

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 4:32 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed wind farm in south east Champaign County

**From:** Jennifer Eisenmenger [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 12:27 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Proposed wind farm in south east Champaign County

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MAR 16 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

Dear Zoning Board,

My family lives on three acres south of Philo. If the wind farm moves forward as planned, our property will be surrounded.

While I believe in the importance of conserving the Earth's resources, I am against industrial wind farms. Wind Farms are invasive to wild places, damaging to animals and humans, and require so much fossil fuel in the manufacturing, transportation, maintenance, and disposal that they actually do little to offset it's usage.

We all have the responsibility to conserve. Industrial wind farms are counter productive to this goal. We need to drive less, buy less, plant more, turn lights off, reduce water usage and protect wild spaces, not introduce 100's of tons of concrete and steel per turbine over vast acres of our rural landscape.

On behalf of the children, horses, goats, chickens, dogs, and cats it is my honor to care for, along with the bats that swoop through our yard on summer evenings, the monarchs that pause to rest in their migration in the fall, my neighbors bees that fill our apple trees in the spring, and the Hawks drawn to my parents prairie restoration project up the road, I ask that you say, "No" to unlimited heights on wind turbines, and "yes" to significantly increased setbacks from households. My hope is that these measures, widely adopted, will force the industry to develop technology that will protect wild spaces, people, and animals.

Please make decisions for Champaign county informed by the realities surrounding industrial wind, rather than what we all wish the realities were.

Finally, consider what happens (as illustrated in Douglas county) when wind farms go out of business, leaving counties and land owners with the health and safety issues that come with deteriorating turbines.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Eisenmenger  
[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 4:32 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to the proposed Revisions to Wind Energy Ordinance as written

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CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Shannon Reel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 4:17 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed Revisions to Wind Energy Ordinance as written

In regards to the March 8, 2022- Preliminary Memorandum Case 037-AT-22 (hereinafter "PMC"), I as a land owner in unincorporated Champaign County, Sidney Township, Illinois seek the following clarification and/or answers in regards to the proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinances regarding Wind Energy:

1. The PMC states that ELUC presented request to review certain features of the wind farm ordinance and to propose revisions to the Zoning Ordinances based on updated information. What "updated information" did ELUC present as evidence to support the need for such revisions?
2. The PMC states there are six sections of current wind farm ordinance section that P&Z believe warrant review (right to farm; minimum required separation from wind farm towers to principal structures; height; lighting; agricultural impact mitigation agreements; and fees). What evidence was presented by ELUC to support the potential need to revise these six sections?
3. The PMC contains the comparison table (included as Exhibit B to Memorandum dated December 27, 2021) of 18 Illinois Counties (including Champaign) that P&Z staff selected to compare the Zoning Ordinances and wind energy ordinances of those counties that "accommodate large systems like Champaign County", in regards to such comparison table:
  - a. Were these 18 counties the only counties of the 102 total counties in the state of Illinois that "accommodate large systems like Champaign County"?
    - i. If no, how did P&Z staff choose each of the 17 counties to include in this comparison table?
    - ii. If yes, did P&Z staff look at zoning ordinances and wind energy ordinances in other states that "accommodate large systems like Champaign County" or only the 17 counties contained in this chart?
    - iii. Ford county, Piatt County and McClean County, which have all revised/updated their Zoning Ordinances and wind energy ordinances in 2021 all contain a maximum tower height restriction, what evidence, studies, support that an unlimited height restriction is in the best interest

of unincorporated Champaign County and the residents of such unincorporated Champaign County?

iv. Was any investigation done as to what impacts the Douglas County wind farm has had on the neighboring residences and to the county as a whole; what increase has the county had in real estate tax and sales tax revenues, both during the build and subsequent thereto; and what impact to revenue did it have to each of the schools and colleges contained within the county?

v. McLean County, Illinois has one of the largest numbers of windmills within this state. Was any investigation as to what impacts the growth of wind farms has had on McLean County, if such wind farm growth is such a money maker for the county and schools within the county, why McLean County's largest school district (Unit 5) just had to approve \$2.1 million in budget cuts?

4. What evidence, studies, information, guidance, etc. were used as evidence to support the proposed change to WIND FARM TOWER height (Section 6.1.4 C.1) from a minimum of 1,000 ft to 2.0 times the maximum allowed total WIND FARM TOWER and a PARTICIPATING DWELLING OR PRINCIPAL BUILDING?

5. What studies, information, guidance, etc. were used as evidence to determine that the same setback equation of 2 times the maximum allowed total WIND FARM TOWER and a PARTICIPATING DWELLING OR PRINCIPAL BUILDING is adequate for a wind farm tower of unlimited limited height?

6. What evidence, studies, information, guidance, etc. were used as evidence to support the proposed change to WIND FARM TOWER height (Section 6.1.4 C.1) from a minimum of 1,000 ft to 2.4 times the maximum allowed total WIND FARM TOWER and any NON-PARTICIPATING DWELLING OR PRINCIPAL BUILDING?

7. What studies, information, guidance, etc. was used as evidence to determine that the same setback equation of 2.4 times the maximum allowed total WIND FARM TOWER and any NON-PARTICIPATING DWELLING OR PRINCIPAL BUILDING is adequate for a wind farm tower of unlimited limited height?

8. What evidence, studies, information, guidance, etc. were used to determine that it is best to calculate the wind farm tower setbacks from the non-participating dwelling and not the property line of the non-participating dwelling?

9. Why is it acceptable for the nonparticipating residents in unincorporated Champaign County to only be guaranteed with the right of enjoyment without infringement to the noise, vibrations, ice shed, collapse, throwing of blades, and light shutter/flicker, etc. of a wind farm tower within their "dwelling or principal building"?

