

# Indiana Communities fighting Big Wind's Onslaught.

## Welcome to Indiana Wind Watch

We are a self-funded grassroots organization of volunteers in Indiana concerned about the health, safety, and welfare of Hoosiers forced to live near industrial wind turbines. It is our mission to protect every Hoosier from the unfortunate fate of living near irresponsibly-sited industrial wind turbines.

If you live in Indiana and are concerned about an industrial wind turbine project being planned for your community, please join us.



# masquerades as the pursuit of green energy." *Helen Douglas*

Counties with unsafe setbacks placing homes in the evacuation zone of wind turbines include:

- Adams
- Benton
- Cass
- Clinton (moratorium)
- Fayette
- Fountain
- Gibson
- Henry
- Howard
- Huntington
- Jay (moratorium after projects approved)
- LaGrange
- Madison
- Montgomery
- Newton
- Posey
- Randolph
- Starke

Protective wind ordinances in these counties:

- Allen (banned)
- Boone (banned)
- DeKalb (zero shadow flicker)
- Delaware (150 ft. tower height restriction)
- Fulton (banned)
- Hamilton (all property owners within the proposed commercial WECS Overlay District are listed as co-applicants, 300 ft. height limit)
- Jasper 1,760 foot setbacks to property lines, 2,400 foot setbacks to homes, no wind turbine zone north of 1200 S.
- Kosciusko (3,960 ft. setbacks or 6.5 X height or turbine to property lines-whichever is greater, 32 dBA, zero shadow flicker, property value guarantees, unredacted safety manual required for permit application, pre and post construction water well inspections, wind turbines limited to I-3 industrial zones)
- Marshall (banned)
- Miami (2,000 ft. setbacks to property lines and roadways)
- Noble (3,960 ft. setback)
- Pulaski (banned)

- Tippecanoe wind turbine height limit of 140 ft.
- Tipton (2,640 ft. setback to property lines)
- Wabash (3,960 ft. setback, zero shadow flicker for non-participants)
- Wayne (banned)
- Wells (banned)
- Whitley (2,640 ft. setback or 6.5 X height of tower, whichever is greater, decommissioning money up front - no bonds)



## Current News

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OPPOSITION TO JASPER COUNTY, INDIANA INDUSTRIAL WIND PROJECTS](#)

### NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE:

**At the Statehouse:** An amendment was written into SB 535 which will

from being built within four miles of the town. There are 12 counties in Indiana with no zoning and no protection from wind turbines. Special thanks to all Indiana Wind Watch supporters who reached out to legislators on this issue!

### **Cass County**

5/7/19 - Cass County's ordinance changed slightly to setbacks to property lines. The Cass County Property Rights group will continue to advocate for stricter measures protecting residents from the encroachment of wind energy projects near their homes. In late 2018, Renewable Energy Systems withdrew from the Harvest Wind project and canceled their wind lease contracts in Cass, Miami and Fulton Counties!

### **Clinton County**

Clinton County Commissioners enacted a moratorium on wind development. E.ON is interested in a project there but Commissioners seem to be holding the line on their moratorium.

### **Fulton County**

1/19 - Surveyor Seth White (surveyor elect) and new County Council member Ryan Zimpleman both replace pro-wind officials!

In Fulton County, a local citizens group opposing a proposed commercial wind farm chalked up another win. *“Two of three Fulton County Commissioners, Bryan Lewis and Rick Ranstead, signed a pledge stating that **as long as they hold public office they will not allow commercial wind turbines in the county**. Commissioner Steve Metzger, who recused himself from voting on wind related issues due to perceived conflicts of interest, refused to sign, saying he wasn't interested.”*

### **Henry County**

Henry County citizens are fighting off three wind companies while election results seemed to be an unofficial referendum on wind development in the county, and the people voted for No Wind candidates! Their No Wind

Tarantino won the Commissioner's race, Susan Huhn, Peg Stefandel and Kenon Gray won County Council seats. We need more citizens across the state who care about the wind issue to take this important step and run for office and local change. New County Council member Susan Huhn was elected president of the board.

