

Dear Commission Members;

I wish to thank you for your normally thankless job as Commissioner's. You are faced with one of the most difficult decisions that I think has ever been presented for you to act on. Your ultimate decision has the potential of effecting many, many Davison County citizens and land owners, now and in the future. Your final decision could affect the health, well-being, life & death of not only people but livestock, birds & animals living in Davison County. Your final decision could affect the land values of landowners. My basic question is: Is the Planning & Zoning representatives prepared to take on the responsibility of making a recommendation to the County Commissioner's that could result in harmful results to the Davison County residents, destruction of the landscape, ruination of the peace & quite, possible negative effects on the lives of animals, wildlife & birds, & possible negative effects on land values? Yes, there are many unanswered questions. How much of a gamble are you willing to take for the little gain & benefit (if any) for Davison County and its tax paying citizens? Many of whom are 100% against commercial wind systems in the county?

As you hear in the meetings and in e-mailings, many citizens of Davison County are strongly against the proposed Wind Ordinance for various reasons. In my opinion many of those citizens have done more research into wind energy systems and ordinances than did the writers of the proposed ordinance. The major item appears to be the proposed setback (1000') of towers from inhabited residences, etc. I & several others have proposed a 1 mile (5280') setback. That would basically eliminate the noise (db) and shadow flicker factors. Further, I think any ordinance if adopted should include decommission bonding or warranties to safe guard the County from being stuck with any expenses associated therewith.

In further thought into this matter (as I attempted to explain at the last meeting), there is a matter of land value, both current and future land use, when wind turbines & towers appear on the serene landscape of Davison County. I know people who have moved here because of the country quietness, the wildlife, and the wide open spaces. I think most sane people will agree that wind turbines & towers are obscene and an obliteration to the peaceful landscape. For those reasons alone "Why would we want them? Is the County to gain that much by having them? Who will really gain anything? Seems to me the County by adopting the proposed ordinance without severe modification is asking for major heartaches and potential legal actions! Just to say Davison County is progressive and leading in technologies by having some wind towers is a fallacy! There is technology in the making that will make present day wind towers obsolete in the future. Some examples are: 1) Makain Airborne wind turbine. 2) Power from low speed wind - Wind Harvester. 3) Bladeless wind power – Windstalk. 4) Wind Lenses. 5) Vertical Axis Turbines – Windspire. 6) Eddy Turbines. 7) Quite wind turbines – Eco Whisper. 8) Vortex Bladeless (vorticity principle) 41' tall, etc.

Back to land value, common sense tells us if we have a 400-450' tower near our agriculture land or future development land, the value of that land has declined. Some greatly and some not so great? But research tells us there is a decline. This is a major factor of which not a lot of discussion has occurred. I've attach a simple drawing of how, even at a 1 mile setback, problems and encroachment can occur in the future. In a true sense it could be considered "TAKING" without compensation. Even with Eminent Domain there is compensation. For this reason I think the Davison County land owners need more protection. Therefore, I propose that the 5280' setback be from an opposing land owners "PROPERTY LINE". Opposing land owners could register and be documented in County files. Those not registering would have the 5280' from an inhabited establishment.

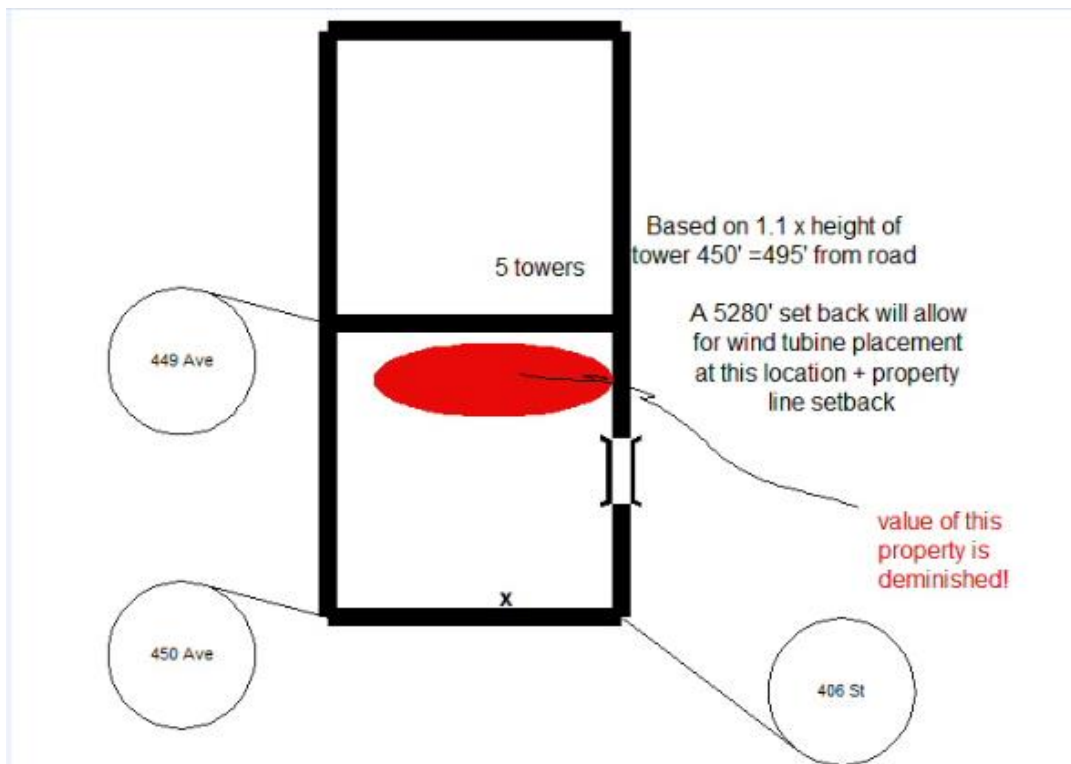
Otherwise, I take the position stated at the last meeting by the last speaker, **“We don’t need an Ordinance--the people don’t want towers!”** Based on that thinking maybe the Ordinance should read:

Section 3:11. Wind Energy Systems

**There shall be no commercial wind energy systems (wind towers/turbines) to be located in Davison County.**

Sincerely,

Harvey Kelley



Example: A 5280' setback from my home (X) would allow wind turbines to be placed on the farm land north of 449th Ave. or approx 5775' from my home. That would be acceptable, however I own the land shown in the red circle. Should I want to develop that land for housing I could have towers less than 1000'. The value of my land instantly declines upon the placement of any towers at that location.

Therefore, my revised opinion is that the 5280' setback should be from my property line and a method should be developed to allow the landowner to elect a preference. Wind energy is not an agricultural business and should not prevail over any landowner!