

Property Rights

Bill Street - Farmer - Grant County

I feel Non-Participants "Property Rights" within a WES footprint are as important as a Participants. There are issues of sound (that we hear), infrasound (that we don't hear but can feel), shadow flicker and the intrusion of the safety zones from the turbine unto other peoples property.

In the instance of the "safety zone" which extends out from the turbine say 1500' depending on turbine size. Because distance requirement in Grant County is the ht of the turbine plus 10% from the property line of a non-participant the safety zone can extend unto neighboring property 7 hundred feet or more. In certain instances this might prevent the non-participating resident from having a building project.

I'm going to suggest to you PUC members, Gary Hanson, Chris Nelson and Kristie Fiegen to go to Clark County, and maybe you have, and take a hard look at their $\frac{3}{4}$ mile setback from non-participating residents homes. That's with waivers of course. Clark County already had experience with turbines with the WES project North of town. Clark County "Board of Adjustments" experience with these turbines give them cause to go with the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile setback. The energy company didn't go away, They stayed and I understand they did sign some waivers.

I feel we would have less problems in our counties if the PUC would give us more direction with ^(adequate) decent setback distances. Instances of "Absentee landowners" having a turbine ^{on} their property within 1500' of an adjacent resident and giving problems to a resident is shameful!

It's a monetary benefit for one person at the expense of someone else.

My wife and I signed a contract for a transmission line in 2010. We were totally ignorant of the downside of wind farms. Easements are a big issue. In our case we were given a verbal statement that the transmission line would be next to the south property line. We found out later the lessee has sole discretion where it can go. Last July ~~we~~ they had the power line moved in 70' from our property line. We didn't want to have to farm around them and objected to this change. Then they said they could run it through our pasture with only one post in our field. We didn't want that either. We then had a lawyer look at our contract and found that in an addend it reads that WES has an easement on our entire quarter. What I want you people to understand is that these contracts are written to benefit WES & not the property owners.

In the end, I urge you PUC Board to place a condition of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile setback to residents and 1500' from neighboring property lines unless waivers are signed. Please make this a condition for Crowned Ridge. Because we, in Great County have never experienced 500-600' turbines.

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