

Susan Burgstrom

From: Stephanie N. Berry
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2022 5:39 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: wind farm

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MAR 18 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: mschum5691@aol.com
Date: 3/17/22 5:37 PM (GMT-06:00)
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: wind farm

It has been brought to our attention that a wind farm is being proposed just south of Sidney. My wife and I are land owners south of Sidney and have some concerns. I have concerns on the height of the towers, designed setbacks. Also setbacks from neighboring property owners. Please keep us informed of the proposed project.

Thank you
Mick & Mary Schumacher
Sidney, IL

P.S. Would also like to know the size of the project?
EMAIL. mschum5691@aol.com

Susan Burgstrom

From: John Hall
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 8:04 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: Wind Turbine Relocation Plan recommends 2923' (7.4 x tip height) for 397' Falmouth, Massachusetts turbines

From: Ted Hartke <tedhartke@hartke.pro>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 11:56 PM
To: John Hall <jhall@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Wind Turbine Relocation Plan recommends 2923' (7.4 x tip height) for 397' Falmouth, Massachusetts turbines

Dear John,

At all of the wind turbine meetings I have presented, I regularly promote 39 dBA maximum noise limits because 40 dBA begins adverse health effects (sleep impacts.)

These are some details which came out of the Falmouth Massachusetts city-owned wind turbine issues. A court-ordered shutdown and removal of the turbines has occurred after a very similar situation to my house in Vermilion County Illinois took place. I think there were 7 homes affected by the two turbines.

Besides Apex purchasing homes or getting good neighbor agreement waivers at 2640 feet, is there any evidence or science that calls for less than this 2923 feet?

In Falmouth Massachusetts, the courts ordered both of the city-owned wind turbines to be torn down. The city is trying to relocate them to another place where they will be OK. An acoustician was hired (company by the name of Weston and Sampson) to show them where the turbine would be safe due to noise issues turbines cause. **His analysis landed at 2923 feet for these 1.65 mW turbines being 397 feet to the blade tip. This distance is 7.4 x tip height and 10.9 x rotor diameter. The noise at 2923 feet will be 40 dBA, which is the noise level where adverse health effects begin and also the maximum noise level from the court proceedings. (The town was trying to place the turbines at setbacks of 2147 and 2244 feet, but the noise level at that distance was expected to be 43 dBA.)**

Dr. Schomer did a test for Livingston County Illinois 500' tall turbines and concluded that 3250 feet protected most residences from excessive noise. (6.5 x tip height) The predicted noise level at my home in Vermilion County Illinois was 43 dBA. The actual noise level measured at my house during the 2013 noise study was approximately 46 dBA. The turbines at my abandoned Vermilion County home were 1665' and 2225' away. ($2225/495 = 4.5x$ tip height proven to be too close.)

Here's a link for more detailed information:

<https://patch.com/massachusetts/falmouth/acoustic-expert-falmouth-wind-turbine-ii-needs-2923-setback?fbclid=IwAR1cAKpn7iEbWKxegGldCS9QdDVp3LhLTWPyaUUHcbOG6VELG8v7MdxNUhM>

Robert W. Rand, ASA, INCE
RAND ACOUSTICS, LLC
65 Mere Point Road
Brunswick, ME 04011

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MAR 29 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

rrand@randacoustics.com

TEL: 207.632.1215

FAX: 206.339.3441

October 26, 2018

Mr. Julian M. Suso, Town Manager

Mr. Rod Palmer, Building Commissioner

Town of Falmouth

59 Town Hall Square

Falmouth, MA 02540

Re: Wind Turbine Relocation Study

Weston & Sampson Report October 12, 2018

Mr. Suso, Mr. Palmer,

This letter is respectfully submitted to the Town of Falmouth to provide a qualified professional opinion about the proposed relocation of Wind II. The original permittings for Wind I and Wind II (and NOTUS) resulted in neighbor complaints soon after start-up and were confirmed to exceed Falmouth's 40-dBA noise limit (turbines sited too close). Weston & Sampson's relocation recommendation for Wind II appears to be inconsistent with the Town 40 dBA noise limit and the 2017 Barnstable Superior Court Decision.

1. The distance to meet 40 dBA for Wind II, a Vestas V82 with sound power level of 110 dBA, is approximately 891 meters or 2923 feet. This is greater than the setback distances provided by the proposed new location. The proposed new location is still too close.

2. At 2147 and 2244 feet listed in the subject report, the expected sound level is 43 dBA.

3. Use of the proposed new location appears certain to result in the relocated wind turbine's maximum noise levels exceeding the Falmouth noise limit of 40 dBA.

4. Use of the proposed new location appears certain to result in the relocated wind turbine's maximum noise levels exceeding established background sound levels of 27-28 dBA by over 10 dB, breaching State 10-dB noise limits. Supporting detail is provided below. Please contact me if you have any questions.

5. My work in professional acoustical consulting spans thirty-eight years with project experience in power generation, industrial and commercial noise and expert witness status established in hearings, testimony, and legal cases for aircraft and wind turbine noise. Peerreviewed publications include papers for a 2011 noise survey of the NOTUS wind turbine.

6. Falmouth noise limit: 40 dBA, Article XXXIV, "Windmills" in Chapter 240, Zoning, in the Town of Falmouth bylaws, clarified in [1] that noise levels over 40 dBA "shall be excessive".

7. The subject report states "The location of AL-1 is approximately 2,147 feet from the nearest residential receptor to the north and approximately 2,244 feet from the nearest residential areas located south along Blacksmith Shop Road." [AL-1 is the proposed new location].

8. Wind II is a Vestas V82 1.65MW wind turbine with a maximum sound power level of 110 dBA re 1pW. Approximately 2625 feet is needed for 40 dBA for a sound power level of 108 dBA [1]. Greater distance is needed for a sound power level of 110 dBA.

9. The subject report's "Section 3.1 Sound Impacts" fails to properly assess the noise level increase above existing quiet background levels established by HMMH at 27-28 dBA [2].

10. State law 310 CMR 7.10 limits noise increase to 10 dB (Lmax) over the background level (L90). The maximum level allowed for Wind II is therefore 38 dBA at property lines. Quiet background occurs with wind shear; strong winds aloft, light to no winds near ground.

11. Regardless of wind-shear effects on lowering or raising the background sound level, the Falmouth noise limit of 40 dBA sets an upper limit for wind turbine noise at property lines.

12. Computations may be made to determine sound level at distance and distance associated to a sound level. ISO 9613-2 relates received noise level to sound power level and distance.

$L_p = L_w - 20 \log(\text{distance, meters}) - 11, \text{ dB, and by equivalence,}$

$\text{Distance} = 10^{(L_w - L_p - 11)/20}, \text{ meters, where}$

L_w is sound power level, dBA re 1pW,

L_p is received sound level, dBA re 20uPA, and

1 meter = 3.28 feet.

Ground absorption and atmospheric absorption factors are not included since winter-frozen conditions present hard ground and wind turbine noise is elevated and predominantly low frequency. Noise measurements of Wind I and NOTUS wind turbines during non-winter conditions have confirmed these factors may be excluded for estimating wind turbine sound level versus distance and this computation method is accurate within 1-2 dB. The general computation uncertainty is +/- 3 dB within 1000 meters (3280 feet).

1. Memorandum of Decision, Superior Court Civil Action 2014-00003, filed June 20, 2017.

2. Technical Memorandum to DEP from HMMH, Addendum to HMMH Report 304390, April 1, 2011.

Special message: **My email was hacked Dec 30, 2016.** If you received a message that looks like it came from me and it asks you to click a link to share files, DO NOT CLICK ON LINKS OR ICONS. I will never send you a link or ask you to download anything unless I include a detailed project-specific correspondence. To protect yourself, never attempt to download files or click links which seem random or out of the ordinary.

Theodore P. Hartke, PE, PLS

President

Hartke Engineering and Surveying, Inc.

