

MEETING MINUTES

Union Large Wind Turbine Study Committee

November 24, 2007

7:30 a.m. at Village Square Restaurant, Evansville, WI

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

Members Absent: Mike Leeder

Public Present: Lynda Kawula, Kurt Toberman, Grace Ann Toberman, Kendall Schneider

Approval of Minutes: The Committee approved the minutes from the 11/17/2007 meeting as amended.

Research Updates:

Jim reported that he contacted a meteorologist at UW about temperature inversion. Jim described how noise is louder at night from wind turbines because of temperature inversion. Sound travels faster in an inversion. Information on wind turbine noise at night is presented on the CD that Cathy handed out at the first meeting. A study on noise from a wind farm in Canada found that the loudest wind turbine noise came from a light wind from the south and high humidity.

The committee discussed siting of met towers. According to page 15 of the WI Model Wind Ordinance Reference Guide, Wis. stat. 66.0401 does not apply to met towers used to collect data at a potential wind energy site because met towers do not generate electricity. It was suggested that any met tower installed in the Town of Union should be monitored by an independent analyst. The Town should include language about monitoring met towers in the wind energy system ordinance. It should also be monitored for 2 years as suggested by Windustry.

The Committee discussed purchasing the publication titled "International Standards of Wind Turbines" for \$180. Cathy will order the report. Kendall and Jim provided a copy of the table of contents and Forward to the International Standard for the record.

Jim handed out an article from National Wind Watch about the Crescent Ridge wind farm not living up to promises.

Discussion of Town of Casco ordinance, which has an 800' setback from property lines. Scott will contact town of Casco to get their supporting documentation.

Tom mailed the data request letters to Eco Energy and WPPI 2 weeks ago. He will send out Evansville Water & Light and PSC this week. Tom will also send a follow up to Eco Energy and WPPI as they have not responded to the data request. The Committee wants to send out the follow up letters certified/return receipt.

PSC Open Records Request: Scott sent an open records request to WI Public Service Commission ("PSC") and WI Dept. of Administration ("DOA") asking them for any documents that they used related to health and safety to draft the WI model ordinance. DOA said they didn't have anything. PSC said they had some emails with some attachments that they refused to provide. The PSC also has 60 pages of minutes, which they will provide for a cost of \$15. Scott sent the \$15 fee to PSC to get the minutes. The PSC does not have anything in their records regarding the 2007 version of the draft model ordinance.

New Business: Alvin Francis provided a draft of the contract offered to him by Eco Energy to the Committee for review. Alvin allowed the Committee to review the contract but he requested that it not be copied or republished. Tom Alisankus took the contract and will review it for the next meeting.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Saturday, December 1, 2007 at 7:30 a.m. at the Village Square Restaurant. The Committee will review and discuss provisions of a draft ordinance for the Town.

Renee Exum

Committee Recording Secretary