating the wind siting rules. With these changes, the rules will provide reasonable wind siting standards that will allow wind projects to move forward.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN Dona Wininsky, Director of Public Policy and Communications Brookfield, Wisconsin

BONESTROO ENGINEERING Bill Newhouse, Renewable Energy Market Leader Green Bay, Wisconsin

CLEAN ENERGY PARTNERS Alex DePillis Madison, Wisconsin

E3 COALITION, INC. Todd Osman, Co-owner Viroqua, Wisconsin

ELEMENT POWER, LLC
Michael Arndt, Director, Central
Development
Minneapolis, Minnesota

EMERGING ENERGIES OF WISCONSIN, LLC Bill Rakocy, Managing Member Hubertus, Wisconsin

HALF MOON POWER, LLC Michael Hastings, President and CEO Milwaukee, Wisconsin

HELIOS USA, LLC Steve Ostrenga Milwaukee, Wisconsin

IBEW WISCONSIN STATE CONFERENCE OF INSIDE CONSTRUCTION LOCALS Dave Boetcher, Government Affairs Coordinator Madison, Wisconsin

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL 139
Terrance E. McGowan, Business Manager Pewaukee, Wisconsin

INVENERGY WIND DEVELOPMENT, LLC Bryan Schueler, Vice President Chicago, Illinois

L&S TECHNICAL ASSOCIATES, INC. Larry Krom Spring Green, Wisconsin

LAKE MICHIGAN WIND & SUN, LTD. John Hippensteel, P.E. Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin

MIDWEST WIND ENERGY, LLC Bill French, Project Coordinator Chicago, Illinois

NORTH WIND RENEWABLE ENERGY, LLC Josh Stolzenburg, Co-owner Stevens Point, Wisconsin

NORTHERN POWER SYSTEMS, INC. Eric Welch, P.E. Hartford, Wisconsin

RENEW WISCONSIN Michael Vickerman, Executive Director Madison, Wisconsin

RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS, LTD. Paul Johnson, Senior Manager Minneapolis, Minnesota

RITGER LAW OFFICE Ed Ritger, Attorney Random Lake, Wisconsin

SEVENTH GENERATION ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC. James F. Yockey, Executive Director Madison, Wisconsin

STANTEC, INC.
Jon Gumtow
Menasha, Wisconsin

TOWER TECH SYSTEMS, INC. Alison Wroblewski, Vice President of Sales and Marketing Manitowoc, Wisconsin

WAVE WIND, LLC Tim Laughlin, President Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

WES ENGINEERING, INC. Wes Slaymaker, President Madison, Wisconsin

WIND ON THE WIRES Beth Soholt, Executive Director Minneapolis, Minnesota WIND WISCONSIN, LLC Kim Egan Middleton, Wisconsin

WISCONSIN LABORERS DISTRICT COUNCIL
Joseph Oswald, Government and Community
Affairs Director
De Forest, Wisconsin

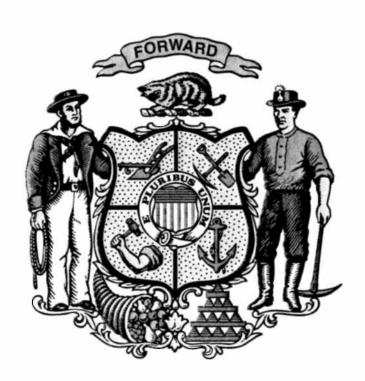
WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS Mark Reihl, Executive Director Madison, Wisconsin

Cullen Weston Pines & Bach

A Limited Liability Partnership

Shaina R. Kilcoyne
Coalition Coordinator/
Government Relations Specialist

122 West Washington Avenue Suite 900 Madison, Wisconsin 53703 (608) 251-0101 (608) 251-2883 Fax kilcoyne@cwpb.com



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(C-Rule 10-057?)
(Date?)

