

CT Siting Council  
Ten Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

July 13, 2012

**RE: Proposed Wind Regulations**

Dear Council Members and Staff,

Please accept these comments concerning the draft wind regulations:

- Overall, the proposed regulations are too flexible and clearly favor industrial wind producers, rather than the residents and natural resources of Connecticut. The draft should be redone to reflect the CT Conservation & Development Policies Plan, specifically the Conservation Area Policies. The regulations should also provide strong, specific protection for the State's irreplaceable natural and historic resources.
- Setback distances from property lines of 1.1 times the height of the turbines can put homes too close to noise from the turbines. Other states and countries recognize this based on their experience and Connecticut should benefit from their experience. Sec. 16-50j-95(a)(1).
- The noise levels allowed are outdated and too high compared to other states (Maine, for example). Sec. 16-50j-95(b)(1).
- The waiver requirements for setbacks, noise and shadow flicker should not be allowed. First, permitting a deal between an applicant and an abutting property owner opens the door to backdoor tactics intended to circumvent the rules. Why would the council encourage such action? Second, waiving the requirements based on abutting parcel characteristics opens the door to further harming neighboring wetlands and wildlife that already will be adversely affected by industrial wind turbines. This is counter to sound environmental and open space policy. Sec. 16-50j-95(a)(2), (b)(2), and (c)(2).

I urge you to reconsider these regulations as written since industrial wind turbines in Connecticut will do very little to advance renewable energy goals, but can go a long way in harming the well-being of the people of Connecticut, the visual appeal of our State, as well as its natural and historic resources.

Thank you for your attention.



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