117 S. East Avenue P.O. Box 123

Ogden, Illinois 61859 217.840.1612

tedhartke@hartke.pro

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:41 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Wind Turbine Height & Setbacks

From: Donald Carter <dcn321@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:14 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Wind Turbine Height & Setbacks

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes in turbine heights and setbacks. I would like the turbine heights to remain as they are in the current ordinance and setback to be increased to 3250 feet from the property line of any non-participating land owner. I am in agreement with adoption of (AIMA) standards at county level for field tiles, soil compaction, restoration of topsoil etc. I also agree with the proposal to add aircraft detection lighting systems as a requirement for wind turbine lighting. I also agree with the increase of tower fees and use permit fees. They should be even higher than those proposed.

I would also like to point out that a wind farm being proposed in Champaign County has a natural gas pipeline running diagonally across the north west corner of the area south of Philo.

Don Carter

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 1:15 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Proposed Wind Farm, Southeastern Champaign County

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MAR 29 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Michael Mooney <michaelmooney911@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 12:03 PM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcg1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; markking4countyboard@gmail.com; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Proposed Wind Farm, Southeastern Champaign County

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

My name is MICHAEL MOONEY and I live and have farmed in Crittenden Township, Champaign County for all of my, soon to be 76 years. I would like to express my strong opposition to saddling the farms and residences in Champaign County with another wind farm. Remember, there is already an existing wind farm approximately five to six miles south of the location of the proposed wind farm, just past the southern border of Champaign County into Douglas County. First off, I am all in favor of "green energy" and agree that global warming is a real threat. However, I do not believe it is prudent to place another wind farm on prime Champaign County farmland, some of the richest, food producing soil on planet Earth! There must be marginal land available, land which will not so much affect the food production for planet Earth. The population of Planet Earth has doubled since the 1960's and will only continue to escalate. We will need every acre available to feed the hungry in the coming years. It is claimed that the wind farm only "marginally" affects the agricultural production. DO NOT BELIEVE IT. I have traveled through the Douglas County "Harvest Ridge" wind farm and talked to the residents/farmers surrounded by turbines. They tell a different story. Here are some of the conditions caused by their experience in a wind farm.

The first and largest is DRAINAGE! All of the Southeastern quadrant of Champaign County was one swampy. We absolutely DEPEND on subsurface tile drainage. The construction of the Douglas County wind farm has done immeasurable damage to the tile drainage, and the company refuses to fix the problem unless the farmer can prove it is a direct result of the turbine towers. This comes from a Douglas County farmer experiencing damage to his tiling systems.

Damage to the road is a major problem that has not been fixed since the departure of the wind farm construction company. Please drive down to Douglas County road intersection 1350N and 2350E and see the road conditions. Roads which were oil and chipped are now loose gravel and washboarded. Residents are subjected to vehicle damage from the rough road and sodium chloride and water used to keep the dust down, still going on today.

In talking to a resident/farmer in the middle of the Douglas County Harvest Ridge wind farm, his last comment was, I quote " WE WERE RAPED!"

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Michael Mooney
Philo, IL

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 1:35 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Wind farm safety concerns

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MAR 29 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Place, Gary <gary.place@plantpioneer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 1:30 PM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net <michaels@illicom.net>; ale7496@yahoo.com <ale7496@yahoo.com>; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Wind farm safety concerns

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear Board Members,

My name is Gary Place. I'm the fourth generation to live on the family farm at 2379 CR 700N. I am very concerned about the wind farm proposed for southern Champaign County.

There are two issues: Safety and Quality of Life. These can be addressed by keeping the current 500' height limit, having a 3,250' setback from wind turbine to non participating landowners' property lines, and limiting noise to 38 dBA.

Thank you for your time,

Gary Place

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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Susan Burgstrom

From: Shannon Reel <sreel65@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:25 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: Opposition to Proposed Wind Ordinance Revisions

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MAR 30 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

March 29, 2022,

The changes to the Champaign County wind zoning ordinance as proposed are not what is best for the residents of unincorporated Champaign County. The enactment of the proposed modifications to eliminate a specific setback distance and simply use the multiplier of 2.4x the tower height and eliminating the 500 ft turbine height restriction would be a grave injustice to the residents of unincorporated Champaign County who would be forced to live among any new wind farms that would be developed within the county under the revised ordinance.

On December 9, 2021, in response to “new” FAA requirements regarding windmill lighting, ELUC tasked John Hall to look at updating the current Champaign County wind zoning ordinance to make sure it complies with “new” the FAA lighting requirements. John Hall and ELUC have proposed revisions to the current wind ordinance that would permit wind turbines of an unlimited height to be built within Champaign County, leaving the maximum turbine height to be hashed out between the FAA and the wind farm developer, which is totally irresponsible, and fails to put the residents of unincorporated Champaign County first and foremost. What is even more ironic, it does not appear that we are all here discussing these proposed changes to the wind ordinance based upon “new” FAA lighting requirements. As John Hall alluded to “rumors” going around about the potential expansion of the California Ridge wind farm in northeastern Champaign County at the January 6, 2022, ELUC meeting. However, it is clear that is know that this possibility was more than must a “rumor” as 134 proposed turbine sitings for such expansion (12 in Champaign County and the remaining in Vermilion) had already been submitted to the FAA back on October 15, 2021. The height of these turbines will be 519 ft, thus requiring the need for the proposed revisions to the counties current wind ordinance to eliminate the maximum height restriction of 500 ft.

There are known issues experienced by neighboring Vermilion nonparticipating residents to the slightly less than 500 ft California Ridge wind turbines. It is known and studies have revealed that the California Ridge turbines have caused significant problems (noise, sleep deprivation, loss of home value, flicker) for the Vermilion County residents that live adjacent to this wind farm. Removing the 500 ft height restriction would greatly fail to put the residents of unincorporated Champaign County first and would inhibit them from the full enjoyment and use of their entire properties without interference and nuisance from the wind turbines. However, for argument sakes even if I was not opposed to the removal of the 500 ft height restriction, an increase in the maximum height restriction not a complete removal would be in the best option for the residents of unincorporated Champaign County. The complete removal of a maximum height restriction would be a negligent action by the ZBA that completely fail to put the health, safety, well being and best interests of the citizens of unincorporated Champaign County above the interests of the wind farm developers, which violates the goals and objectives of the Champaign County Zoning Board and ELUC.

As you know, the current Champaign County wind zoning ordinance was enacted on June 10, 2010, for the development of the California Ridge wind farm to be built by placing 30 of its wind turbines in northeastern Champaign County. The ordinance permitted wind turbines up to 500 ft to be constructed with a minimum set back of 1,200 ft (500' x 2.4=1,200'). The proposed amendment to modify the setback to be an equation of 2.4x the turbine height (instead of a specific measurement) was proposed by John Hall at the January 6, 2022, ELUC meeting. John Hall used the equation from the current wind statute because it is John Hall's personal belief that current ordinance has very generous set back distances because no noise or flicker complaints have been received on the "800" telephone number that the county established when the 30 California Ridge wind turbines were built.

Let's take a moment to reflect on how the current 1,200 ft set back distance was established. If any of you were around when the 2010 wind ordinance was initially up for approval, the proposed and favored minimum set back distance from a nonparticipating property line was 1,500 ft (which was 3x the height of a 500 ft wind turbine). However, this minimum setback distance was ultimately reduced to 1,200 ft at the request of the California Ridge wind farm developer, despite the developer's representation that the 1,500 ft minimum setback requirements would not be a deal breaker for building a portion of the California Ridge farm in Champaign County. What's even more disturbing is the fact that the proposed revisions for the minimum setback is to be calculated from the nonparticipating property owners house and not the edge of their property (property line). Meaning that turbine taller than 500 ft could actually be built closer to the nonparticipating property owners house under the proposed revised ordinance than a turbine less than 500 ft under the current ordinance.

It is evident that the current set back distance of 1,200 ft (or 2.4x the height of a 500 ft turbine) was established to favor the wind farm developer and not as a means to protect the residents of unincorporated Champaign County from the dangers, issues, and property encroachment of residing adjacently or in close proximity to these wind farms. Revising the current wind turbine zoning ordinance setback distance to keep the current setback equation at 2.4x the wind turbine height from the nonparticipating property owners residence or primary occupied structure, instead of substantially increasing the equation to a multiplier of 6.5x the wind turbine height from the nonparticipating property owners property line (which scientific studies as to noise and flicker have been demonstrated that this distance is a safe setback distance were only 3% of the total affected nonparticipating residents would suffer detrimental effects from noise, sleep disturbances and flicker) would again favor the wind farm developers to the detriment of the residents of unincorporated Champaign County. Approval of proposed revisions to the wind ordinance goes against the ZBA's goals and objectives as written.