Chairman Plale and Committee Members:

I am a landowner in SW Wisconsin. Our family has a 4 generation farm west of Cuba City. I have met with and spoke to more than 300 landowners in SW Wisconsin who support Home Grown Wind Energy. Many of them farm and live near or within an existing Wind Farm while the others are committed to Wind Projects in Wind Swept SW Wisconsin. Over 90% of those I spoke to are Farmers. Most live and work on 3-4 generation family farms.

Unfortunately most if not all of these farmers will not be here today. In fact you may never see the throngs of Wind Supporters at hearings like this. They simply do not have the time. While they are committed to Wind Energy; Agriculture, the Farm chores and Crop harvests are just a little more important today. Moreover these landowners and their families truly feel it is their personal and lawful right or privilege to host Wind Turbines.

They know there has never been any documented Health and Public Safety issues tied to Wind Production throughout Europe and in the US. Please consider your actions carefully and do the right thing as your decision on this issue will affect Farmers, rural economics, rural landowners and family farms like ours for years to come. Please establish rules that PROMOTE rather than restricts the "in-state" production of Wind.

The family farm in SW Wisconsin (in particular, Lafayette and Grant Counties) has changed dramatically in the past couple generations. But one thing has not changed in SW Wisconsin.....this is still AG Country. Nearly every business and family (no different than most of our state) is nearly directly dependent on farming of some type. Wind and Bio-Gas are a significant Resource in SW Wisconsin. The best business people in SW Wisconsin are the family farmers. We should embrace their common sense, commitment and passion to provide them a mechanism to enhance the AG community opportunities. They support change as a necessary element to their success.

Yes, Wisconsin is also a Manufacturing state. Wind Components travel from the Eastern side of our state through SW Wisconsin almost daily. Tower sections, Blades, Hubs, Housings and other Wind Components fill trucks on Hwy 151. Unfortunately landowners and farmers in SW Wisconsin can only wave as the Wind Products pass thru their area on their way to lowa, Illinois or Minnesota. This is very frustrating....

You will see technicians and occasional repair teams at the Monfort Wind Farm. When they are in the area they will stop at the Tower Junction Inn - Restaurant or the Windmill Mobil station. They continue to hear nothing but good news and the benefits associated with the now ten year old Monfort Wind Farm. Township Officials, Farmers, neighbors and residents are largely supportive and have seen the associated benefits. Neither of these aforementioned business existed prior to this project being built. You will almost never find anything negative about this project. I would be willing to bet most who speak out today against Wisconsin Wind Development have NEVER been to Monfort.

There is no urban sprawl in SW Wisconsin. Families are not moving away from the corridor and into AG country. West of Cuba City a Wind Project is planned on and nearby our family farm, so we decided to look at all the homes and farms within nearly a mile of the selected Wind Farm site. Since 1980, or 30 yrs later; only six, maybe seven new basements were dug for new homes. Most of them were family members of the local farmers. That's not urban sprawl.

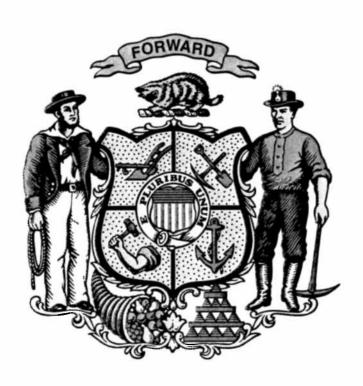
Two, possibly three new primary transmission upgrades are planned for SW Wisconsin to help transport renewable power from other states to provide clean power to states east of us. Those transmission lines represent both local opportunity and state wide solutions to obtain renewable home grown energy. The landowners and farmers are frustrated knowing Wisconsin imports nearly all of its fossil fuel...They have clean energy resources and they want to help impact change. Trucks drive our highways with wind components; transmission lines carry other states renewable power thru Wisconsin. Our ridges are windy but only one project has been built in SW Wisconsin in ten years. We simply can't understand why Wisconsin Regulation leaders would wants to place even more restriction on a state who can't build projects now?

