

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **Union Large Wind Turbine Study Committee**

**September 29, 2007**

**Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. at Village Square Restaurant**

Members Present: Tom Alisankus (Chair), Cathy Bembinster, Jim Bembinster, Scott McElroy, Mike Exum, Mike Leeder, Sue Pestor, Renee Exum (recording secretary).

Members Absent: Marion Tong

Public Present: None

Approval of Minutes: The Committee approved the minutes from 9/22/2007 meeting as written.

#### Research Update:

Jim Bembinster traveled to Wasco, Oregon to visit the Klondike wind farm. He showed pictures of the wind farm to the committee.

Cathy Bembinster obtained a copy of a letter written by Glen Stoddard in response to Mike Vickerman's recent editorial in the WI State Journal. Cathy will pdf the letter and email it to the committee. Cathy also handed out a task list that Town of Stockbridge used for its study committee. Cathy obtained a copy of Ben Howen's thesis cited by Eco Energy regarding property values of properties near wind turbines and she will circulate the thesis to the Committee.

Scott McElroy is compiling a summary of setback recommendations from various sources of information. Scott found information from Beach Ridge Energy recommending a wind turbine setback of 1 mile from existing houses to eliminate problems. According to Invenergy's website, setbacks are 1 to 4 houses miles to wind turbines.

Renee contacted Kathi Kemp-Tejeda at the Eager Free Public Library who agreed to establish the official record repository for the Committee at the Library. Renee delivered a binder to the library for Committee minutes and agendas, as well as research materials from the Committee's first meeting, for the record repository.

Renee noted that the Nelesen v. Calumet County lawsuit was settled and dismissed. Renee will provide copies of the pleadings to Tom Alisankus for review.

Process for soliciting input: The Committee identified recipients for a comment and data solicitation letter and survey to be sent by the Committee. Recipients identified are as follows:

Eco Energy

WPPI

WI Dept. of Administration – Energy Division

WI PSC

Mike Vickerman, Renew WI

Pat Walsh, Univ. of WI

Catherine Lawton

Evansville Water & Light

Invenergy

Navitas

Acciones

Mic Segrillow, Focus on Energy

American Wind Association

Nina Pierpont

Ecoustics

Dave Stetzer (electric magnetic fields expert)

Gordon Whitehead (sound expert)

David D'Amato (expert electrician)

Morse Group (electrical engineers)

Expert Engineer used in Door County (regarding decommissioning costs and procedures)

Evansville Fire Chief

If the Committee thinks of additional recipients, they will email the names to Renee who will keep a list of recipients for the data solicitation letter.

Review of Model Ordinances: Renee compared the draft 2003 WI Model Ordinance and draft 2/7/2007 WI Model Ordinance and handed out a blacklined copy to the Committee. Renee reported that there appears to be a significant difference in noise measurements and requirements between the two drafts. Scott McElroy will send both WI draft model ordinances to Gordon Whitehead, a sound expert, for review. It was reported that Glen Stoddard is working on a model ordinance for towns to use.

Research Assignments: The Committee was assigned the following areas of research to focus on:

Scott – setbacks

Mike Leeder – electrical, stray voltage, electromagnetic interference

Sue Pestor – well/groundwater

Jim – sound

Cathy – shadow flicker, ice throw, safety, decommissioning, liability

Mike Exum – financial assurance

Renee – ordinances

Robin Ringhand – property value information

New Business: Cathy will explore setting up a blackboard website for the Committee to post information and research materials.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Saturday, October 13, 2007 at 7:30 a.m. at the Village Square Restaurant. Public Notice for the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be posted at the Library, Piggly Wiggly, Town of Union website, and official posting places to be determined by the Town Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

*Renee Exum*

*Committee Recording Secretary*