10. What evidence, studies, information, guidance, etc. was obtained by the Zoning Administrator and/or staff as to the potential health, safety and environmental hazards and impacts would occur to the land and residence of unincorporated Champaign County if unlimited height wind farm towers were permitted to be built in unincorporated Champaign County?

Comments:

My primary structure or dwelling as nonparticipating resident of unincorporated Champaign County is occupying a very small portion of the total property that I own. My house occupies a mere 2,000 square feet of the 182,080.8 square feet of property that I own in Champaign County. The proposed amended Wind Energy Ordinance denies me and my family of right to complete and uninfringed upon use and access to 180,080 square feet of the real property that we own, that we pay real estate taxes on to Champaign County. For a better visual, that 4.13 of the entire 4.18 acres.

We have a pool that is adjacent to our patio. With the proposed revisions to the Wind Energy Ordinance, there is no guarantee that we will be able to enjoy the use of pool during the summer months if the set back of the wind farm tower is measured from our house and not our property line. When out of town or out of state family and friends come to stay with us, they stay in our travel trailer parked next to our unattached garage that is 50 yards away from our house. With the proposed revisions to the Wind Energy Ordinance, there is no guarantee that our of town/state family and friends will be able to continue to do this, with the noise, lights, vibrations, ice shed, etc. if the set back is measured from our house and not our property line. If 2.4x times is necessary for safety, my family and I, as well as our friends and family, have the right to be safe not only in our home, but anywhere on our 4.18. Set backs should be at least six (6) times the total height from the non-participating property lines.

Request a moratorium for Champaign County special use wind farm applications for at eighteen (18) months so that the county can conduct adequate investigations and research as to what, if any, revisions to the Wind Energy Ordinance is the in best interest of the county and not merely make ad hoc revisions to remove height restrictions and keep the same set back formula that was implemented over 13 years ago when less was known about windfarms, the noise, flutter, ice shed, health issues, sleeping problems, etc. that they have to neighboring residences.

A 2009 WHO study, evidenced that long-term, adverse health effects begin to regularly appear in humans when soundwaves approach 40-45 decibels. IICC research has shown that wind turbines that are 550 feet tall can produce levels of noise around 50-55 decibels. Taller wind towers result in increased impact on those living the vicinity of them and set backs should be substantially increased to 6x their maximum height to ensure that any impact on nonparticipating residents is minimal, if any.

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 8:29 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Windfarm zoning

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MAR 16 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

From: Benjamin Rice [REDACTED]  
Date: 3/16/22 8:26 PM (GMT-06:00)  
To: zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
Subject: Windfarm zoning

Hi, I am a Philo township resident that is concerned about the proposed zoning changes to the current county wind zoning.

What is a positive outcome for those that might live around a wind turbine for it to have no height restrictions?

I am also opposed to the set back of a wind turbine being measured from my home and not from my property line. We have a 7 acre yard and my kids use all of it. If the set back is based off of noise or safety then this makes no sense. You would be making my yard unenjoyable to be out in God's creation because of noise and could make it dangerous for my family.

Thank you,  
Benjamin Rice

REDACTED

## Susan Burgstrom

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:10 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: March 17th Agenda

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MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Heidi Leerkamp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 9:40 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** March 17th Agenda

I am writing to give my feedback to the Zoning Board on the proposed changes to the Champaign County Zoning Ordinance section 6.1.4 pertaining to wind farms.

I am a homeowner, resident, and landowner in the area of the proposed wind project (rural Sidney) which will be most affected by any zoning ordinance changes. I am opposed to all changes which increase the height allowed for wind turbines, or lessen setbacks from non participating property or dwellings.

Our family farm represents over 4 generations of investment, work, and life in Champaign County. Our farm livelihood and our ability to pass our property to our heirs unencumbered and undiminished is threatened by poorly considered projects like the proposed wind farm. This project is considered a win for economic development in 2022 and may get support from those who have investment in Champaign County but do not live here, but it will be a long term drain on the health and welfare of our county. The proposed considerations for removal/decommissioning of wind turbines are inconsistent with economic realities and will damage the land in question irreparably.

As someone who built their "forever" home in rural Champaign County over 15 years ago and has since invested in the County with farm land purchases, I have seen our quality of life and the safety of the operation of our farm diminished with two current wind projects. I see the turbines at Penfield from the front door of my home every day and the turbines in Douglas County loom in constant sight of my south facing windows, just six miles away. There is no landscaping, awning or fencing to mitigate this fact that would not further degrade our use and enjoyment of our property. My husband farms around and under these structures in Douglas county. These projects greatly impact our daily quality of life and enjoyment of our home property. They negatively affect our ability to operate our family farm as well as the values of our home and farm properties.

Problems exist from construction through any potential decommissioning of a wind farm. Our rural roads, bridges, culverts, etc. will all be negatively affected by the construction of the proposed wind farm. These projects historically have not positively impacted local employment. The generated electricity does not stay local and nor do the maintenance or construction jobs.

There are grave concerns about the health and safety of living under and around wind turbines for humans and animals in the surrounding environment. Both physical and mental health are negatively impacted by living under and around moving structures of an unprecedented size. This will be no different in our area.

The decommissioning and removal process as outlined currently negatively impact the land forever. The timeline the county lists for removal after a company abandons turbines is unrealistic to the point of insanity. No government entity in the State of Illinois can contract with a company on such a financial scale in such a short time, even if the funds required were really available. The enforcement of this provision would be impossible by the county government without creating new positions to manage the project. The idea of leaving large amounts of wiring and concrete in the ground after removing the turbine is a problem waiting to happen. A flood could make the concrete and wiring,

unweighted by the turbine, move up in the field creating huge hazards for farming and thus make the land useless. Of great concern are the mechanics liens on property during decommissioning and removal that take away the rights and freedoms of landowners when refinancing or selling the land for years at a time.