### **Jasper County**

On 5/6/19, Jasper County Commissioners voted to approve a stricter wind ordinance that affords more protection for their citizens. Setbacks have been changed to 1,760 feet from a property line and 2,400 feet from a property line. There is a no wind turbine zone north of 1200 S. (which is much of the county). Jasper County citizens are encouraged to remain vigilant.

### **Kosciusko County**

On Oct. 16, 2018, Kosciusko County adopted the safest wind ordinance in the state! Kosciusko County Commissioners unanimously approved a new wind ordinance including 3,960 ft. setbacks to property lines, zero shadow flicker on non-participants, 32 dBA at property lines, pre and post construction well inspections, property value guarantees for everyone living within two miles of a turbine, property owners within five miles of the project must be notified by the wind company of the project prior to the company getting leases signed and industrial wind turbines are only permitted in heavy industrial zones - because they are not agricultural!

### **THIS ORDINANCE IS THE NEW SAFE MODEL WIND ORDINANCE FOR THE STATE OF INDIANA!**

Here is a link to Kosciusko County's zoning ordinance. Wind energy begins on pg. 47. It is a protective wind ordinance.

[https://www.kcgov.com/egov/documents/1473175057\\_30906.pdf](https://www.kcgov.com/egov/documents/1473175057_30906.pdf)

### **Marshall County**

Marshall County citizens achieved a ban on industrial wind turbines in 2013

on wind development during Marshall County's wind fight.

### **Miami County**

11/18 - Renewable Energy Systems' MET towers came down in Miami County!

Miami County's new ordinance with 2,000 foot setbacks to property lines and roads took effect July 11, 2018. Congratulations, Miami County Property Rights group!

**Montgomery County** - On April 6th, 2019, Montgomery County's No Wind group hosted a successful educational meeting for their community and informed 200+ guests, including county officials, about the detriments of two potential wind projects by Apex and Akuo planned for their area. Ted Hartke attended the meeting and shared his family's experience of living in the midst of an industrial wind plant and the eventual abandonment of their home. Then on Monday, April 8th, Commissioner Phil Bane announced his resignation as County Commission effective April 15th. Two potential candidates, both thought to be individuals who will protect their community from the encroachment of wind turbines, have contacted the Republican Caucus with their intentions to fill the open Commissioners' seat.

### **Posey County** -

Concerned Posey County citizens have formed a group called Posey County Citizens for Property Rights and are working hard to educate their neighbors about the detriments of E.ON's proposed industrial wind turbines in Posey County. They are joining with Gibson County friends and neighbors to challenge E.ON's project which is reportedly to span Posey, Gibson and part of Vanderburgh County in southern Indiana. This proves that no rural community is safe from industrial wind turbines. It was believed for many years that wind companies would not target southern Indiana due to the poor wind speeds, but we know that if wind companies



## **Pulaski County** -

Pulaski County Commissioners and Plan Commission unanimously voted to ban industrial wind turbines in Pulaski County. Kudos to these responsible individuals for protecting the health, safety, welfare, and property value of their residents! The ban took effect on Oct. 1, 2018.

## **Tippecanoe County** -

Tippecanoe County Commissioners voted to ban industrial wind turbines in February! Their recommendations went to the Plan Commission, where ban language will be drafted and sent back to the Commissioners for final approval. Congratulations, Tippecanoe County residents!