As a rural landowner in Wisconsin, I believe that overly burdensome siting requirements will result in millions of dollars in lost revenue opportunity to our agriculture dependent rural communities like ours. Due to the lack of fair-minded Wind Siting Standards, Wisconsin farmers and other rural landowners have lost significant revenue opportunities over the past few years as Wind Developers and State Energy Companies are building and buying Wind Projects in most all neighboring states but Wisconsin. Our state is losing out on hundreds of millions, even billions of dollars in opportunity and thousands of local jobs.

Locally produced Wind Projects will stimulate state-wide jobs as Developers will look to in-state Work Force and Manufacturing to build and supply Wind Development in Wisconsin. Local Wind Farms employ local talent. Wisconsin Companies like Wausaukee Composites in little ole Cuba City have provided hundreds-thousands of local jobs over the past 3-8 years. Wausaukee Composites just recently announced 200 new jobs in Cuba City. Now Wisconsin must build. Without reasonable Wind Siting regulations these Wisconsin companies may not survive.

Our agriculture-driven state is not well. The Family Farm faces critical financial uncertainty each year. Those who host turbines and wind facilities ANNUALLY earn thousands of dollars in critical income while local governments receive additional payments to offset many of the financial burdens the rural, agricultural townships and counties face. Being part of a Wind project is one way for farmers and other rural landowners to keep the family farm for generations to come. Allowing Wisconsin wind projects to move forward will spread economic and employment benefits to these rural communities, where opportunity is few and far between.

We deserve a "new crop". Wind and Bio-Gas are a significant Resource in SW Wisconsin. SW Wisconsin has thousands of acres and cows. While it's our choice to host wind projects, but we need your help. As users of Wisconsin Utility based power, we want the opportunity to "harvest our own – Home Grown Wind" and provide Clean Energy to our State.



Representing the Town of Holland trees follogmail.com CRuk 10-057?

My name is Steve Deslauriers and I am here representing the Town of Holland in Brown County.

I will go through key aspects of our ordinance that were not adequately addressed by the Wind Siting Council. These omissions pose a public health threat to our residents.

SETBACK DISTANCE: Despite residents' calls for larger setbacks, we chose a setback from 'occupied structures' of 2640 feet. At that distance, the adverse affects of industrial wind turbines are substantially reduced for MOST people. Siting ANY closer than 2640 feet is grossly negligent and not "in the public interest considering ... individual hardships ..." Wis. Stat. § 196.491 (3)(d) 3. This statute being a REQUIREMENT before the PSC of WI can grant the authority to construct an industrial wind project. It was also agreed upon as a group that the setbacks should be from property lines, but we chose not to include that as we felt our ordinance is more legally defensible by regulating setbacks from homes as that measure has a direct correlation to the current jurisdiction of the township - the power to regulate based on human health and safety. The Wind Siting Council was not bound by this restriction and the majority pushed through deferential siting requirements (1.1 times the height to property lines and 3.1 times the height to homes) essentially stealing property from non-participating neighbors to be used as safety buffers for the project. This, more than anything else, has ripped communities apart across this state. My community is no different. This taking of property pits neighbor against neighbor, brother against brother, because it is so wrong.

SOUND MODELING AND SOUND-RELATED ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES: Equally important as Sound Limit requirements, are the guidelines to accurately measure sound. The procedure written in our ordinance (pages 53-63) is built following ANSI guidelines (ANSI/ASA S12.9-1993/Part 3 [R2008] - American National Standard Quantities and Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound). It is far more accurate and repeatable than the cursory and wholly inadequate requirements spelled out in the PSC's existing "Measurement Protocol For Sound And Vibration Assessment Of Proposed And Existing Electric Power Plants". Relying on the current measurement protocol used by the PSC will undermine any standards ultimately put in place. Sound experts across the state have taken issue with this process stating that it does not accurately measure the impact or quality of Wind Turbine Noise. And worse it does not recognize or measure dBC weighted infrasound - the type of noise that appears to cause many people health issues. This measurement protocol must be addressed to ensure that the standards put forth are safe and accurately followed.