Developments resulting from potential changes to the zoning ordinance would likely drive many long term residents, land owners, farmers, and taxpayers to leave the county. We would ask that no more wind projects be approved in our area and no increases be made to the current wind turbine height limits, and no decreases to the turbine setback limits be made.

REDACTED

## Susan Burgstrom

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:10 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Case 037-AT-22

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MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Justin Leerkamp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 9:48 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Case 037-AT-22

I would like to receive updates on Case 037-AT-22 via this email please.

I would like to comment on Case 037-AT-22

In regards to item 2 on the agenda I am against any increase above the current height restriction on wind turbines. Further and larger set backs from property lines, not just occupied dwellings would be welcome, but increases in height will only add to further problems for rural residences, and property values for rural homes. This in turn starts a chain reaction for movement of families away from areas with wind turbines leading to the decline of schools, townships, and ultimately the county. I think the decommissioning part of our zoning needs to be considered with the additional height being requested. Common sense tells us the taller the object, the deeper and wider the foundation, ie, the larger the footprint above and below ground. I understand decommissioning doesn't require removal to the full depth, but still it would be expected to be a larger cost for removal than our current towers. I would hope a report on the current status of the escrow requirement of existing wind turbines be provided by the zoning admin as a check up of how Champaign Counties decommissioning requirements are being met by existing wind turbine operations. A good history and track record of watching over this escrow fund is needed to assure Champaign County citizens the wind developers are meeting their requirements. Unfortunately, other areas of Champaign County government have lacked in their due diligence in regards to taxpayer funds resulting in the need for this assurance.

My biggest objections to increasing height is both noise and shadows from the blades, both during the day and from the lighting systems at night bouncing off the blades. This comes from personal experience farming next to the Douglas County wind farm located just 5 miles south of my house. This wind farm and the problems around it are the result of poor zoning by Douglas County. My hope is Champaign County maintains stricter zoning to protect its valuable land and residences.

I do support item 3 with the use of new lighting systems that are activated when aircraft are near, but question how effective this will be when areas south east of Willard airport are in the ILS path of its runways. I feel the lights would be on a larger portion of time than anticipated. Further study of the traffic in and out of Willard in the times from dusk to dawn is required.

I question why this was brought up in ELUC in first December of 2021 and then at length in January of 2022. Was this idea for a change in our zoning a request from a particular developer to members of the ELUC committee?

I look forward to speaking with the ZBA about this case to convey how big of change this is from current zoning, and the impact I have already experienced from neighboring wind farms. This must be considered very carefully.

Thank you,  
Justin Leerkamp  
Sidney, IL  
Raymond Township

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:11 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Champaign County P&Z Case 037-AT-22

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MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** David Happ [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 8:26 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Champaign County P&Z Case 037-AT-22

I respectfully offer the following comments ahead of your March 17, 2022 meeting to consider amending the windfarm section of the Champaign County Zoning Ordinance:

- I support adding the ADLS lighting requirements to the ordinance.
- I do not think the maximum tower height should be increased. It should remain at 500 feet.
- The comparison table which was prepared by P&Z staff shows that Champaign County has some of the least restrictive separation distance requirements of any of the nearby counties. Other counties in the state have set their separation distances at 3250 feet. This is because some residents have experienced significant problems when turbines are located at closer distances. I think Champaign County should change their ordinance to specify a separation distance of **3250 feet from any residence, and one-half mile from any property line**. In addition, I do not think a property owner should be allowed to waive these requirements.

I think the County should weigh more heavily the opinions of those who have been adversely impacted by windfarms in the past. Increasing the maximum tower height, and supporting lower separation distances, is exactly the opposite of what people who have lived near windfarms in the past have asked for. I ask that you change the County Zoning Ordinance to make it more friendly to the County's residents and less friendly to windfarm companies.

David Happ  
[REDACTED]

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:11 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for 3/17/2022 ZBA meeting

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**MAR 17 2022**

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Todd Horton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 12:27 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Cc:** WindFarmOpposition <[windfarmopposition@gmail.com](mailto:windfarmopposition@gmail.com)>; [bdshotton@gmail.com](mailto:bdshotton@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Comments for 3/17/2022 ZBA meeting

Good morning!

Please add the comments below to the meeting agenda. I plan to attend the 3/17/2022 ZBA meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

The decisions facing the Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals regarding wind project development provide opportunities to benefit many county residents. The careful work of this board is essential to the well-being of our local economy, our current citizens, and the future citizens of our county. This board bears a significant weight of responsibility for due diligence, seeking widely varied counsel and anticipating the myriad consequences of each decision. Toward that effort, I offer these comments.

Section 6.1.4 Wind Farm County Board Special Use Permit, paragraph M. Standard Conditions for Shadow Flicker stipulates the following.

1. The applicant shall submit the results of a study on potential shadow flicker. The shadow flicker study shall identify the locations of both summer and winter shadow flicker that may be caused by the project with an expected duration of 30 hours or more per year.
2. Shadow flicker that exceeds the above standards shall be mitigated by any means such as landscaping, awnings, or fencing.

On the surface, it appears that providing a study of shadow flicker during summer and winter conditions would be sufficient to define the problem areas within and near the wind project site. The sun angle is high during summer and low during winter. However, this requirement ignores the sun conditions during half of the year. In other words, a property may be unaffected by shadow flicker during summer and winter yet adversely affected during spring or fall. If the wind project developer merely satisfies the language of the ordinance as written, then their shadow flicker study will ignore the problem for half the project's lifetime.

