

LIVINGSTON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ZONING

112 W. MADISON ST.
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS 61764
(815) 844-7741

September 5, 2014

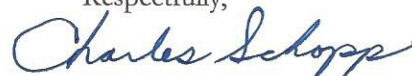
Dear Citizen with an interest in the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project Area,

Invenergy has submitted to Livingston County a special use application for a proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project. The Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project is proposed to be located in Pleasant Ridge, Forrest, Fayette, Eppards Point, Indian Grove, Chatsworth, Charlotte, Belle Prairie and Avoca Townships, all in Livingston County. The application for the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project is available for the citizens of Livingston county to review. A copy of this application can be found at the Livingston County web site, livingstoncountyil.gov. At this web site you should first go to county services menu and then by going down to and clicking on Zoning and Planning you will find a link to this special use application. Anyone with an interest in this project is encouraged to review this application. In the future you will be notified by separate correspondence as to when, where and at what time the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals will begin their review of the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project special use application. If you have an interest in this project you are encouraged to take part in this public hearing process. Livingston County is anticipating that it will take several days over multiple weeks to complete this review process. A copy of the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing Guidelines for Siting of Wind Energy Conversion Systems is enclosed as part of this correspondence. This document will serve as a guideline for this zoning board of appeals review process.

In a separate yet somewhat related issue the Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee of the Livingston County Board is in the process of reviewing the Livingston County wind energy siting regulations. These zoning regulations can also be found at the same livingstoncountyil.gov web site previously mentioned. Livingston County encourages written remarks pertaining to proposing amendments to these county wind energy regulations, including comments as to the reasoning for such proposals. Initial proposals can be submitted to the Livingston County Board office at 112 W. Madison St. Pontiac, IL 61764 by October 1st.

Thank you for your time and attention to these important property development issues.

Respectfully,



Charles Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING
GUIDELINES FOR THE SITING OF WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS**

1. These rules are supplementary to the provisions of the Livingston County Code and Ordinance's Zoning Chapter that in part regulates the siting of wind energy conversion systems in Livingston County.
2. These provisions shall govern procedures of the public hearings before the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals (the "ZBA") concerning wind energy conversion systems. The Chairperson and the ZBA may modify these procedures in their reasonable discretion.
3. A court reporter shall be present at every hearing and voting meeting in order to provide a transcript of the proceedings. Transcripts will be prepared by the court reporter and sent to the ZBA. Costs for all transcripts of hearings or voting meetings before the ZBA shall be borne by the applicant, and the cost of the transcripts shall be paid directly to the court reporting service.
4. The hearing shall occur on the date and time set forth in the published notice. All necessary additional hearing dates shall be scheduled at the discretion of the ZBA.
5. The Chairperson or acting Chairperson of the ZBA shall preside at the public hearings of the ZBA. The Chairperson shall have the authority to control the hearing proceedings, and may set time limits, schedule the appearance of witnesses and require their appearance on dates set forth in the scheduling order, restrict witnesses from testifying for failure to appear on the date scheduled for that witness' testimony, adopt reasonable limits upon the questioning of witnesses by the applicant and interested parties, and take other action deemed reasonably necessary by the Chairperson in order to conduct the hearing in an orderly, efficient and professional manner.
6. The hearing before the ZBA shall not be governed by, and the ZBA shall not be bound by, the strict rules of evidence. The ZBA may exclude irrelevant material and unduly repetitious testimony, and any other testimony or evidence that in the discretion of the Chairperson and ZBA is not pertinent to the proceedings.
7. At the discretion of the Chairperson, ZBA members shall be permitted to question witnesses at any time during the hearing and ZBA members may request that additional information or evidence be presented to them during the hearing.
8. Public hearings may be held by less than a quorum of the ZBA.