## **Tipton County Council**

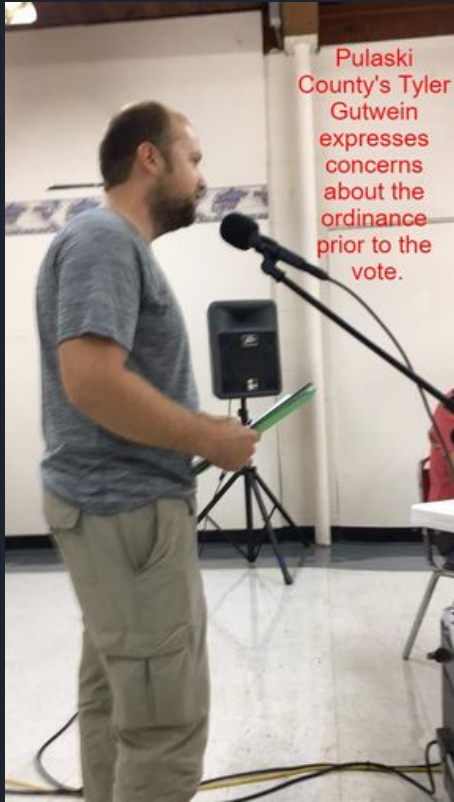
The Auditor of Tipton County, Gregg Townsend, appears on a billboard in Montgomery County with a quote saying that Tipton County Supports Wind.

At a Tipton Co. Council, Mr. Townsend was questioned on this public statement appearing on the billboard. The message is being taken as a blanket statement representing the position of the entire County, which members of Council, Commissioner Mullins, and citizens of Tipton County find unacceptable.

Meeting link appears here. Go to the 1 hour 55 minute mark:

<https://livestream.com/accounts/21146465/events/8114286>

Mr. Townsend spoke openly FOR WIND at the Summer Study Hearing at the Statehouse. He spoke as Tipton County AUDITOR, as an OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE of his county. After the hearing, one bystander mentioned to Mr. Townsend that he failed to share with the Summer Study Members that Tipton County INCREASED their setbacks AFTER that first phase of turbines was erected.that Tipton County, by and large, does NOT support Wind or further development in the county. Now, Mr. Townsend continues to tout support for Wind Energy, portraying that the entire County enthusiastically supports wind energy, and is encouraging other



Pulaski  
County's Tyler  
Gutwein  
expresses  
concerns  
about the  
ordinance  
prior to the  
vote.

Pro Rural Property Rights Candidates Won Big  
in Primary Elections and replaced Pro-Wind  
Incumbents in SIX Indiana Counties Fighting  
Wind Energy Projects including: Cass, Fulton,  
Miami, Henry, Montgomery and Warren  
Counties! We are not the “vocal minority” -  
We are the **MAJORITY** and we proved it!



# Committee votes to consider changes to wind ordinance

BY CAROLINE EGGERS  
ceggers@perutribune.com

To the cheers of wind farm opponents, the Miami County Plan/Building Commission voted 5-2 on Wednesday night in favor of considering drastic changes to the county's existing wind ordinance.

Over the past few months, a special committee consisting of the commission members Jason Bowman, Brad Fruth and Jon Reibly created the draft of changes in response to the prospects of Renewable Energy Systems proposal to build 75 wind turbines in Miami County.

Among the new require-

ments set forth in the document:

The center of the base of the wind tower would have to be measured 2,000 feet away from a property line, public road right-of-way, railroads, public utility easements, public conservation lands and the incorporated limits of a municipality or platted community. The current setback is 1,000 feet from a residence.

Substation setbacks from property lines may not be waived unless a recorded written waiver agreement is secured from the affected adjoining non-participating landowner.

An applicant's obligations

shall include removal of all physical material pertaining to the project improvements to no less than a depth of 10 feet below ground level within 365 days of the discontinuation or abandonment of the project, and restoration to the project area to as near as practicable the condition of the site immediately before construction.

Miami County Commissioner Larry West, who is also on the plan/building commission, pointed out that there is a 46-page document on this topic alone already being worked on.



PHOTO BY CAROLINE EGGERS / ceggers@perutribune.com

**SHOW AND TELL:** Carl Lowe and Dan Thiry displayed a scale model of the turbine height that they built to the Miami County Plan/Building Commission during the meeting on Wednesday evening. Commission members voted to create a new draft wind energy ordinance that would require a setback of 2,000 ft. between a tower and a property line.