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION: I believe the biggest issue with the rules that the Wind Siting Council forwarded to the legislature is that they completely ignore variations in topology, geology, and wind resources across the state of Wisconsin. These variations impact how industrial wind turbine development impact people. One of my community's biggest concerns is the threat to our groundwater that the construction of 100 turbines and the associated 81 miles of buried cabling across fields where large quantities of industrial and agricultural waste is spread will have. The proposed construction places about half the turbines directly on or adjacent to karst features and buries electric lines across many more. We live on the Niagara escarpment where our water is constantly threatened due to the fragile ledge rock that we live on. The strongest wind in Wisconsin (on land) is along this formation commonly called "the Ledge" (where the US Department of Energy still classifies the wind development potential as "poor to marginal"). This is the target location of wind developers and, as such, the PSC needs to recognize that the geology of the Escarpment makes it very susceptible to ground water contamination due to the highly fractured rock and thin soils. Between 2002 and 2007, over 30% of the private wells tested within neighboring Calumet County were found contaminated with coliform

bacteria (http://www.escarpmentnetwork.org/Documents/NERN_Factsheet_2009.pdf). Our community just endured over 100 local well contaminations due to the sensitivity of the ledge and questionable land use practices (http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/18/us/18dairy.html?pagewanted=2). Because of the dangers of well contamination, we wrote very specific protections in to our ordinance. Proceeding without due regard for these features is a Public Health issue and is the reason for the strong warnings, in the form of resolutions, that have come from Brown County Government. These call for the State to do the studies necessary to fill in their "gaps in knowledge" BEFORE any more wind development. These "gaps in knowledge" were itemized in multiple presentations by the State Board of Health and Dr. Jevon McFadden, a member of the Wind Siting Council. The resolutions from Brown County also recommend that, due to the threat to human health from ground water contamination, specific areas of southern Brown County simply should not have turbines built. Of note: Brown County contains Green Bay and other smaller metropolitan areas. The people who passed these resolutions are mostly folks who will never be threatened by development. They did the independent, unbiased study the Wind Siting Council was supposed to do. They consulted medical experts, land experts, listened to existing Wisconsin Wind Project residents, and then came to the logical conclusions spelled out in their resolutions that I will submit for the record. These people did not have the huge financial conflicts of interests that 9 of the 15 members of the Wind Siting Council have. When the financial and political interests are removed from the process, similar results are achieved - regulation and resolutions that put the Health Wisconsin Families ahead of the greed and misleading, unethical behavior of wind developers. There was not a SINGLE dissenting vote by any of the many Brown County committees that reviewed the Brown County Resolutions, including the diverse Board of Supervisors - and yet these resolutions were never addressed or even recognized by the Wind Siting Council.

Instead, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin corruptly staffed the Wind Siting Council and is recommending rules that would continue to site turbines dangerously close to families' homes. These are substantially the same rules that have forced people to walk away from their homes in Fond du Lac, required that homes in Kewaunee be bulldozed, and continue to affect the health of those who cannot afford to abandon the homes they have invested their life savings in. The PSC rules are not based on science, completely ignore the experiences of current wind project residents, and were a bold faced manipulation of the law that you, our legislatures, demanded they follow. The state-wide standards drafted by the PSC place the health and safety of some residents, and some entire communities in jeopardy.

The Holland town ordinance balances the need for renewable energy and residents' health and safety. There were many reviewed studies and guidelines from other states and countries with decades of wind energy development experience that justified longer setbacks, but we chose the requirements that we did to make sure our ordinance is legally defensible. And equally important was to provide a clear basis for future legal action if the guidelines handed down allow closer, irresponsible siting of industrial wind turbines.

Thank you for calling this hearing and allowing the real and substantial concerns of residents across the state to be heard.

Steve Deslauriers 2889 Wayside Road Greenleaf, WI 54126 (Town of Holland)



(CRule 10057?)
(Date?)

