

## Industrial Wind Turbine Utility Information and Fact Sheet

- Benton County has a population density of just 22 people per square mile. The wind turbines are located in townships with 6 people per square mile. Howard County has 282 people per square mile. Jackson Township has 25.4 people per square mile.
- The **WHO (World Health Organization)** recommends the safe setback distance for **industrial** wind turbines (IWTs) as 1500 meters (or **4921 feet**)!
- The “**new**” contract between Howard Co and EON which was just passed by our county commissioners allows an industrial turbine (485’ tall), to be as close as 1500 feet from homes.
- The shadow flicker from an industrial turbine as tall as the ones proposed can extend up to 1875 feet.
- **ISO (International Standards Organization)** recommends the safe night time noise limit for children living in rural areas as **25-30 dB**. An increase of just 10 dB doubles the sound.
- The current Howard County wind ordinance allows a noise limit of **55 dB**, day **and** night.
- There are currently **no** state guidelines for either allowable noise limits or setbacks pertaining to industrial wind turbines.
- There are 2 types of noise issues with IWTs. One is audible and annoying. The other is inaudible; a sound that is “felt” rather than heard. It is this second sound that can cause health issues for children, elderly or persons with infirmities. **Prolonged exposure** to these inaudible sounds or infrasound can be dangerous. Children aged 0 to 6 years are at highest risk for developmental harm.
- A recent study shows that 40% of children with autism spectrum disorders are **hypersensitive** to sound and Howard County’s 1500 ft setbacks **do not** protect these children.
- Current Howard County wind ordinances allow large industrial wind turbines in agriculturally zoned areas as **permitted use** rather than **special exception**. This does not allow for notification to neighboring properties.

- Howard County is listed as a summer residence for the **endangered** native Indiana Bat. This project to date has **not** addressed this issue nor is it covered in the current wind ordinance.
  - On July 1<sup>st</sup> the Howard County Commissioners; through a motion made by Commissioner Wyman; promised to address changes to the wind ordinance and discuss amendments at the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held July 15<sup>th</sup>. The plan commission was to be notified of these changes at that time and a public hearing on these amendments was to be scheduled. That never happened. Instead the commissioners renegotiated an amendment to the economic development agreement contract it had with Eon; allowing a smaller wind farm project to move forward with NO changes to the current Howard County wind ordinance.
  - The current moratorium placed on permits for industrial wind turbines **does not apply** to the proposed Wildcat wind farm now being considered in Eastern Howard County's agriculturally zoned areas; near our Amish community.
  - No public hearing is currently scheduled for any changes to the existing Howard County wind ordinance.
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Visit our website: [easternhowardwind.com](http://easternhowardwind.com) to see how many other counties throughout the state of Indiana are listening to their residents and **are** changing or have **just recently changed** their wind ordinances to now provide proper protection to their citizens.

**Howard County Concerned Citizens Inc.** is a non-profit domestic corporation focused on ensuring that wind development in Howard County does no harm. We believe industrial wind generating facilities sited too near residences and places where people work and play can cause detriment to health, ability to enjoy and use private property, and property values.

We have asked and are still asking our elected county officials to listen to “we the people” and amend the current Howard County wind ordinance to ensure our health, safety, comfort, quality-of-life and property values. Please pray for our cause.