HEARING PROCEDURES

1. Call to order and roll call.
2. ZBA or County staff will identify the application and the applicant for which the hearing has been set, including a general description of the proposed wind energy conversion system, and the areas in which such system is proposed to be developed.
3. The ZBA or County staff will provide confirmation that the necessary fees have been paid by the applicant, and that the notice of the public hearing has been published and mailed in accordance with law.
4. All witnesses, including those of the applicant and any other interested party, wishing to address the ZBA shall be sworn. All witnesses shall testify under oath.
5. Applicant shall present testimony and evidence. Each of the applicant's witnesses shall remain present for questioning by the ZBA or other interested parties, until such time as the witness is excused by the Chairperson.
6. Members of the ZBA shall have the opportunity to question the applicant's witnesses providing testimony. ZBA members may, in the discretion of the Chairperson, ask questions at any time during the hearing.
7. Other interested parties shall have the opportunity to question the applicant's witnesses and evidence. Interested parties wishing to address the ZBA shall identify themselves by name and address on the record at the hearing. Interested parties shall be invited to address the ZBA in the following order:
 - a. Units of local government, including school districts;
 - b. Interested parties represented by licensed attorneys;
 - c. Other interested parties; and
 - d. Livingston County staff and consultants.
8. After each interested party has presented testimony and evidence, such interested party may be questioned by the members of the ZBA, the applicant and other interested parties.
9. Presentation of any County staff reports or comments.
10. Closing statement by applicant. Applicant shall not introduce new information in the closing statement.

11. Closing statements by interested parties (in the same order as listed in Section 7).
Interested parties must have testified previously to be eligible to make a closing statement.
Interested parties shall not introduce new information in the closing statement.
12. Rebuttal closing statement by applicant.
13. The ZBA shall close the hearing.
14. The ZBA shall deliberate and vote on the application. The ZBA may in its discretion set a future meeting date for deliberations and voting on the application.
15. The vote of the ZBA is not a final decision, but is a recommendation to the County Board.
The ZBA shall transmit its findings and recommendation to the County Board.

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Press Release

Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project Application Review

Invenergy has submitted to Livingston County a special use application for a proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project. The Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project is proposed to be located in Pleasant Ridge, Forrest, Fayette, Eppards Point, Indian Grove, Chatsworth, Charlotte, Belle Prairie and Avoca Townships, all in Livingston County. The application for the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project is available for the citizens of Livingston County to review. A copy of this application can be found at the Livingston County web site, livingstoncountyil.gov. At this web site you should first go to county services menu and then by going down to and clicking on Zoning and Planning you will find a link to this special use application. Anyone with an interest in this project is encouraged to review this application. In the future the public will be notified as to when, where and at what time the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals will begin their review of the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project special use application. Interested members of the public are encouraged to take part in this public hearing process. Livingston County is anticipating that it will take several days over multiple weeks to complete this review process. At the conclusion of the zoning board of appeals public hearings and review of this special use application, the zoning board of appeals will make a findings of recommendation to the Livingston County Board. These findings and recommendation will then be used by the Livingston County Board members as part of their decision making process regarding the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project special use application.

In a separate yet a somewhat related issue the Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee of the Livingston County Board is in the process of reviewing the Livingston County wind energy zoning regulations. These zoning regulations can also be found at the same livingstoncountyil.gov web site previously mentioned. Livingston County encourages written remarks pertaining to proposing amendments to these county wind energy regulations, including comments as to the reasoning for such proposals. Initial proposals can be submitted to the Livingston County Board office at 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, IL. 61764 by October 1st.

For the media a contact for questions related to this request is;

Chuck Schopp
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission
112 W. Madison St.
Pontiac, IL. 61764
815-844-7741
cschopp@livingstoncountyil.gov

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Officials
FROM: Chuck Schopp
Subject: Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project
Date: September 5, 2014

Good Day:

Since you are or may in the future be involved in making decisions pertaining to the proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project I am working to keep you informed as to information being provided to the citizens that own property in the area of the proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project.

Enclosed you will find a copy of correspondence sent to these land owners. This correspondence provides information that you may also use as the review of this special use, and the review of wind energy siting regulations proceeds.

For any questions that you may have, do not hesitate to contact me at any time.