At their website <https://windexchange.energy.gov/projects/shadow-flicker>, the US Department of Energy states the following. "Computer models can accurately predict when, where, and to what degree this problem will occur, so wind project developers can mitigate this impact during the site selection process. In addition, many local ordinances incorporate language addressing shadow flicker to minimize any potential impact on neighbors."

Section 6.1.4 places no obligation on the wind project developer beyond securing a shadow study and providing screening materials close to the affected citizens. The language of Section 6.1.4 does not specifically require the wind project developer to consider shadow flicker in site selection. Section 6.1.4 does not define to what extent the flicker is to be mitigated. Neither does the ordinance specify who will bear the cost of maintaining mitigation methods over the lifetime of the wind project.

Thus, Champaign County has no authority to compel the wind project developer to offer any long-term solutions for shadow flicker. Stated simply, our ordinance does not require elimination of shadow flicker. It only requires the wind project developer to attempt a reduction and it does not establish a criterion for successful mitigation.

Perhaps the simplest solution for shadow flicker is to temporarily immobilize appropriate turbines whenever the flickering is predicted to occur. Current methods in modeling shadows readily enable wind project developers to know exactly when and where flicker will affect nearby properties. The language of our current ordinance does not specify this as a method for eliminating flicker, but it should.

This is a serious weakness of our current Champaign County Zoning Ordinance. Section 6.1.4 appears well-intentioned, but through its weak language, it favors the wind project developer over the citizens who live within the shadow flicker area.

The US Department of Energy also states on the web page cited above "The impact of shadow flicker from small wind turbines is minimal due to shorter heights and smaller rotor diameters." Logically, the converse is true: the impact of shadow flicker from larger wind turbines will no longer be minimal due to taller heights and larger rotor diameters.

As turbines grow taller, the shadow flicker issue will loom larger. The Champaign County Zoning Ordinance in its current form needs careful modification to protect not only our current citizens but also our future citizens from increased shadow flicker.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd W. Horton, PE, PLS  


**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:11 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Champaign County Windfarm

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MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Rice Family [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 9:37 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Champaign County Windfarm

We are Darrel and Regina Rice. We live and farm on 1800 East just south of a line between Philo and Sidney.

We live on a Sesquicentennial Farm which means it has been in our family for over 150 years. The farmstead sits on an 80 acre tract which was purchased by my Great Great Grandfather in 1857. Many of my neighbors live on Centennial Farms (land in the family for over 100 years). Ours is a heritage of producing crops and raising families on family farms for generation after generation.

We have a love for the land, and as stewards desire to leave it in the best condition we can for generations to come. We are privileged to farm some of the most fertile ground in this country and do our best to feed our nation and indeed a significant portion of the rest of the world.

It makes no sense to us to take ground in this part of the country out of production for a wind farm. We don't want to see it, we don't want to hear it, we don't want to farm around it, we don't want it near our homes or on our land.

We built a house two years ago just down the road from the original farmstead in order to allow our son and his family to move into the farmhouse. It's a log home which we have been planning for over a decade. We intended to retire and live out our years on this property but the idea of a wind farm surrounding us makes us think that may have been a mistake.

If this does indeed happen, we ask you to please place reasonable height limits on the turbines and increase the setbacks beyond what you are currently considering. It may just be another field to you, but to us it's our home.

Thank you for your consideration.

Darrel & Regina Rice

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Windfarm South of Philo, Sidney, Homer

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MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Donald Carter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:33 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Proposed Windfarm South of Philo, Sidney, Homer

My concerns are as follows:

1. Wife already suffers from migraines and sleep disruption. Concerned that w/o proper setbacks and decibel levels, this could get worse.
2. Concerned about reduction in property values within the windfarm boundary area.
3. Concerned about infrastructure damage and harm to productivity of farm ground where turbines are located.
4. Concerned with ongoing maintenance of turbines as deterioration had been experienced in other nearby windfarms.

I currently live within the proposed windfarm boundary south and east of Philo.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

REDACTED

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind farm proposal

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MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

**From:** Pam Leerkamp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:38 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Wind farm proposal

Zoning Board,

We have great concerns about the proposed wind farm to be constructed in the Philo/Sidney/ Homer rural area. Our family has farmed and lived in this area for four generations. We appreciate the beauty of the land as well as the agricultural productivity of the farm ground. We believe that the importance of maintaining this is crucial to all. We are concerned also as retirees about our property values decreasing. It would be extremely difficult to sell our home when the time comes to move to a health care facility as the wind farm would definitely be a detriment to selling a home.

Many residents of the Newman-Broadlands area have said promises made to them by the wind farm company were not kept. They have many issues to deal with as a result of the turbines being placed near them. It is our understanding that this proposed wind farm will have higher turbines and will be allowed even closer to homes.

We know you must realize that absentee owners agree to placing turbines on their property because they are just that, absentee. They receive the money but don't have to deal with any of the ramifications. But we are asking you, as Champaign County Zoning Board, to please consider the welfare of your own residents.

Thank you,  
Cary and Pam Leerkamp  
Sidney, Illinois  
Sent from my iPad

## Susan Burgstrom

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: questions about the future windmills in Southern Champaign County

**From:** Dave and Traci Bosch <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:59 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** questions about the future windmills in Southern Champaign County

- 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.
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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 alot and people will move away and evenly all of us will suffer from your decisions.