John Hall also stated to ELUC at the January 6th meeting that he has no idea why there have been no noise or flicker complaints received through the count 800-phone number in regard to the California Ridge wind turbines, but then went on to claim that all of these 30 of these turbines were located further than the minimum set back distance of 1,200 ft. Truly think about what John Hall says in those two previous statements. John Hall is actually saying that the minimum setbacks for the California Ridge wind farm is more than 2.4x the turbine height. Think about it-- If **ALL** of the 30 California Ridge wind turbines are located at a distance **greater** than the minimum set back distance of the 1,200 ft from the nonparticipating **property lines** (2.4x a 500 ft turbine height), then revising the ordinance to contain a minimum setback distance of **2.4x** the turbine height of any sized turbine from a **residence or primary structure** is **NOT THE SAME** and would result in **smaller setback distances for larger turbines**.

Attempting to justify keeping the minimum setback multiplier at 2.4x the wind turbine height simply because the county has not received any phone call complaints to the 800-number as to noise or

flicker from the 30 California Ridge wind turbines is greatly misplaced and has no legitimacy. Neither John Hall nor ELUC contacted any of the residents of unincorporated Champaign County that have lived or currently live among the California Ridge wind turbines in Champaign County to inquire if there are in fact noise and/or flicker issues that have been experienced by these residents over the last 10+ years. Simply implying that the 2.4x the turbine height remains the appropriate multiplier because no resident has theoretically called an 800-number to complain does not mean that such problems and issues do not exist with the current setbacks. It is a complete lack of due diligence to assume and imply that the current minimum setback multiplier of 2.4x the height of the wind turbine is sufficient simply because no one has called an 800-number.

The National Research Council of the National Academies (NRC, 2007) noted that impacts from wind turbines that have the most effect on health include noise, low frequency vibration and shadow flicker, concluded that although not well understood, low frequency (infrasound) vibration (less than 20 Hz) disturb some people, and noise produced by wind turbines is an issue for people inside of a half mile (2,640 ft). Aerodynamic noise from wind turbines are often underestimated during planning. One source of error is that most meteorological wind speed measurements are taken at 10 meters above ground, however, wind speed at this elevation in the area of the wind turbine rotor, is then calculated using established modeling relationships. In one study (van den Berg, 2004) <https://apps.commerce.state.mn.us/eera/web/project-file?legacyPath=/opt/documents/Public%20Health%20Impacts%20of%20Wind%20Turbines,%205.22.09%20Revised.pdf>

It is no hidden secret that noise, and flicker are real issues that exist for adjacent and neighboring windfarm residents. As admitted by both John Hall and ELUC members during their January 6th meeting. Implying that mordaciously all unincorporated Champaign County residents residing in close proximity to or neighboring the California Ridge wind farm have suffered no adverse noise or flicker issues because there have been no phone calls to the county 800-number is absurd and makes a mockery out of all of us, including the ZBA members who are reading this. Scientific evidence has been submitted to you that demonstrates a minimum of 3,250 ft setback from a 500 ft wind turbine to a nonparticipating property line is the appropriate distance to minimize (not even eliminate) the detrimental effects of a wind turbine to all but 3% of nonparticipating property owners. Simply justifying that the minimum setback distance multiplier from 10 years ago is adequate for turbines of unlimited heights because no phone call complaints were received by the county 800-number in regard to the 30 almost 500' turbines already in existences is unjustified and is unsupported by scientific evidence.

The unacceptable and unsupported nature of the proposed revisions to the wind ordinance, is further evidenced by the fact that neither John Hall nor ELUC reached out to all of the unincorporated Champaign County residents that live adjacent to the turbines of the California Ridge wind farm to determine if any of them even knew that there was a county 800-number that they could call to voice their complaints or issues with the wind turbines. They also have failed to determine how many of those residents even knew about the county's 800-number or how many of them knew to get access to the county's 800-number if they needed it. Providing a "resource" to the residents of unincorporated Champaign County that live adjacent to the turbines of the California Ridge wind farm when only a limited number of them even knew it existed, then using the failure of these citizens to utilize this "resource" as justification to keep the setback multiplier at 2.4x the height of the wind turbine would be a grave injustice to the residents of unincorporated Champaign County and fails to put the best interests and wellbeing of the citizens of unincorporated Champaign county ahead of the potential of any financial benefits the county "might" one-day see as a result of a another wind farm development and ahead of the wind farm developers. Instituting a minimum setback distance that ensures the safety, wellbeing, and the pursuant of happiness and enjoyment of property of 97% of the

unincorporated Champaign County that reside in close proximity to or neighboring a wind farm is the first and top priority of the Champaign County Zoning Board. Revising the minimum setback distance from a nonparticipating property line to 6.5x the turbine height (3,250 ft for a 500 ft wind turbine) does just that, protects 97% of the nonparticipating property owners that reside in close proximity to or neighboring a wind farm while still permitting the wind farm developers the ability to safely place wind turbines in Champaign County.

Testimony has been presented by Tedd Hartke about the adverse effects that his family and former neighbors experienced while residing in close proximity to the California Ridge Wind Farm in Vermilion County. A noise study conducted by an acoustic expert, Dr. Shomer, (also previously submitted to the Zoning Board and made part of the last ZBA record) clearly demonstrates that a 500 ft windmill located 2,225 ft from a residence causes sleep and other issues for the residents. Dr. Shomer's scientific evidence demonstrates clear issues with wind turbines being located within 2,225 ft from a residence. John Halls claim that no complaints being submitted to the county's 800-number justifies keeping the setback multiplier at 2.4x the turbine height of nonparticipating residences is simply negligent, but the scientific evidence and testimony demonstrates otherwise. Unincorporated Champaign County residents living in close proximity to or neighboring (3,250 ft or less) experience the same effects from the wind turbines that are represented in Dr. Shomer's scientific study, regardless of whether or not the county 800-number received a complaint. The detrimental effects from the wind turbines do not discriminate and effect only residents in close proximity to the California Ridge wind turbines that are located in Vermilion County, or any other county or State, County but not residents that reside in close proximity to the California Ridge turbines in Champaign County, Illinois. If 6.5x the turbine height (3,250 ft for a 500 ft turbine) from a nonparticipating property line has been scientifically proven to prevent adverse impacts on all but 3% of close proximity or neighboring nonparticipating property, revising the ordinance to anything less would be negligent and a failure of the ZBA to put the health, safety and welfare of all of the citizens of unincorporated Champaign County first.

Based upon the above stated, the revisions as proposed to the Champaign County wind ordinance should be denied. The minimum set back of a wind turbine should be increased to 6x the height of the wind turbine to a nonparticipating owner's property line. If the nonparticipating property owner chooses, he or she can individually enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement with the wind farm developer and establish a closer minimum setback distance at his or her own discretion. The maximum height for wind turbines should remain at 500 ft as there is an option for the county to issue a waiver as to height is so needed due to the advancement of technology and taller turbines. An unlimited maximum height potential for wind turbines would be a negligent action and subjects all of the citizens of Champaign County at an unnecessary risk due by leaving the maximum tower height permitted within the county to determined solely by the FAA and the wind developer. Requiring the radar controlled lighting on all wind turbines and the right to farm are the only amendments that should be approved as written.

Sincerely,

Shannon R. Reel

623 CR 2100 E, Sidney, IL

Susan Burgstrom

From: Shannon Reel <sreel65@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 6:55 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: Opposition to Proposed Wind Ordinance revisions

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MAR 30 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Over \$12 million dollars is the cost for Douglas County to fix less than 3 miles of its roads more than a year after the completion of their wind farm.

The wind farm developer failed to up hold their end of the contract to ensure the affected roads were fixed and Douglas County has spent over a year fighting the wind farm developer to up hold their end of the contract.