Dear Senate Committe,

Recently the Wisconsin Public Service Commissioners approved the Wind Siting Rules for our state and have sent these rules to the State Legislature. We are writing you because we are EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED in these rules and how the rule making process was done by the PSC. Now we are asking for your help!

Here are some points that we would like to get across:

The PSC process has been slanted to the pro-wind advocates, and the public needs to be heard! The minority report from the wind siting council shows that the group was stacked with wind advocates and that they simply pushed their agenda through without regard for health and safety, the very purpose of Act 40 in the first place. These rules CAN NOT be set up by people with a direct interest in wind energy. We personally wrote comments to the PSC during the rule making process. We also read several letters to the PSC from people living firsthand near wind turbines and read how they have negatively impacted and changed their lives.

Our property values will drop up to 43% based on Appraisal One Group's study in Fond Du Lac, WI. These rules need to include a property value protection plan. The wind industry insists that wind turbines actually increase property values (in spite of clear evidence to the contrary). If that is the case, why are they refusing to agree to a property value protection plan? If property value increases around wind turbines, what have they got to lose?

Each \$1.00 spent on wind energy requires \$0.15 to \$0.20 in transmission investment on the grid. This will result in 2 to 3 times higher energy costs and businesses leaving Wisconsin in search of more reasonable electricity rates. Our grid is already at the "edge" and wind energy produces little energy during peak demand when the wind is calm and it's hot and humid.

Senators, you have the power to recommend safer rules to protect the public in the following ways:

Minimum of ½ mile setback is more responsible and appropriate to minimize the health and safety issues of those living close to wind turbines.

Given all the issues with measuring sound, a conservative approach is needed. A standard of 30dba or 5db above ambient, whichever is less is the proper level, especially at night. There are multiple sites in Fond du Lac County alone where sound studies could be done in a real world environment. An independent company must conduct a 1 year sound study to correlate sleep disturbance with noise levels from the wind turbines. This is not difficult to do, and would provide good data for future wind turbine siting. The State Health Department refuses to conduct any studies, in spite of a convenient lab in rural Fond du Lac.

A ½ mile setback to minimize the effect of shadow flicker on homes.

Protection from blade failure, tower collapse, and ice throw.

over

We hope this does not fall on "deaf ears" as it did with the PSC rule making process. Please listen to the public comments and help fight for more responsible siting rules. These rules will impact the citizens you represent and all the citizens of Wisconsin for the next 30 years. We will remember this when we go to vote for your re-election.

Thank you,

Davon Ruchuig

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Members of the Senate, My name is Mark Deslauriers and my family resides in the Town Of Holland. I commend this committee for calling public hearings. I am alarmed and extremely angry over the disregard the PSC and Wind Siting Council has shown the people of Wisconsin and this committee by not conducting peer reviewed, scientific based health studies prior to submission to the Senate. I am also disgusted at the lack of DNR Commitment to protect both the health our our families from groundwater contamination and the Natural Resources of WI which I will be focusing on today.

Beginning in February 2010, I began dialogue with the DNR's Office of Energy directed by Dave Siebert. This office is responsibility for environmental evaluation of proposed Industrial Wind Farms. I will document the multiple failures of the DNR to acknowledge their responsibility to protect our natural resources, methodical stall tactics to provide updated documents on their website along with the required "Report to the Legislature" addressing jurisdiction as required by Act 40, and finally, the negligent lack of engagement on projects such as Shirley Wind in the Town of Glenmore.

Members of the Senate, I would encourage you to review the Office of Energy's Website. The document identified as "DNR Guidelines" is intended to act as a resource for Wind Developers in WI. The document has not been updated since July 2004 and uses references dated no more recent than 2001 with a majority of references dating from the mid 1990's. The information is outdated in light of the many new studies on the effects on Human Health, Karst features related to drinking water, the size of current projects, and new environmental issues such as "White Nose Syndrome" affecting bats.

I find it ironic that there is only 1 sentence regarding public health and ground water but a paragraph entitled "Major Tourist / Scenic Areas stating: ..." Because of the potential for aesthetic and noise conflicts, constructing wind farms close to intensively used tourist areas is discouraged...." So much for being concerned about my family.