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

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**MAR 17 2022**

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Comments and concerns for Meeting 3/17/2022

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Brandon and Sarah Hastings [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 12:30 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Comments and concerns for Meeting 3/17/2022

**CAUTION:** External email, be careful when opening.

Regarding Case: 037-AT-22, Amend 2 B Amend 6.1.4 D.5 What is the purpose in asking for "maximum Wind Farm Tower Height from 500 feet to having no limit"? **Why would an unlimited height restriction be good for this county and its residents?** According to the article "Attention, class: A reality check in wind energy" by Deb Hay, (citation: <https://www.wind-watch.org/news/2018/05/23/attention-class-a-reality-check-in-wind-energy/>) A 300' wind turbine can throw debris 1,200 foot. **Why is this board considering an unlimited height restriction, with a required separation between turbine and its nearest structure (ie a home dwelling) at 2 times the height of the turbine. Is this zoning board going to be responsible for potential loss to life and/or property damage? Are landowner's responsible if debris from their turbine injures someone/damages property?**

According to the article "Modern Wind Turbines Generate Dangerously 'Dirty' Electricity" by Catherine Kleiber (citation: <https://www.cellphonetaskforce.org/wind-turbines/>) wind farms can create many and varied health problems but the wind turbines also can cause interference with radio, TV and satellite signal. Also the wind farm in Macon county disrupted early detection of tornado formation (tornado on May 3rd, 2021) **How can this board create zoning guidelines that will protect the health of the people living in the footprint of the project, as well as demonstrate that turbines will not impact radio, TV, satellite, or radar detection? What measures are you going to put in place to ensure that no one loses their home due to a tornado that radar was prohibited from detecting?**

Local communities are starting to receive/look into grants for getting/improving rural broadband as a way to help with educational needs, as well as a tool for our first responders. **How will the zoning board make sure that these proposed zoning changes do not impact the community within the footprint of this proposed project?**

If I add value to my property, for example, a home addition or build a new shed, my property's assessed value goes up and I pay more real estate taxes. If a wind turbine costs \$2.4-4 Million (<https://weatherguardwind.com/how-much-does-wind-turbine-cost-worth-it/>) and a property owner is receiving an annual payment from the wind farm, **how will the zoning board change the tax assessment on each property that has a wind turbine? Where does this additional tax revenue go?**

According to Forbes.com (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/judeclemente/2015/09/23/do-wind-turbines-lower-property-values/?sh=c0c69f48cb22>) wind turbines lower home property values from 22-55%. **How will the zoning board go about lowering the assessed value for homes in the footprint of any proposed project or near any proposed project? How will the county board account for the potential loss in revenue from decreases in property taxes? If the zoning board and county board vote to approve these proposed height ordinance changes, are those members liable for the decreases in home values and side effects in the health of people living in the footprint of any future project?**

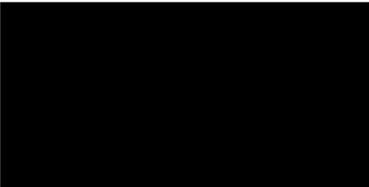
After the Douglas County Wind Project finished, there was extreme damage done to fields, existing tile lines and roads that is still not repaired to this day. Fields will take years to recover, if ever. **Who will be responsible for overseeing that any projects hold up their end of the bargain and don't leave the residents of Champaign County with a never-ending mess on their hands?**

According to the Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan (LRMP) Goals, adopted April 22, 2010, Goal #4 states: *Champaign County will protect the long-term viability of agriculture in Champaign County and its land resource base.* **Why is this board considering taking prime A-1 soils out of production to install wind turbines on them? Why is this zoning board not upholding the life style of the Agricultural community it professes to protect?**

Regarding Case 037-AT-22, Amend 5 A & B, which increases the tower fee per wind turbine and permitting special use fee per tower, **What will this additional revenue be used for?**

Thank you for your attention to these questions

Brandon and Sarah Hastings



REDACTED

## Susan Burgstrom

---

**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind farm concerns for tonight's meeting (March 17, 2022)

**From:** Wiesbrook, Michelle L <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 12:36 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Cc:** Scott Wiesbrook <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Wind farm concerns for tonight's meeting (March 17, 2022)

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

Dear Zoning Board of Appeals,

We have some questions and concerns about the proposed wind farm south of Philo and Sidney.

- How close will this be to our house? We own only 2 acres and the wind farm has not contacted us at all.
- Building these turbines will require a huge increase in traffic on our quiet roads. Our family enjoys bike riding and long walks. This traffic will limit those loved activities and make them hazardous.
- Why would the county ever make anything unlimited? Why make a rule that will last forever and affect multiple generations? How big do they want to build? Don't they know? Please set a measurable limit.
- The noise, flicker, and vibration greatly concerns us. Turbines that are built too high and too close to homes make them unlivable. Wind farm companies have pushed residents out of Vermilion county. Please don't allow this to happen in Champaign county.
- Is it in the best long term interest of the residents of Champaign county to construct these on what is objectively among the most productive farm land in the world, especially when energy can be produced more efficiently elsewhere?
- What is the compelling public interest to build these? Will the townships/county receive revenue? How much?
- This is not permanent infrastructure. What is the plan to reclaim the soil where the concrete pads are and to eliminate the compaction where the gravel roads are?
- What landfill will accept these blades? Will that be in Champaign county or will they be trucked elsewhere, thus using more fuel?
- We love our home and raising our children in our nice, rural community. Wind farms have destroyed relationships and polarized communities in other counties. Please do not let this happen to Champaign county.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Michelle and Scott Wiesbrook  
[REDACTED]

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**Susan Burgstrom**

---

**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind farm height and setback

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

From: Lynn Rice [REDACTED] >  
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:19 PM  
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
Subject: Wind farm height and setback

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear Zoning Board of Appeals,

The proposed unlimited height and short setback restrictions being proposed at tonight's meeting should be denied.

Studies have shown there are adverse health and sleep effects from living in close proximity to wind farms. Wind turbines should have a maximum height of 500 feet and a minimum setback of 1.25 miles from residential homes to mitigate these impacts.