This is not an economic boost for the county because of the wind farm development and is not the wind farm continuing to bring jobs to the county. This is just one of many examples of how wind farm developers do not hold up to their end of the deal and do not have the best interests of the county residents in mind when they build these wind farms.

The impact to the roads for even larger wind turbines in Champaign county would be substantially more than than what Douglas County is experiencing.

There are more miles of roads that Douglas County has to fix, as the building of the windmills significantly deteriorated more than just 2.75 miles of roads within their county. How many more years is it going to take for the Douglas County roads to be back to the condition they were before the wind farm construction began. How much of the "revenue" that the county receives from these wind turbines is being used to fight the wind farm developer to uphold its end of the contract and to fix their roads after the developer completed the project? How much time and resources does has it taken over the last year for Douglas County to be able to spend over \$12 million to repair only 2.75 miles of road?

Bigger, unlimited height windmills are not the answer and will cost Champaign County and the local townships a lot of time, effort, energy, resources and money in repairing its roads long after the wind farm developers are gone!

Vote down the proposed amended to the wind ordinance that will allow wind turbines of unlimited height (greater than 500 ft) to be built in Champaign County.

Sincerely,

Shannon R. Reel

JAMES E. CRANE, COUNTY ENGINEER
200 South Prairie Street
Tuscola, Illinois 61953

OFFICE
Phone (217) 253-2113
Phone (217) 253-6138
FAX (217) 253-3429

DOUGLAS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

March 18, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE;

Road Repairs/Construction will resume on Monday, March 21, 2022. The following roadways will be closed to through traffic at various times in the upcoming weeks for culvert and box culvert construction/replacement:

**CR 1350N between CR 2150E and CR 2250E
CR 2350E between CR 1150N and CR 1250N
CR 2750E between CR 1425N and CR 1550N**

The roadways will be closed to through traffic; however, residents and local landowners/farmers will have access to properties at all times to include school bus service and mail service.

The road closures are necessary for the Harvest Ridge Wind Farm Post Construction project being constructed on behalf of the Douglas County Highway Department, Murdock Township Highway Commissioner, and the Newman Township Highway Commissioner.

The travelling public is reminded to use caution when driving through the project area, and to abide by the posted traffic control signs and traffic control devices.

Douglas County has contracted with Beniach Construction Co. Inc. (Tuscola, IL) for the proposed construction activities, the awarded contract is for \$12,430,896.24.

Additional notifications will be made to the residents and travelling public as construction progresses.

Questions may be directed to the County Engineer @ (217)253-2113.

James E. Crane, PE
Douglas County Engineer.

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MAR 30 2022

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY DEPARTMENT

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 9:04 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Wind turbine proposals

From: info rushcreekfarms.com <info@rushcreekfarms.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:49 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Wind turbine proposals

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear representatives,

We are long-time residents of southeast Champaign County and are strongly opposed to changing the setbacks from property lines for wind turbines and adamantly opposed to increasing the height of wind turbines. We feel the setbacks from property lines should be a minimum of 3250 feet and the height of wind turbines remain limited to 500 feet.

Sincerely,
Dr. Andrew Miller and Dr. Jennifer Miller

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MAR 30 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 10:18 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Wind Farm: ZBA meeting 3/31/22

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MAR 30 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Rice Family <ricebunch@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 10:07 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcg1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Wind Farm: ZBA meeting 3/31/22

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

March 30, 2022

Champaign County and ZBA Boards

First of all, I would like to thank you for your service to Champaign County. I'm sure your position comes with some disagreeable duties but please know that your efforts in our community are appreciated.

It seems like our part of the county is being bombarded with green energy solicitations this spring. In the course of two months, I and my neighbors have seen offers from wind farms, solar farms and energy storage companies.

Since the ZBA meeting two weeks ago, I have been searching for and reading various books and articles related to wind farm hazards. It appears to me that tower height and property setback requirements are the most important factors in being able to live in such an environment.

I have read several articles and visited with a Douglas County resident regarding the impact of turbines on water quality. These sources reveal that bedrock damage caused by driving turbine pilings during construction and underground vibrations from turbines in operation can have major effects on ground water quality that feeds our rural wells. In fact, the Douglas County resident had to extensively modify his household water system by replacing his pressure tank and installing two additional larger sediment and charcoal filters in order to bring his water back to a usable quality. This only improved his indoor water though. On a personal level, I had a 105' well drilled 2.5 years ago at our new house site. The cost was \$8500 but we are enjoying good water and would hate to see that change. Water is an expensive and valuable commodity in the country, and it is all at our own expense.

The shadow flicker on homes is also a major concern. Please find a YouTube video which shows this and watch it for several minutes. It will drive you crazy. The shadow which comes across the window every few seconds affects the entire room and cannot be ignored whether or not you are looking out the window.

The damaging effect on bats and honey bees is well documented also. Wind turbines kill bats by creating low-pressure zones that explosively decompress the air in their lungs (Ed Yong, National Geographic). Wind turbines have decreased honey bee populations in many states.

I am currently reading a book entitled Wind Turbine Syndrome by Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD. I recommend this reading to you as well. In her book, Pierpont describes a "case series" study in which she follows multiple families through a wind farm development. She analyses health symptoms in three time periods: pre-exposure to turbines, during exposure and post-exposure. She evaluates the effects in the areas of sleep disturbance, headache, ringing in ears, ear pressure, dizziness, vertigo, nausea, visual blurring, rapid heart rate, irritability, concentration and memory, and panic episodes. Her conclusion was that "People in these families noticed that they developed these symptoms after the turbines started running near their homes. They noticed that when they went away, the symptoms went away. When they came back, the symptoms returned." Most of the families eventually moved away from their homes because they were so troubled by the symptoms. Pierpont's further recommendation was that **MINIMUM** setback requirements should be "**GREATER** than 3280-4900 ft, at which there were severely affected subjects in this study."

In conclusion, we would like to avoid an industrial wind turbine complex in our neighborhood if possible, but if it does happen, my plea to you is to maintain the current 500' height limit and extend the setback requirements as much as you are willing but at least the distances equal to either Livingston or Iroquois Counties. I would also request this setback be applied to all non-participating property lines, not just to residences. We know we might have to live near turbines. We live here because we work here, and as farmers, we cannot choose where to work. Height limits and setback requirements could make it more tolerable but we cannot accomplish this ourselves, we need you as our advocates.

Thank you for hearing me out,

Darrel Rice

Susan Burgstrom

From: Stephanie N. Berry
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 4:39 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: ZBA Case 037-AT-22

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Justin Leerkamp <justin.leerkamp@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 4:32 PM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <lehtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: ZBA Case 037-AT-22

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

I am writing to express concerns on several issues with the proposed text amendments to the current special use wind farm ordinance in Champaign County. I do not support an increase in the height from 500ft to unlimited. To do so is extremely short sighted. I do not make decisions on my business years and years in the future, why would Champaign County do so not knowing what the future holds? I am in favor of increasing setbacks of wind turbines located in industrial wind complexes to greater distances, and these should be measured from property lines, not from individual houses themselves. As I compare Champaign County to other counties, I notice that many newer zoning ordinances adopted by other counties use greater distances to protect their land and residences. In information provided by John Hall, it shows that Livingston County has gone to 6 times the height or 3250ft from primary structures, and no closer than 1640ft from the property line. Iroquois County is using a formula of 12 times the rotor diameter of the wind turbine as the setback distance required from the property line. In January, ELUC heard from a Ford County board member who stated after issues with their industrial wind complexes, they changed from zoning similar to our current one to 2250ft from a principal structure and 2.64 the height or 1320ft, whichever is greater from the property line. These counties and others have taken steps to protect their citizens from many issues related to health, safety and general quality of life. Champaign county would do well to follow the lead of counties with far more experience than our mere 30 turbines. I find it disappointing that the planning and zoning has proposed such a short sighted text amendment.

