

Subject:

ELUC - Wind Turbines and Solid Waste

August 3, 2022

Chair Thorsland, Director Hall, Honorable Members of the Environment and Land Use Committee.

Regret that I will not join you Thursday, August 4 for the regular ELUC meeting but expect to be present for future meetings where this topic will be considered.

SOLID WASTE

I support the Proposed Champaign County Solid Waste Management Plan 2022 Updated by Susan Monte.

WIND TURBINES

I thank all of those who wrote to express an opinion about the construction of wind turbines in Champaign County. Most expressed concern about anticipated noise from the wind turbines. Noise can be a health problem if it is persistent or if it interferes with sleep.

I offer for consideration.

1. The owners of the wind turbines should conduct independent, continuous performance tests and noise measurements for extended periods over varying weather conditions to demonstrate that the wind turbines meet specifications and do not exceed Champaign County limits.
2. The results of the performance monitoring using the design of independent, professionals who have credentials in acoustics and related science and engineering should be made public. The expense for the performance tests should be borne by owners of the wind turbines. If additional or supplementary tests need to be conducted, these shall also be borne by the wind turbine owners.
 - a. The results should show noise in exceedance of limits, duration of exceedance, maximum and duration of maximum.
 - b. Chain of custody of recorded measurements at all frequencies should be made.
 - c. Weather conditions should also be recorded.
 - d. Measurement stations should be distributed to assure that directional noise is observed and measured.
3. Measurements contain error. The performance tests should include error analysis and identify sources of error to the extent practical.
4. Complaints by landowners should be supported by tests conducted at their own expense or that of the county but fully reimbursed with compensation if in exceedance of Champaign County limits.
5. I do not expect exceedance of county limits, but should the noise occasionally exceed 5% of the limit, remedies might include: requesting a variance, making agreements with homeowners, restricting hours of operation, or other strategies.

Respectfully submitted.

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