Please do what is best for a Champaign County residents and deny the proposed amendment as to unlimited height and seriously consider extending the setback between homes and turbines to at least 1.25 miles.

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Rice  
[REDACTED]

REDACTED

**Susan Burgstrom**

---

**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW:

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:24 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:**

What will be done to alleviate any broadband/internet service interruptions as many have school age children who depend internet access. It has been an issue at other windfarms in IL.

Josh Kamerer

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REDACTED

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind turbines

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Steven Herriott [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Wind turbines

This email is in response to the proposed changes for wind turbines. We out here in sidney and surrounding townships enjoy our view of sunrises and evening sun sets and yes even watching storms approaching. Wind turbines are a blight on our beautiful country side. Giving these monsters even more sky to block would be a huge mistake.

These turbine companies should also be held to standards of fixing the roads they destroyed. I travel the roads in the county south of us, they are not safe. They have been left as dusty, loose gravel with deep ditches. The used to be chip and oil. STOP catering to companies who come here messing up are beautiful country side and then leaving with no one to answer to.

Steven Herriott, [REDACTED]  
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

REDACTED

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 2:00 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: CC ZBA Meeting March 17, 2022

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Tiffany Byrne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:59 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** CC ZBA Meeting March 17, 2022

Hello there!

I have a conflict and cannot attend tonight's meeting but I wanted to make a public comment.

Studies show a casual link between wind turbine disturbance and adverse health effects on those living in their proximity. Noise, being repeatedly referenced, awakens people at night and sometimes it's the low frequency sound that is not heard, that disrupts sleep. Inadequate sleep adversely affects overall health and mental well-being.

Further, wind turbines have been reported to have negative impacts on nearby wildlife and livestock impacting eating, drinking, sleeping, and reproductive patterns.

To reduce these negative effects, the height should not exceed the current maximum, 500 ft, and the wind turbines should be set back at a much greater distance than 2.4 times the height. Residential homes need at least 1 mile, 1.25 most commonly cited, separation to mitigate these impacts.

Please consider the large scale adverse effects taller (massive) wind turbines could have on our most vulnerable population and the negative impacts to neighboring wildlife and livestock and deny the proposed amendment as to unlimited height.

Please also seriously consider further amendments to 6.1.4 (C)(2) extending the separation of turbines and residential homes to a safe distance of at least 1.25 miles. There could even be an insertion of a provision for a signed waiver if a homeowner, after being duly informed, wants to consent to a reduction in this separation requirement.

In the alternative, if the unlimited height amendment is approved, this should be conditioned on an amendment to Section 6.1.4 (A)(2)(a) extending the distance to be not less than 3 miles from an incorporated municipality to limit visual disturbance on residents of the municipality.

Thank you for your consideration!

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Tiffany J. Byrne

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 2:30 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind zoning change opposition

**RECEIVED**  
**MAR 17 2022**  
CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

**From:** Adam Watson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 2:20 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Cc:** Adam Watson [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Wind zoning change opposition

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear Champaign County Zoning,

I live in the rural Philo area and own farm ground in Champaign County. I am in complete opposition of changing the wind tower height limit to unlimited. This leaves too many options to allow for undesirable towers. I also am in opposition of the change of of the setbacks to the farmland property lines. Lastly I am in opposition to the change in setbacks from a fixed distance to a function on tower height.

Wind towers will forever change the landscape of Champaign County. I oppose any zoning to make it easier to get them.

Thank you,  
Adam Watson

Adam Watson  
[REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPhone

REDACTED

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:26 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind Farm Zoning concerns

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Natalie Thomas <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:24 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** Wind Farm Zoning concerns

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a lifetime resident of Champaign County. I grew up in Urbana and I have spent almost 25 years in the Tolono Unit 7 School District, where my husband and I have raised our three boys. We have lived in both Tolono and Philo. Prior to initiating concerns and questions regarding the proposed windmill farm, I would like to give you a little more background about my family and me. My husband started a business in Champaign county in 1999 and has built this business from ground up, through the formation of healthy relationships and leading with integrity. He chose Champaign County as his place for business and he has stayed in this county since the start. We have three children, all of whom have gone through the Unit 7 school district. Our oldest is currently a Junior in college, majoring in Agricultural Business. Our youngest children are Sophomores at Unity High School. All three of our children have had rich experiences in Unit 7, not only from an academic standpoint but also because of their involvement in sports, community service, and exposure to diversity. My career is not in Agriculture, but I come from a family that is deep rooted in Agriculture. It is well researched that Illinois has some of the richest farmland in the country and this farmland is the root of our food supply. I am a nurse and I am passionate about health promotion and prevention and I care deeply about the health of my entire community.

**Below are questions related to the proposed windfarm unlimited height and change in setback requirements. I ask that you please take these concerns and questions into serious consideration when making decisions that will impact thousands of people.**

- 1.) The higher the windmills are placed, the larger they are, the more power. It would also make sense to me that noise would be increased.
- 2.) Minimum setbacks are essential to the functionality of human life.
- 3.) This proposed windmill farm is not out in the middle of nowhere. The proposed area is around several towns that are populated, affecting thousands of people.
- 4.)The windmill farm that is miles south of our home is widely evident by the blinking red lights every night. Without question, windmills closer to our community will impact people.
- 5.) It is well established that sleep deprivation is linked to serious health issues, both physical and mental. It is my right to be able to sleep in my own home and not suffer from health effects because of windmills that I did not chose to live by. When my family is not able to sleep in our home, subsequently suffering from health effects (whether it be mental or physical) because of lack of sleep from windmills, how is Champaign County going to compensate us for our loses?