I do support the adoption of the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement to our counties ordinance. As a farmer who has dealt with industrial wind complexes just 3/4 of a mile south of Champaign County in Douglas County, I can assure you the contractors of these Energy companies do not care about the land. They are there to get a job done on a schedule and move to the next. We need all the protection we can get for our valuable, productive farmland. While I would be pleased with the addition of AIMA to our zoning, I am concerned that enforcement of the AIMA by our county will be a low priority. Not necessarily out of negligence. but out of lack of resources available to the planning and zoning office. With that being said, to help on this issue, I would suggest the fee increases also under consideration of this text amendment be increased much more significantly than has been set forth. A portion of this fee could be set aside to hire independent observers to monitor the industrial wind complex contractors to make sure the AIMA is followed.

I also support the adoption of the ADLS lighting system to our counties zoning. I had to do much independent research on this policy by the FAA, since very little detail has been provided by planning and zoning. The FAA will still have final

approval in these matters on a turbine by turbine basis. I believe that areas southeast of Willard Airport would not be approved for this lighting mitigation system due to being in the ILS approach pattern of Willard. Still, this could help in other areas of the county.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Justin Leerkamp
Sidney, IL

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 8:04 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Wind Farm

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: herberttodd@aol.com <herberttodd@aol.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 10:00 PM

To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>; zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>

Subject: Wind Farm

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

As a concerned citizen, landowner and farmer of southern Champaign county, changing of the wind farm ordinance has me very concerned.

First of all I see Goal 3 of the Champaign County is to promote a safe, healthy, and just community, I feel this is being violated by trying to change these variants. It has been proven that noise levels at current setbacks affect sleep, people with autism, epilepsy, and shadow flicker would affect everyone.

I would like to see the the current height maintained at 500 feet, the set back to be increased to 3250 feet from neighboring dwelling property lines.

Would also be in favor of the aircraft detection system. These wind companies come are very destructive to the land and drainage tile which will have effects for years. They can promise us better country roads but has we can see that's not happened in Douglas County, looks like leaving that expense on the county, townships and taxpayers. This is some of the most fertile and rich soil in the country, growing corn and soybeans is what this area does in great fashion. Not harvest wind there are better suited places less populated for wind turbines. We have a beautiful rural views of the sunrise, sunsets, the moon and stars, lets don't clutter that with blinking lights and spinning blades for power we wont even benefit from.

Please carefully think this out before making your decisions on the changes. Our community needs your support. You are our voice, make it with reason.

Thank you for your consideration, Todd Herbert Sharon Herbert

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Susan Burgstrom

MAR 31 2022

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 8:05 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Proposed zoning changes for wind energy in Champaign County - for meeting tonight

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Wiesbrook, Michelle L <buesinge@illinois.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 7:29 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbd5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Cc: swiesbro@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed zoning changes for wind energy in Champaign County - for meeting tonight

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear Zoning Board Members,

First off, thank you for your time and commitment to keeping the residents of Champaign County safe and protecting our land.

Regrettably, I am again not able to participate in person at the meeting to discuss the zoning for the commercial wind energy complex that could soon affect the livelihoods and homes of me and my neighbors. I did watch the recorded session of the 3/17 meeting in its entirety. Please carefully consider these raised concerns while determining your zoning parameters. Implementing this new type of energy complex should be handled in a responsible manner with minimal adverse impact so that more harm isn't done than good. I understand there are 4 main proposed changes being discussed:

- Please do not remove the current turbine height limit of 500 ft. No one knows what heights future technology will make possible, and asking companies to request a zoning change before making the heights significantly higher seems prudent. Height should absolutely NOT be unlimited. If height remains limited at 500 ft, the minimum required setback from a non-participating residence without a waiver should be at least 3250 ft. or a formula with the distance being at least 2.4 times the height (6 times if the height is raised). This should be measured from the non-participating property line and not the residence itself. Height and distance are important contributing factors to both noise and light flicker which affects the health and quality of living of your county neighbors to the south – this includes me, my family, and hundreds of others that live where this commercial wind energy complex will be built. Please consider the research studies that have been done. Learn from the mistakes of other counties that hastily let these mega industries destroy their landscapes and hurt agriculture.
- The Agriculture Impact Mitigation Agreement (AIMA) should be adopted at the county level to help ensure that the inevitable broken field tiles, topsoil loss, and compaction issues are corrected in a timely fashion.

- Please require the use of aircraft detection lighting systems (ADLS) in order to reduce the amount of disruptive flashing lights in the nighttime. I live a few miles from the Douglas County turbines and they are an eyesore in our once beautiful evening skyline.
- Please consider increasing the fees per tower even higher than what is currently being proposed.

Additionally, I don't recall this issue being discussed much at the last meeting but I have heard much discussion about how these complexes can affect groundwater. My family and all of my rural neighbors rely on quality groundwater for drinking, cooking, showering, etc. City water is not an option. How will you ensure that our water quality is not adversely affected?

Again, thank you for your service. Your careful decisions and attention to detail on these proposed changes are critical as the lives of so many will be affected.

Sincerely,
Michelle and Scott Wiesbrook
580 CR 1700 E
Philo, IL 61864

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 8:05 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Champaign County P&Z Case 037-AT-22

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: David Happ <happs65@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 7:55 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Cc: Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpasalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Champaign County P&Z Case 037-AT-22

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Members of the Champaign County Zoning Board:

I would like to offer the following comments ahead of the March 31, 2022 Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, at which changes to Section 6.1.4 the Zoning Ordinance will be considered:

1. **Regarding Right to Farm Resolution 3425:** I support the addition of the proposed language to the current ordinance.
2. **Regarding Wind Farm Tower Height:** I do not support changing the maximum allowable wind turbine height. It should be kept at 500 feet. Further, I do not think the minimum required separation between a tower and a dwelling/building should be a factor of the tower height. Whether the building is "participating" or "non-participating", the minimum required separation should be 3250 feet. This distance is based on restrictions in other Illinois counties and on testimony from people who have lived near existing wind farms. It is my opinion that a tower should be placed no closer than one-half mile from any property line, and I don't think property owners should be allowed to enter into agreements with the wind farm companies to allow deviations from the ordinance.
3. **Regarding Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems (ADLS):** I support the proposed changes to Section 6.1.4.D.7 of the current ordinance.
4. **Regarding Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement:** I support the proposed changes to Section 6.1.4 relating to Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreements.
5. **Regarding Wind Farms Fees:** I support the proposed increase in fees as described, if for no other reason than it might make the idea of constructing a wind farm in Champaign County less attractive than in other locations.

In fact, that is essentially my motive behind whether I support or don't support each of these proposed changes. I know that County Zoning allows windfarms to be built now. That ship has sailed. But what I am hoping is that enough reasonable restrictions be maintained that the windfarm companies decide that it just isn't practical for them to build in Champaign County.

Champaign County has all sorts of rules that impact the development and use of rural land. Those rules aren't just in place to protect the prime farmland. They are there to protect the history, the legacy and the way of life in the County. It is my opinion that these large windfarms are a direct contradiction to what the County and ELUC are charged with maintaining.

The area south of Philo and Sidney has some of the most beautiful landscapes in the County. If you've never driven down Seven Hills Road at sunset, I encourage you to do so. Places like Block Station, Lynn Grove Cemetery, the Immanuel Lutheran Church and Immaculate Conception Church are landmarks in Southern Champaign County. I can't tell you how many pictures I've taken of these spots, and every one looks different.

I don't want to see these beautiful landscapes ruined by a 400-, or 500- or 600-foot tall steel structures. It's bad enough that we can look out our windows and see the ones in Douglas County. Please don't encourage them to move further north.

David Happ
510 E. Roosevelt Road
Philo

Susan Burgstrom

From: Tiffany Byrne <tiffany.byrne2@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:45 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: Re: CC ZBA Meeting March 31, 2022

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals,

First and foremost, I would like to address Mr. Hall's comment at the meeting on March 17, 2022. Mr. Hall indicated to the board that, "If, for example, someone thinks that the proportion for separation from a wind farm town to a participating or non-participating dwelling, if that currently is not enough, that is really not relevant here ..." Mr. Hall's comment is misguided for a couple of reasons

First, section 6.1.4(C), dealing with the separation requirements of wind towers and participating and non-participating dwellings, is one of the five amendments currently before this Board. Any testimony directly related to 6.1.4(C) is, thereby, absolutely relevant. Mr. Hall indicated that the Environment and Land Use Committee did not take issue with the current separation requirements, so this Board should not either. To the contrary, this Board is separate and distinct and should come to its own conclusions and findings of fact.