See WIND / Page A5

thepaper24-7.com

## Reader: Tough day for Montgomery County elected officials

Dear Editor,

Wednesday was a rough day in county politics. The Montgomery County Council held a special meeting with the Montgomery County Commissioners to lay out the commissioners budget for 2019. Projects for the upcoming year were discussed and a budget was presented to the Council for review. Jeff Peters MPA, CPA from Peters Municipal Consultants, LTD presented a budget, followed by Commissioner John Frey outlining his vision for the future of Montgomery County. Among things discussed were several road and bridge projects.

I attended this meeting out of pure curiosity to see what things would be presented by the commissioners. I went in with the expectation that this would be a very long and somewhat boring meeting outlining budgets and funds and grants. Boring, right? Oh my, no!

At one point in the meeting a heated argument broke out and Council President Terry Hockersmith had to put the whole room in a five-minute time out. During this cooling down period, the commissioners and attorney expressed their displeasure in being challenged by one of the council members. The council members remaining

in the room did not engage in this discussion and the topic died down. The meeting soon resumed and everyone behaved long enough to complete the business at hand and reach adjournment.

The largest item of contention was the proposed Memorial Bridge. This is a project to build a bridge over Sugar Creek to connect SR 47 N to US 231 N. Commissioner Frey stated a desire to build up the area along the bridge. This is a five-year project that will cost into the millions. While I do not disagree that this bridge would be most handy for many people in town and a fast cut-through for large trucks to and from the factories on 47N, I did state that I felt it might be a better idea to repair the bridges we have before building a new one. This meeting revealed that Montgomery County has 24 bridges that are in need of repair. Anyone living on the far side of the bridge on 47N knows how much they miss their bridge when it is under repair for five months. I hear it will be done soon.

Later in the day, a private citizen arrived at the courthouse to pick up a Freedom of Information Act request. Commissioner Phil Bane and Commissioner John Frey were notified of the request on Aug. 20. At

that time, word was received that the information would be collected and available for pickup on or before Sept. 4. When Commissioner Frey was asked about collecting the information, he reportedly became agitated, swore at the private citizen and said it would take two more months. He then stated that all that would be turned over would amount to about four emails.

I was told that later that day, an email was received from Commissioner Frey's secretary stating that an additional three

weeks would be needed to produce the requested information.

So, all in all, Wednesday was a tough day for Montgomery County's elected officials. However for those of us in the peanut gallery, it was quite entertaining. I do hope that in the future, our elected officials can at least display a united front for the good of the community, even if they don't really mean it.

Miriah Mershon,  
Crawfordsville



## WALNUT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY DAY

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th**  
**DOWNTOWN NEW ROSS**

**Theme: Make A Memory**

Basketball - Car Show - Concessions  
 Entertainment - Food - Games - Vendor Market  
 Hosted by:  
 WALNUT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION



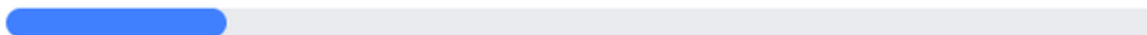


April 20 at 1:09pm · 🌟

We want to hear from YOU!!

A healthy debate has started in Pulaski Co on a proposed wind energy development. What are YOUR thoughts??

Please take a minute to complete the poll and leave a comment!!



17% For Windmill Project



83% Against Windmill Project ✓

This poll has ended.

574 Votes

Renewable Energy System's meteorological towers in Miami County came down November, 2018! Fulton and Cass county MET towers have also been removed!







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commissioner, Ryan Browning and Cass County County Council candidate









## What Hoosiers Who Have Joined Us Say

“ We are destroying the beauty of America, and compromising the health and happiness of the people who must live near these behemoths, for the almighty dollar. Stand up against greed. Stand up and protect your citizens.” -Susie Painter Eichhorn

## Contact Us

\* INDICATES REQUIRED FIELD

EMAIL \*

SUBMIT