6.) Safety of travel. Our school district serves one of the largest geographical regions in downstate Illinois. Kids are driving to school. Buses are driving to school. People are driving to work. Not to mention the equipment being used to farm ground where our food is produced. I have concerns over the safety of the roads during and after construction. If you simply take a drive down to the windfarm south of us, their roads were never fixed. I should not have to drive a special vehicle to be able to get around around this community. I am concerned about accidents and particularly concerned about accidents causing harm.

7.) Windmills have a lifespan. What happens to these structures when they either break or their lifespan goes out? It is my understanding that they can't be recycled. I have environmental concerns about these structures, particularly when in close proximity to human life.

8.) Concerns about a windmill crashing down and concerns about the distance a blade can travel if it comes off. What about the potential harm that could occur if this were to happen?

9.) Windmills have both direct and indirect effects on wildlife, killing or eliminating some of the most important wildlife that benefits agriculture. Land is where our food comes from.

10.) I can appreciate the green effort, but windmills contain several toxic chemicals and they have toxic chemicals that make them run. The long term health effects of windmills have not yet been established. When this data is shown, I am scared this may not only affect our community, but potentially surrounding communities. I don't want to find out what those health effects may be.

With a proposed project of this scale, there are many factors to consider. I urge you to ask yourself if you would want a windmill farm in your community and close to your house. Do you feel it is your right to be able to sleep in your own home? Would you want your own family to potentially be put at risk for suffering health consequences or harm from windmills?

As a resident of Champaign County, I am asking that you please consider the best interest of the residents in our community when making decisions that potentially impact thousands of people.

With much appreciation,

Natalie Thomas  
Philo, IL

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind Farm Questions

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

**From:** Jan Niccum [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:25 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Wind Farm Questions

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

1. What guarantees are there that there will be money available to remove the structures at the time of decommission? Who will enforce such rules?
2. How much of the in ground base will be removed at time of decommission and what impact will that have on the land being returned to crop production?
3. Twenty years from now, who will be responsible for both county and access roads that have been damaged by the contractors? Where will the money come from?
4. Will these towers, as proposed, be the tallest in east central Illinois?
5. How much of the energy generated would stay in this region, or will it all be sold to distant communities?
6. To what extent would local communities and school districts benefit financially by these wind farms?
7. Flicker and hum are problems at other wind farms? What will be done to reduce these problems?

Jan Carter Niccum  
Savoy, IL

Sent from my iPad

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind Farm Questions

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

**From:** Jan Niccum [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:25 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Wind Farm Questions

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

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7. Flicker and hum are problems at other wind farms? What will be done to reduce these problems?

Jan Carter Niccum  
Savoy, IL

Sent from my iPad

## Susan Burgstrom

---

**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:36 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: 03/17/2022 meeting questions Wind turbine zoning

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

**From:** Aaron Fenter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:23 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** 03/17/2022 meeting questions Wind turbine zoning

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY P & Z DEPARTMENT

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

In regards to zoning regulations on wind turbines in Champaign County I have some questions and comments that I would like addressed.

According to the News Gazette on June 27, 2019 the tallest building in Champaign Urbana is 268 feet tall (309 Green st.). How can the zoning department justify allowing structures nearly twice that height to be in rural areas that are primarily agricultural and single family residential? Why would the zoning department go a step beyond that and put no height limit on that?

There have been complaints and lawsuits with wind turbines that have setbacks from occupied residences in excess of 1500 feet. Given that many Illinois counties require setbacks in excess of 2000 feet, why is the zoning department considering a shorter setback? Even at 2500-3000 feet away a 500 foot tall turbine appears to be a massive structure.

To categorize these wind turbines as anything but industrial is disingenuous in my opinion. Does anyone in the zoning department live in and industrial area? Would anyone in the zoning department like to move into and industrial area? Why would we want large swaths of rural Champaign county turned into industrial use?

According to the U.S. census bureau 2010 population density map Champaign County is more densely populated than most of the surrounding counties. As such the zoning department has a responsibility to the many rural residents to not allow anything that would detract from their quality of life, their comfort in their homes or the value of their properties. The zoning department already regulates many things and activities on private property for exactly these reasons, why should this be any different?

Thank you,

Aaron Fenter

**John Hall**

---

**From:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:45 PM  
**To:** John Hall  
**Subject:** FW: Wind farm concerns for tonight's meeting (March 17, 2022)

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

**From:** Stephanie N. Berry <[sberry@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:sberry@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom <[sburgstrom@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:sburgstrom@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Subject:** FW: Wind farm concerns for tonight's meeting (March 17, 2022)

**From:** Wiesbrook, Michelle L [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 12:36 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <[zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us)>  
**Cc:** Scott Wiesbrook [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Wind farm concerns for tonight's meeting (March 17, 2022)

Dear Zoning Board of Appeals,

We have some questions and concerns about the proposed wind farm south of Philo and Sidney.

- How close will this be to our house? We own only 2 acres and the wind farm has not contacted us at all.
- Building these turbines will require a huge increase in traffic on our quiet roads. Our family enjoys bike riding and long walks. This traffic will limit those loved activities and make them hazardous.
- Why would the county ever make anything unlimited? Why make a rule that will last forever and affect multiple generations? How big do they want to build? Don't they know? Please set a measurable limit.
- The noise, flicker, and vibration greatly concerns us. Turbines that are built too high and too close to homes make them unlivable. Wind farm companies have pushed residents out of Vermilion county. Please don't allow this to happen in Champaign county.
- Is it in the best long term interest of the residents of Champaign county to construct these on what is objectively among the most productive farm land in the world, especially when energy can be produced more efficiently elsewhere?
- What is the compelling public interest to build these? Will the townships/county receive revenue? How much?
- This is not permanent infrastructure. What is the plan to reclaim the soil where the concrete pads are and to eliminate the compaction where the gravel roads are?
- What landfill will accept these blades? Will that be in Champaign county or will they be trucked elsewhere, thus using more fuel?
- We love our home and raising our children in our nice, rural community. Wind farms have destroyed relationships and polarized communities in other counties. Please do not let this happen to Champaign county.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Michelle and Scott Wiesbrook  
[REDACTED]

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Zoning for Wind Farm Zoning Comment

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

From: Kate Boyer [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2022 2:31 PM  
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
Cc: kelly [REDACTED]  
Subject: Zoning for Wind Farm Zoning Comment

Champaign County Zoning Board,

My name is Kate Boyer and our home is on 2400 East just South of Broadlands by 3 miles. I have lived in the Homer/Sidney/Broadlands area for 40+ years. I am very concerned about bringing in the wind farm to our literal back yard. I am unable to attend tonight, so I am sending my comment to be read to the board.

