

Public Hearing

Proposed Ordinance - Town of Canaan

for

Large Wind Energy Systems

January, 2018



Camera Location: 4/22/2013 Lat=N43 44' 03.08" Lon=W071 47' 38.68"

Agenda

1. Scope
2. Purpose
3. Application process
4. Construction requirements
5. Operational requirements
6. Decommissioning and restoration
7. Questions and comments

Scope of Proposed Ordinance

- Applies to some wind energy systems (wind farms)
- Excludes utility scale systems regulated by the State
- Excludes homes, farms, schools, and similar

Size	Typical use	Regulated by
Over 30 mW	Major Grid Supply	State
1 mW to 30 mW	Minor Grid Supply 1 to 15 towers	Canaan if State Opts Out
0.1 mW to 1 mW	School, Farm, etc	None
Up to 0.1 mW	Home	None

mW means Megawatts of electric power generation

State regulation below 30 mW is optional

Purpose of Proposed Ordinance

- Protect citizens from adverse health and welfare impacts
- Assure public safety (rescue, fire and hazard protection)
- Impose lot line setbacks for large windmills
- Provide for environmental and water quality protection
- Minimize impact on wildlife habitats
- Define allowable noise levels and require monitoring
- Minimize visual impact to preserve natural scenery
- Specify a complaint resolution process
- Ensure decommissioning and site restoration
- Provide Financial assurance to protect the Town
- Ensure Public Hearings to provide information and solicit comments regarding proposed LWES projects
- Zero cost to taxpayers

Application Process

- Site Plan review and approval by Planning Board
 - Public review and comment at Public Hearing(s)
 - Design specs for site and all structures and equipment
 - Studies of environmental, wildlife, visual, noise impacts
 - Appropriate engineering certifications
 - Public safety, rescue, fire, and hazard protection plans
 - Financial Resources plan
 - Identification of all affected property owners and abutters
 - Decommissioning and site restoration plan
 - All applicable NH State and Federal permits and approvals
 - Escrow account for all costs incurred to support application
- Permits to Construct and Operate from Select Board
 - Bond required for decommissioning and site restoration
 - Professional Engineer certifies project complies with plans

Construction Requirements

- Prevent any serious environmental damage
 - soil erosion
 - ground or surface water contamination
 - loss of wildlife habitat
- Blasting controlled by an approved Blast Plan
- Weekday construction between 7 AM and 6 PM
- Minimize disruptions to residents and wildlife, including noise and vehicular traffic

Operational Requirements

- Noise, wildlife, environmental impact, and water quality evaluations and reports at appropriate time intervals
- Operating company must maintain an active complaint reporting and resolution process
- Projected decommissioning costs to be updated every five years, with bond increase if required
- Canaan Select Board or its agent authorized to inspect the site for compliance with all ordinance requirements
- Town of Canaan authorized to enforce requirements of this ordinance and any permits and approvals granted

Decommissioning and Restoration

- Must be complete 12 months after abandonment or end of useful life
- Removal of all above ground facilities and equipment
- Concrete, empty conduits, etc. may remain underground if deeper than 2 feet
- Site landscaping to be restored to original condition
- Roadways may remain if useful and appropriate

Questions and Comments

Proposed ordinance is available on the Canaan web site at

<http://tinyurl.com/wind-ord>

or at town office