Next, this Board has the power to impose conditions on approval of its final determinations. If, for example, this Board approves the proposed amendment as to unlimited wind tower height, this board could do so, **and should do so**, with the condition that separation, as specified in 6.1.4(C)(2), of a wind town and a non-participating dwelling, be extended to a distance not less than 6,600 feet. (Or a distance at which the board finds reasonable and necessary. - Though I do encourage the board to carefully consider the un-biased research cited by other residents of the county regarding safe setbacks from human dwellings at distances not less than 5,280 feet.)

Now, to address the proposed amendment to 6.1.4(D)(5). Presently, our technology is not advanced enough to build wind towers of unlimited height. That is especially true for onshore wind towers. Until future advancements are made, current engineering standards restrict the height at which a wind tower can be safely built and can safely withstand the stresses of nature against it. The ZBA should not be approving something - wind towers of unlimited height - that the experts have not yet even sought to adequately and safely design. Champaign County should not be a testing site for how high a wind tower can be built until it collapses, or worse. This amendment will effectively do just that. You do not have to be an engineer to know that tall, skinny structures will bend in high winds. The taller the tower, the longer the blades. This height increase subsequently increases the chance of long, skinny blades bending or flexing into the base of the tower causing catastrophe. Unless and until the experts successfully, fundamentally change the turbine structure to withstand the pressures of higher altitudes, the ZBA should not approve this proposed amendment and 6.1.4(D)(5) should remain unchanged.

In the alternative, if this Board grants the unlimited height proposal, please do so with conditions imposed regarding extensions of the separation requirements, as stated in the paragraphs above. A risk-benefit analysis of newly designed technology being erected within the zone of residential homes necessitates the extension. Please also refer to my prior comment on March 17, 2022 for further justification of an extension.

As stated by the Illinois Supreme Court, "The power to regulate the height of a structure is an exercise of the police power. All private property is held subject to a reasonable exercise of that power. It is the law that the State may, in

the exercise of the police power, authorize a city or village to impose regulations which limit the height of buildings or structures to be erected where such regulation is reasonably necessary for the protection of the public health, the public safety, or the public welfare. Such power cannot be exercised exclusively for the purpose of gratifying and cultivating aesthetic tastes." *Fed. Elec. Co. v. Zoning Bd. of Appeals of Vill. of Mt. Prospect*, 398 Ill. 142, 147, 75 N.E.2d 359, 362 (1947). The currently imposed regulation of 500 feet or less for a wind tower, directly bears on public health and public safety, as cited in various articles previously provided by other Champaign residents. This Board should uphold the power delegated to it.

Thank you for your consideration!

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Tiffany J. Byrne

Susan Burgstrom

From: Stephanie N. Berry
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:59 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: ZBA Case 037-AT-22

RECEIVED

MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Brandon and Sarah Hastings <hastings329@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:47 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>; Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpassalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorsland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>; Wayne T. Williams, Jr. <wwilliams@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: ZBA Case 037-AT-22

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Greetings and thanks for your service to our wonderful Champaign County!

I would like to comment on the proposed changes to existing zoning laws for the case referenced above.

Amend 1) No Comment

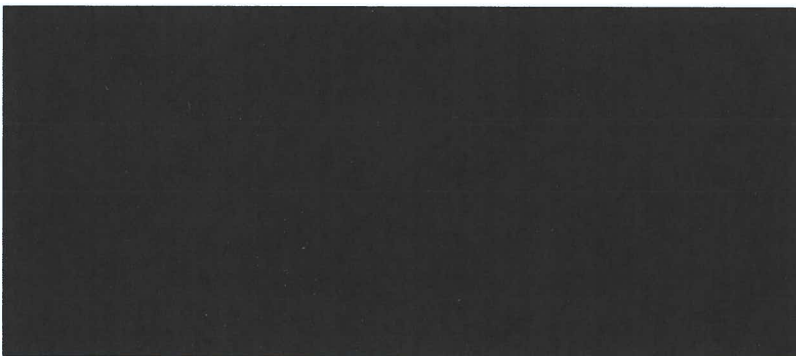
Amend 2) Please keep the wind turbine height to 500'. An ordinance with the word "unlimited" should not even be an option. A Turbine company should have to approach a Zoning and County Board and prove to them why they need an ordinance change because of new technologies or new safety features. The setbacks from a non-participant should be increased to 3,250' from the property line, or 6X the height, if a change in maximum height is considered.

We, in Champaign County, have the unique ability to observe and learn from the Douglas County Industrial Wind Complex errors. Due to the increased height of those turbines (599'), they consequently had to dig deeper into the ground for foundation base stability. This disturbance of ground water caused water changes to people 3 miles from a drill site. When you don't have access to city water, your life depends on good, quality ground water. Also in Douglas County, one turbine near Country Road 2530 East, (between Broadlands and Newman, near 1450 North) throws ice onto the road. I can't even imagine the danger this puts innocent travelers in. Studies have shown noise, flicker and ice/debris throws to have impacts at well over 5 times the height. Let's keep the citizens living and traveling through Champaign County healthy, happy and safe!

Amend 3) Requiring Industrial Wind Complexes to utilize Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems seems like a good idea to protect the citizens and wildlife from additional light pollution. My only concern is

if/when these systems fail. A short term failure could have catastrophic consequences. Especially concerning is the newest proposed area of industrial complex (south-east Champaign county) is an area of flight path departures and approaches at Willard Airport.

Amend 4) We agree that Champaign County Zoning should require compliance inline with the State of Illinois Agriculture Impact Mitigation agreement. Being generational farmers in Champaign county, drainage is of utmost concern for to protect soil health, prevent soil erosion and help manage water in our fields. It has been observed and documented that drainage issues caused by placing Turbines over and around drainage tiles affects large acreages of water shed areas. Especially detrimental is construction equipment, cranes and installation traffic, which can cause irreparable damage to soil and it's water holding abilities, through compaction and destruction of drainage systems. Our farming and drainage systems are currently affected by excess Water shed from Champaign and Urbana areas. Any small change to our existing downstream drainage could have huge ramifications for our farms and livelihoods, as well as the livelihood of urban areas. As a way to see this in action, go to : [River Runner \(https://river-runner.samlearner.com\)](https://river-runner.samlearner.com) and drop a rain drop of water in Champaign-Urbana. Watch that drop of water flow towards farmland as it makes its way to the Gulf of Mexico. The better our farmland is (ie well drained, non-compacted) the better our lands are at acting as a sponge to absorb rainfall events, allowing the drainage ditches to effectively work at getting water away from people's houses (and especially basements!!) and cities.



River Runner

Watch the path of a raindrop from anywhere in the contiguous United States

Amend 5) We agree with raising fees. These companies would not be seeking a change to ordinance if this proposed project (or any future project) was not going to make them money that I can't even comprehend. I think proposed tower fees and permit fees could be even higher.

Susan Burgstrom

From: John Hall
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 11:15 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: questions about the future windmills in Southern Champaign County

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Dave and Traci Bosch <davetraci.bosch@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 10:53 AM
To: John Hall <jhall@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Re: questions about the future windmills in Southern Champaign County

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Thank you for following up with me. I did contact the director of Carle EMS. He stated that the windmills have not impacted their flight pattern yet. But increasing volumes of windmills would be a concern in the future. I guess I would be concerned because Carle had to use the helicopter on 300N next to my farm to reach a critically ill car accident patient and I thought about how this could have changed the outcome of this patient if the helicopter could not have been used. We did contact spraying businesses that spray farm fields for insecticide and fungicide and they will not use airplanes near windmills and will charge an extra fee to the customer if they use a helicopter. Spraying fields by airplane is becoming more common in our area and this would impact the farmer in cost of running our businesses.

Thank you again for responding back to me.
Traci Bosch

On Thu, Mar 31, 2022 at 10:32 AM John Hall <jhall@co.champaign.il.us> wrote:

From: Dave and Traci Bosch <davetraci.bosch@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:59 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: questions about the future windmills in Southern Champaign County

Mr. and Mrs. Bosch, see my replies below. This reply will be copied to ZBA members.