I am sure that the knowledgeable commenters attending tonight will already be listing the myriad of reasons that we all oppose this wind farm. I won't list all these reasons in an effort to refrain from redundancy, but I am concerned for my health and the health of my children. I have seizures and several of my children are autistic. One of the main reasons we purchased an isolated country house was to bring relief to our health. Noise and flickering are major triggers for both my seizures and my children's autistic meltdowns, moving to the peaceful country was such an amazing transformation of mental and physical health. These machines will absolutely disrupt that! We thought we were choosing a place that would be a safe zone for our family and this wind farm is jeopardizing that security. The short term gain from the quick money of a wind farm is not worth the health of Champaign County residents, not to mention all the other reasons.

Please use sound reason and keep these machines away from our homes.

Sincerely,

Kate Boyer

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 5:00 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind Farm in Southeastern Champaign County

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

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 1:12 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Cc:** Kate Boyer [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Wind Farm in Southeastern Champaign County

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 17 2022**

**CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT**

3/17/2022

To Zoning Board Members,

My Name is Stephen Smith and I oppose putting a wind farm in this area. I do have some serious concerns about this. My Uncle has wind farm near his home and farmland, so I know about some issues I want to bring up.

1. They have destroyed the roads in the area. They were blacktop and now they are gravel with calcium chloride sprayed on them. This creates lots of dust and rusts out vehicle bodies and frames.
2. They tried making country roads one way which causes many accessibility problems in the area.
3. The roads now have deep steep ditches which are a safety hazard.
4. The heavy equipment broke down field drainage tiles which they do not always repair.
5. Trenching in cables cut through drainage tiles as well. Same problem.
6. The windmills are a hazard for agricultural air craft application of seed, chemicals and fungicides. If they have to fly above them then drift is a severe problem and flying near or through them is dangerous if not illegal.
7. The windmills cause noise which is disturbing when you hear whoop whoop whoop.
8. They also cause an effect like a strobe light from the sunlight as the blades shadow passes by.
9. The red flashing light on them is annoying to look at or when you are trying to sleep.
10. There would be a safety issue with blades breaking and also when they ice is shed and slings off.
11. If they install a wind farm here there will be a huge amount of traffic which will disrupt normal travel, and at times cause stoppages in regular travel and moving farm equipment. This is a farming community and not getting your crop in on time or harvested when the conditions are right would be disastrous.
12. The windmills are an eyesore. I bought my home here years ago because it is a quiet beautiful low traffic quiet rural area.
13. There are heavy duty power transmission lines half a mile from my house. Would a broken blade damage any of these lines.
14. I have personally seen a broken blade that was embedded in the ground about half of its length very near a house and very close to Il. Rt 49.

How do you plan on keeping any of these problems from happening. I intend to attend the zoning meeting this evening

Stephen R. Smith  
[REDACTED]

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 5:01 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Wind Turbines/Zoning Meeting

RECEIVED

MAR 17 2022

CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT

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

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 9:19 AM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Wind Turbines/Zoning Meeting

Regarding zoning for wind turbines, there are families with livestock that will be impacted by your decisions. There has been little research regarding the impact of low frequency noise on livestock. Studies on geese and badgers have shown increased cortisol levels (indicating stress) in the animals close to wind turbines. The chronic stress may impact egg laying, rate of gain, milk production, fertility and stereotypies (cribbing and weaving). The families may be relying on these animals to provide income through the sales of eggs, meat & milk, or provide the family with the same; they may be raising breeding stock; the animal could be a child's 4H or FFA project; or a saddle horse.

Please take into consideration setbacks & noise levels at property lines (less than 39 decibels) and not human dwellings (i.e. homes). The livestock (as well as the owner) will be in the barns and on the pasture, much closer to turbines than the home itself.

Also, cap the height of these industrial wind turbines. Many prior regulations are for smaller turbines, not ones taller than 500 feet.

People move to the country to have livestock. Current adjacent landowners may not have livestock, but the next owner may. The future owner of the property should not be limited to what they can do on their property based on what you as the board choose NOT to do when setting regulations on turbines.

If you must allow future industrial wind turbines in Champaign County, then please take into consideration the families and communities impacted by them. It is one thing to drive past them at 70 mph on the interstate and another to live at their feet.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Miller, DVM

**Susan Burgstrom**

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**From:** Stephanie N. Berry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 5:01 PM  
**To:** Susan Burgstrom  
**Subject:** FW: Village of Philo Zoning Board NOT WIND FARM RELATED

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

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 4:17 PM  
**To:** zoningdept <zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us>  
**Subject:** Village of Philo Zoning Board

Would the Village of Philo Zoning Board have jurisdiction if any proposed construction falls within the 1.5 mile radius of Philo Corporate Limits?

Gallivan's Drafting & Design

Rick Gallivan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 17 2022**

**CHAMPAIGN CO. P & Z DEPARTMENT**

REDACTED