Next in a statement by Dave Siebert to this committee:

"... The Department does not intend to testify at the October 13 hearing on proposed PSC 128. While we did cooperate with the PSC as they developed this rule package, the rules are primarily to address siting issues not related to DNR areas of expertise and authority. 2009 WI Act 40 (see s. 23.39 Stats.) has provisions regarding DNR authority and jurisdiction over bird and bat issues and requires a DNR report to the Legislature in this regard. That report is due to the Legislature by mid-November 2010. The statute also requires DNR to develop a map of areas of concern, and we are currently working to both update our guidelines for developers and to prepare a map that will be published on the DNR web site later this year..."

The above statement is not accurate according to Act 40. Act 40 does not just require a "Report to the Legislature" regarding bird and bat issues but states the following"

Section 14 par 3

(3) DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES STUDY. The department of natural resources shall conduct a study to determine whether the department's statutory authority is sufficient to adequately protect wildlife and the environment from any adverse effect from the siting, construction, or operation of wind energy systems. In conducting the study, the department shall consider the authority of other state agencies and political subdivisions to regulate the environmental impact of wind energy systems, including the authority of the public service commission under section 196.491 (3) (d) 3. And 4. of the statutes and of political subdivisions under section 66.0401 (1m) and (4) (g) of the statutes, as affected by this act. On or before the first day of the 13th month beginning after the effective date of this subsection, the department shall submit a report containing the results of the study to the legislature in the manner provided under section 13.172 (2) of the statutes. If the department's study concludes that the department's statutory authority is not sufficient to adequately protect wildlife and the environment from any adverse effect from the siting, construction, or operation of wind energy systems, the report shall include recommendations to the legislature for a bill that provides the department with such authority.

The environment and all wildlife are to be studied. How can the DNR only conclude their responsibility is birds and bats?

The DNR, specifically Secretary Frank and Dave Siebert have an incredible responsibility to protect the health of our families and the environment. We are not collateral damage as stated by Jennifer Heinzen during the Wind Siting Council Meetings... When will the DNR finally take responsibility for the Natural Resources of Wisconsin, How many changes are we going to have to make in the DNR to ensure politics does not win over environmental stewardship?

Difficult to comprehend how the 61 pages of the Wind Siting Guidelines does not mention bird and bat issues as required by Act 40 or the DNR in any way....

I respectfully request the Wind Siting Council Rules be sent back to the Wind Siting Council to properly address all the issues / expectations identified in Act 40. Only then can we ensure that our families and the Wisconsin Environment are protected.

Thank you

Mark Deslauriers

8042 Holly-Mor Road

Greenleaf WI 54126

wifirefightermark@yahoo.com



Kule 10-057?

The International Standards Organization (ISO) recommends a maximum of 25 dBA nighttime noise limit for rural areas. Please note that most wind turbine projects are being built in rural areas. This fact makes wind turbine noise more noticeable and annoying to rural residents of Wisconsin.

ISO recommends the following noise limits for rural areas:

- 35 db- daytime
- 30 db 7-11 p.m.
- 25 db-11p.m. to 7 a.m. (Again, compare these to Wisconsin's 50 dBA recommended level)

The State of Wisconsin needs to fund a formal epidemiological study that researches the health of people being forced to live by wind turbines that are currently operating in our state. Then they need to use this research to responsibly site turbines to protect the health of not only Wisconsin's children, but other special needs populations such as the chronically ill and elderly

Complaints from citizens who live by wind farms in this state need to be investigated. Please do not approve the PSC proposed setbacks. Please protect the rights of Wisconsin rural citizens. Thank you. 608-348 6777