Sincerely,

John Hall
Director
Zoning Administrator

Champaign County Department of Planning and Zoning

Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana IL 61802
Tel (217) 384-3708
Fax (217) (819-4021)

1) Have you contacted the Carle EMS system about the safety of using Helicopters to get trauma or critically ill patients to the hospital if they have to maneuver the helicopters around densely populated areas of windmills? I would think

this needs to be looked at before a decision can be made on the distance between windmills and buildings or even windmills themselves to roadways. REPLY: No.

2) Taller windmills would have to go deeper into the ground to be stable. Would this affect my water supply and underground water pockets that the rural communities get their drinking water from? REPLY: Taller wind turbine towers would probably require wider footings than shorter towers but may not require deeper footings. It is not known if wind turbine towers affect underground aquifers.

3) I see that you want to charge more for the fees for the permits. Would Rural Levying Districts see any of this money? (Fire Depts, Schools, Townships) We would be highly affected by these windmills in our backyards but Champaign County would only get the fee payment? REPLY: All fees taken in for wind farm permits go directly into the County's General Fund and in that way, help reduce the overall tax burden on everyone by a very small amount.

4) Have any of you actually driven out to the country and stood near the windmills? This noise that is created sounds like a blow torch going non stop. The reason people move to the country is to get away from noise.

5) I have seen in Douglas County the rural roads are still not returned to their previous conditions, as you only live and drive in the city limits of Champaign County, wouldn't you be concerned that these companies make promises that they do not keep? REPLY: Following the construction of the California Ridge Wind Farm in Champaign County, all Champaign County roads were brought back to a level of quality that was no worse than the road quality before the wind farm was constructed.

6) Please look at Google maps and see the permanent scarring of our soil and roads from the heavy cranes. Do you not realize that Champaign County, especially southern Champaign County has some of the richest soil to feed America. Why do you think Frito put in an elevator in our area to receive the best produced corn in central Illinois?

Please think hard and clearly about the impact of your decisions before you only think about the money you may receive today. This money will not be generated forever. Windmill companies go bankrupt after the government subsidies run out. They usually ask for adjustments in their tax assessment so taxes will go down. This energy that is supposedly created is not seen in local areas, only Chicago or the Eastern states benefit from our sufferings. Again please consider our rural tax payers. Our land and homes are worth a lot and people will move away and even all of us will suffer from your decisions.

Thank you for your consideration before making decisions for the county you represent.
Traci Bosch

Susan Burgstrom

From: srsaksss@prairieinet.net
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 3:55 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: Re: Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals March 31, 2022 Meeting Packet

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I would like to say that according to the FAA structures less than 200 feet above ground level do not need to have aircraft lighting. If the height limit for the windmills is limited to less than 200 feet above ground level and the minimum setback from the property line of a non participating property owner is enacted it will greatly lessen the negative environmental impact in the area. Shadow flicker distances will be reduced greatly as well as not having the annoying lights shining in peoples bedrooms at night.

Stephen R. Smith

On Thu, 24 Mar 2022 15:07:00 +0000, Susan Burgstrom <sburgstrom@co.champaign.il.us> wrote:

You are receiving this email because you previously provided public comments via email for zoning case 037-AT-22 wind farms text amendment.

The Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals **March 31, 2022** meeting packet is available for viewing at: http://www.co.champaign.il.us/CountyBoard/meetings_ZBA.php.

This meeting will be held in-person in the Shields-Carter Meeting Room at Brookens, with no virtual meeting availability.

Docket

037-AT-22		Continued hearing: Amend Section 6.1.4 Wind Farms
Zoning		
Administrator		
042-V-22	South Homer Township	Variance for 3.43 acre lot on Best Prime Farmland in lieu of
Jeff Gamboa &	Section 31	maximum allowed 3 acres in AG-1
Carol Ghiselli		

Thanks,
Susan

Susan Burgstrom, AICP
Senior Planner
Champaign County Department of Planning & Zoning
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61802

P: 217-384-3708
F: 217-819-4021

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Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 3:59 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Proposed wind and solar farms.

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Doug Downs <tractordoug69@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 3:58 PM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Cc: Jacob Paul <217jpaul@gmail.com>; Jim Goss <jegoss64@gmail.com>; Jodi Wolken <jwolken4@aol.com>; michaels@illicom.net; ale7496@yahoo.com; Stan Harper <stancharper@gmail.com>; Brad Passalacqua <bpasalacqua2020@gmail.com>; Jim McGuire <jimmcgu1@gmail.com>; Bethany Vanichtheeranont <Champaigncbdistrict5@gmail.com>; Leah Taylor <leahtaylor100@gmail.com>; Samantha Carter <jazzielooks@gmail.com>; Jenny Lokshin <jenny.lokshin@gmail.com>; Eric Thorland <ericfor1@yahoo.com>; Kyle Patterson <kylepatterson@co.champaign.il.us>; Stephanie Fortado <fortadoccb@gmail.com>; Emily Rodriguez <erodriguez@co.champaign.il.us>; Jennifer Straub <jennifer.straub61801@gmail.com>; Steve Summers <ssummers@co.champaign.il.us>; Chris Stohr <cstohr.ccbd10@gmail.com>; Mary King <maryking4countyboard@gmail.com>; Lorraine Cowart <lcowart@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Proposed wind and solar farms.

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Hello,
Briefly, I have learned of the proposed wind development in southern Champaign County. I have not had a chance to completely digest all of the information.

I am unable to attend tonight's Zoning board meeting, however, I would like to express my opposition to changing the current setbacks as well as height limitations on these structures. My farm Headquarters are north of Broadlands. I look at and farm near the northern Douglas county turbines every day. Some turbines are within an 1/8 of a mile of land I farm. They are loud. The lights are extremely distracting. They cause nearby residents to completely change their living habits.

I would like to express that I am opposed to changing any current zoning ordinances that raises the heights of a tower or lowers the setbacks from adjoining neighbors. I really wish the setbacks were further, like 3250 feet. I am completely in favor of property owners rights, and if they support and want a structure, they should be able to seek one. On the other hand, many land and homeowners bought their property knowing current zoning limitations and should not be subject to a drastic change such as unlimited height turbines or closer setbacks. Especially when and if this negatively impacts their property value or quality of life.

I own about 212 acres of farmland in Ayers and South Homer townships, in 6 different locations. I could potentially make a lot of money from these, but the negative effects on my neighbors' homes and lifestyles won't let me support changes in our current zoning ordinances that reduce setbacks or allow unrestricted heights on wind turbines that current residents must endure the consequences of.

Thank you,
Doug Downs
1436 CR 2150 East
St. Joseph, IL
61873

My Name is Kris Petersen, I am with Pontiac Flying Service in Pontiac, IL. WE are an aerial application service in the area that treats mostly corn and soybeans for fungal diseases and insect pest infestations by airplane. We have been in business since 1997. We provide many application services in the surrounding counties: Champaign, Douglas, Piatt, Vermillion and Edgar.

I hold a Commercial Pilots license with an instrument rating.

Over 3600 total time in fixed wing aircraft

Over 3000 being agricultural operations alone.

I hold a bachelor's degree in Crop Agribusiness from the University of Illinois.

Certified aircraft airframe and powerplant mechanic

Concerns with towers getting taller.

We spend most of our time at 1000' above the ground and below. Our operating season is short and we have a short time window to treat the crops so the farmer and land owners can get their most ROI from treatments. That is why we stay low: to save time, save fuel and be efficient. By law we have to fly at or above 500' off of the ground unless we are treating a field and/or entering or exiting it. We will go to work with a 1200' cloud layer. With a tower maximum height of 500', that gives us some room above the wind towers to fly over them, and in some case remain below the cloud layer to get to the field we need to treat. Taller towers will not allow this.

Allowing these towers to become taller will make our job much more dangerous and less efficient. These communities are built around agricultural. If towers are allowed to go taller, it is much more difficult and dangerous to work in those areas. Not being able to treat these crops safely or possibly at all could have major impacts to the agricultural communities.

In wind farm areas there are many other obstacles to deal with. The wind towers are very dangerous but the added infrastructure at lower levels increases danger to our applicators and limits applications even more. With wind farms come more substations, powerlines large and small and meteorological towers. These towers and powerlines have been the fate of many agricultural pilots across the nation.