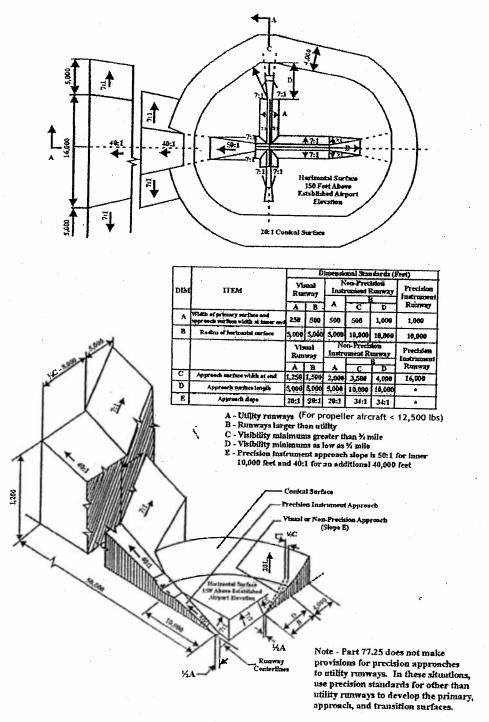
Sincerely,

Susan L. Klar 1617 Klar Rd. Platteville, WI 53818

Telephone: 608-348-5772

Email: psklarfam@hotmail.com

CIVILIAN AIRPORT IMAGINARY SURFACES



Isometric View of Section A - A



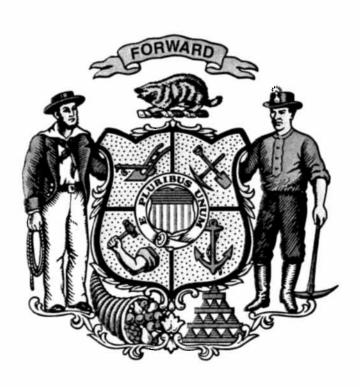


Dear Serator Plale, My Name is alva Colonos and 2 live at 2341 Co H in Cuba listen with an open ear and heart to the testimony that y here in Snelser township due to the incoming wind faim. It was a real size opener for me and my husband as the meetings wit During the 9 months we re I heard testimony from per who were already living to the turbines and the issues

for years to come so & ask that our please listen and think about have seen read and investigated say the turbines should be set at least 1/2 mile son peoples s Because of the reconsider the 1250 feet set back currently recommended by the PSC that was suggested the the committee they had formed. people who do not understand the Ya mile set back is the Jon would give the non participating families monetary compensation we will go away.

No money can ever ever compensate people when it comes to their health.

Thank you for reading this letter





Dear PSC:

We regret that we can not attend the meeting today in Madison but hope that this letter will relay our concerns about the wind turbines.

We are concerned about ACT 40 and the overpowering dominance of wind supporters on the wind siting council. This does not seem fair.

We are concerned that many people have suffered with health issues with the current setbacks. Please reconsider a safer distance.

Another big concern is the noise. 45 decibels at night is too loud to sleep and should be lowered to 5 decibels.

We are concerned about our property values. They will decrease considerably.

Please take these concerns into account when making your decisions.

Mone a: Schuder

Concerned Citizen,

Dorene Schuster

Town of Holland

Mukey Public Brown County, Wisconsin Hobert Farms

my Commission Expires



(C-Rule 10-057?)
(Date?)

Committee Members

My name is Dave Hoerth and I am a Supervisor for the Town of Stockbridge in Calumet County. I encourage you to send the proposed standards back of the PSC for further review. I feel the setback standards should be based on neighboring property lines not residents, the current proposal of setback standards is a taking of land values; no consideration is given for the land between the turbines and residence, these are potentially saleable lots which would be devalued with the current proposal. In neighboring Fond du Lac County residential property values have declined as much as 43% because of their proximity to turbines and the land between turbines and residents has become worthless. I feel a setback of fifteen hundred feet from a neighboring property line would be a workable standard and give neighboring property owners some protection from issues associated with turbines. The Town of Stockbridge was one of the first Towns in Wisconsin to adopt their own wind ordinance based on the real concerns of our residence. Thank you of considering revising the proposed standards.

Dave Hoerth

Supervisor, Town of Stockbridge

Calumet County, WI.