The area is already extremely obstacle heavy from small powerlines, large transmission powerlines and communications towers.

Aircraft can treat more acres much more efficiently than ground machines. Large infestations of insects need to be treated immediately, usually over large areas.

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CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

With heavy insect infestations or diseases: yield losses can be drastic. With historic commodity prices and yields, untreated acres can lose \$150-\$200 per acre on average depending on the insect/disease. That is \$15k-\$20k for a 100 acre field. In some cases, it can be as much as a \$300 per acre loss.

Changing the current cap from 500' to unlimited seems absurd to me and gives way too much freedom. In our opinion 500' is high enough as it is already.

What about EMS helicopters? Their missions and rescues are sure to be compromised with windmills in general. Even more so if they are allowed to build them over 500'.

ADLS Aircraft detection light system.

These concern us as well. I think the current wind farms in the area are already breaking the law. Structures over 200' are required to be lighted at the highest point to provide safety to airmen. If you look at current windfarms, not all of the wind mills are lighted at night. Likely only about 85% of them are. How do they get away with that?

They also are not lighted at the top of the structure. They are only lighted at the top of the generator. The blade extends 125-175' above the generator. They should be required to light the tip of the blade when it is at its highest point in my opinion.

As far as ADLS, I understand it could be a good compromise for light pollution. However, what is the cost going to be for aviators to have the proper equipment for these detection systems to work properly?

How far away will they detect? Some aircraft are faster than others. 5 miles can go pretty quick in an airplane traveling 150mph. About 2 minutes.

What is the cost on safety?

What if the system fails?

What if the aircraft has a total engine and electrical failure and its only option is to make an emergency landing in the middle of a wind farm? Small aircraft or large?

That system may then not be able to detect the aircraft. How would you like to land in the dark knowing there are hundreds of turning windmill blades to navigate around that you can't see?

This is already an issue with the current lighting systems the wind farms have by not illuminating every tower and not illumination the tip of the blade.

A dear friend was killed spraying mosquitos at night when a storm took out the power source for a cell tower light, and the backup generator did not work. They could not see the tower and ran into it killing two pilots.

Systems can and will fail.

Night time operations do happen in Illinois and across the nation. If these systems fail, that presents a very dangerous situation for applicators and our industry.

Kris Petersen
Pontiac Flying LLC
15801 E 2000 North Rd.
Pontiac, IL 61764

Susan Burgstrom

From: Stephanie N. Berry
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 4:51 PM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Comments regarding wind turbine zoning

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MAR 31 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Lockwood <mike@loptics.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 4:28 PM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Comments regarding wind turbine zoning

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Hello,

One reason I chose to keep my small, home-based business in Champaign county was because I did not believe that Champaign county was likely to be the location of a large wind farm due to zoning regulations.

However, it appears that the temptation of tax revenue, permit fees, and perceived "green" energy are in the process of eroding those regulations. This makes me strongly question my decision.

On the proposed map that I have seen, my property and that of my nearest neighbors' has been placed in a "notch", just outside the wind farm area, so that the proposed turbine area surrounds us on three sides, likely with no permission required from us. This is unacceptable.

The fact that I have not been notified by ANY party in ANY manner regarding this proposed wind farm is infuriating. In fact, I only heard about it from a neighbor.

In my case, my career and hobbies involve astronomy, astrophotography, and landscape photography in the around around my home.

If surrounded on three sides, significant areas of the sky would not be usable for my purposes due to rotating blades periodically sweeping through them. Additionally, red lights would ruin photographs and further cause light pollution.

Of course this does not consider the YEARS of construction noise and massive lights that are used when building these turbines. This disturbance would be significant for anyone within miles of the construction site.

When the wind farm to the southeast of Champaign county was under construction, I obtained photographs of the shadow of a turbine projected on the clouds from 10-15 miles away! (I can produce this if desired, please email me if you would like to see it.)

Simply put, the construction and placement of turbines could completely ruin the purpose that I chose a more rural property, not to mention the reduction in natural beauty of the surrounding area and the value of my property.

Finally, I am aware that those properties that the turbines would occupy are predominantly farmland, and some may be owned by large landowners that don't live there, or the land may be owned by an investment company or similar. These landowners benefit MOST from the wind farm because the company pays them to use their land.

However, homeowners and smaller landowners benefit least because they may not be paid anything at all, yet their property value suffers the greatest loss in value. This is blatantly unfair.

I believe that the greater part of the decision should be made by those who stand to lose more and benefit less (if at all) from the development of a wind farm, and by this I mean those landowners who actually live near or within the proposed wind farm.

Those who own large land plots should not wholly dictate what happens to homeowners and small farms.

--

Therefore, I am opposed to the proposed wind farm that would surround my property, without my approval, on three sides, and I favor larger setback distances than those proposed and additional zoning regulations that require permission from those in the surrounding/bordering area of a wind farm.

I propose that these three items be addressed:

1) Draft zoning regulations with non-participating residential properties, nearby and within the area of the wind farm, in mind. These homeowners are often MORE affected by turbines than owners of large tracts of land that they do NOT live on. Notification of and conversations with the people within a certain distance of the wind farm should be MANDATORY, and they should be given a louder voice and more say in decisions.

2) Do not allow unlimited height wind turbines, and increase setback distances to further decrease noise and visual disturbances under worst-case conditions (3).

3) As someone with an acoustics background, I know that sound travels farther under certain weather conditions, and these should be taken into account when considering setback distances. I believe the worst case scenario should be used to determine setback distances.

I am happy to elaborate on the personal hardships and problems that such a development would cause to me and my business if that is desired.

Thank you.

--

Mike Lockwood
648 CR 1700 E
Philo, IL 61864

Susan Burgstrom

From: Isaak L. Simmers
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 7:57 AM
To: Susan Burgstrom
Subject: FW: Comments from 3/31/22 ZBA meeting

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APR 01 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Heidi Leerkamp <heidi.leerkamp@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 8:24 PM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: Comments from 3/31/22 ZBA meeting

My name is Heidi Leerkamp, I live at 548 County Road 1900 East in Sidney.

I am here to ask the Zoning Board of Appeals to abandon its proposed changes to special use permits for industrial wind energy complexes.

Siting wind turbines in rural areas, in the middle of prime best farmland, as well as near homes is a short-sighted and ill-considered solution to a long-term problem. Transitioning to green energy is necessary, and it is the future, I am very happy about that. What I cannot condone is creating other problems in the process.

The human, animal, and environmental health effects of living among wind turbines has not been adequately or independently studied over the long term. We have all heard anecdotal evidence of the harms caused by living near wind turbines and these claims should be taken seriously and studied before our county moves to expand potential development of wind generation. If a safe distance to live from a wind turbine exists, it is not currently known or implemented in the industry. These ideas should be studied and modeled to assess their impact in our area before any further development occurs in Champaign County.

The recently passed bipartisan infrastructure bill has provisions for wind generation facilities to be built on federal lands, or on the sites of decommissioned mines. I agree with this approach which would spare rural residents from having to live among wind turbines with no concern for the long-term health and safety impacts they would face. There are indeed other forms of green energy that are being developed that would not require as large a footprint on the rural landscape as a wind energy facility. The infrastructure plan also includes \$9.5 billion to develop the hydrogen industry to decarbonize transportation and heavy industry. You may have seen the MTD buses that run on hydrogen. These are initiatives that Illinois can participate in which would not be detrimental to our farm families.

The decisions made by farming operations are made on a timeline that exceeds the expected lifetime of a wind project. We plan in decades and make everyday decisions with the long view in mind. We think in generations, and how the decisions we make today will affect those in the future who work this land. There are too many unknowns of too great a size to leave to the future. In a well-intentioned rush to improve the amount of green energy produced in our country we may create untold damage to our rural landscape, economy, and farm families.

This land is our legacy, one that has been carefully managed over the last 175 years to feed the world. I ask for a pause in wind energy development in the county to protect our greatest asset, prime best farmland, until wind energy development is studied more fully. This is in the best interest of the rural residents of Champaign County.

Thank you.