

**ZONING RESOLUTION OF KNOX COUNTY
APPENDIX B
KNOX COUNTY INDIVIDUAL WIND ENERGY ORDINANCE**

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Effective April 26, 2006
As amended to January 27, 2016
As amended to March 22, 2017
As amended to April 27, 2022
As amended May 24, 2023

A link is provided on our Zoning Website to Access
(55 ILCS 5/Div. 5-12 heading)
Division 5-12. Zoning

- 1.01 Title.** This ordinance shall be known as the Knox County Wind Energy Ordinance-Appendix B-Knox County Zoning Resolutions and relates only to Wind devices solely for an INDIVIDUAL person or entity's use. All Commercial Wind Energy facility must follow "WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS SITING ORDINANCE -APPENDIX E". [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
- 1.02 Authority.** This ordinance is adopted pursuant to authority granted by ILCS Chapter 55 Counties 5-12 Zoning and Section 5/5-1063 Building Construction, Alteration, and Maintenance.
- 1.03 Purpose.** The purpose of this Knox County Wind Energy Ordinance, Appendix B shall include but shall not be limited to the following: To divide all un-zoned areas of Knox County, Illinois, into districts; to regulate and restrict therein the location, erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration and use of buildings, structures, and land, for industry, business, trade, residence, and other uses; to regulate and restrict the height, number of stories, and size of all buildings; to regulate and restrict the density of population; to provide for the change and amendment of such regulations and boundaries of districts; to provide for a Board of Appeals; to provide for enforcement of said Resolution; to prescribe penalties for violation of the provisions hereof; and to repeal the Zoning Resolution of Knox County enacted on June 10, 1947, and all resolutions amendatory thereto. This Knox County Wind Energy Ordinance, Appendix B does not repeal, abrogate, annul, impair, or interfere with any existing ordinance.
- 1.04 Applicability.** This ordinance applies to all unincorporated lands within the boundaries of Knox County.
- 1.05 Definitions.** In this ordinance:
1. "Board of Appeals" means the Knox County Zoning Board of Appeals
 2. "Zoning Officer" means the Knox County Zoning Officer
 3. "County Board" means Knox County Board
 4. "County Engineer" means Knox County Engineer
 5. "Zoning Department" means the Knox County Zoning Department
 6. "Large Wind System" means a wind energy system that has a nameplate capacity of more than 50 kilowatts, a total height of more than 100 feet, a blade diameter of more than 30 feet, and one or more wind towers with turbines.
 7. "Small Wind System" means a wind energy system that has a nameplate capacity of 50 kilowatts or less, a total height of 100 feet or

less, a blade diameter of 30 feet or less, and one or more wind towers with turbines.

8. "Total Height" means the vertical distance from ground level to the tip of a wind turbine blade when the tip is at its highest point.
9. "Wind Energy System" means equipment that converts and then stores or transfers energy from the wind into usable forms of energy and includes any base, blade, foundation, generator, nacelle, rotor, tower, transformer, turbine, vane, wire, or other component used in the system.
10. "Wind Farm System" means a wind energy system that includes two or more wind towers.
11. "Wind Tower" means a freestanding structure that supports a wind turbine generator.
12. "Comprehensive Plan" means Knox County Comprehensive Plan as amended.
13. "Zoning Ordinance" means Knox County Zoning Ordinance as amended.
14. "Structure" means anything constructed, erected, or potable, the use of which requires a location on a parcel of land. This includes a fixed or movable building whose use is temporary or permanent, but not limiting the generality of the foregoing; advertising signs, billboards, backstops for tennis courts, and pergolas. For the purposes of this Zoning Resolution, the following shall not be considered structures: Driveways, sidewalks, patios, parking areas, basketball and tennis courts, ornamental or decorative structures such as light standards, flag poles, planters not exceeding two feet in height, fences, and walls (including retaining walls), trellises, mailboxes, birdhouses and feeders, underground structures such as septic tanks, cisterns, wells, electric vaults, and utility meters. [Effective since 27 January 16] [Effective since 22 March 17]
15. "Wind Data Collection Tower" means any tower used to collect data on wind energy, prior to the development of a wind energy system.
16. "Commercial wind energy facility" means a wind energy conversion facility of equal or greater than 500 kilowatts in total nameplate generating capacity. "Commercial wind energy facility" includes a wind energy conversion facility seeking an extension of a permit to construct granted by a county or municipality before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
17. "Facility owner" means (i) a person with a direct ownership in a commercial wind energy facility, regardless of whether the person is involved in acquiring the necessary rights, permits, and approvals or otherwise planning for the construction and operation of the facility,

- and (ii) at the time the facility is being developed, a person who is acting as a developer of the facility by acquiring the necessary rights, permits, and approvals or by planning for the construction and operation of the facility, regardless of whether the person will own or operate the facility". [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
18. "Nonparticipating property" means real property that is not a participation property. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 19. "Nonparticipation residence" means a residence that is located on nonparticipating property and that is existing and occupied on the date that an application for a permit to develop the commercial wind energy facility is filed with the county. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 20. "Occupied community building" means any one or more of the following buildings that is existing and occupied on the date that the application for a permit to develop the commercial wind energy facility is filed with the county: a school, place of worship, day care facility, public library, or community center. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 21. "Participating property" means real property that is the subject of a written agreement between a facility owner and the owner of the real property that provides the facility owner an easement, option, lease or license to use the real property for the purpose of construction a commercial wind energy facility or supporting facilities. "Participating property" also includes real property that is owned by a facility owner for the purpose of constructing a commercial wind energy facility, or supporting facilities. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 22. "Participating residence" means a residence that is located on participating property and that is existing and occupied on the date that an application for a permit to develop the commercial wind energy facility is filed with the county. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 23. "Protected lands" means real property that is:
 - a) Subject to a permanent conservation right consistent with the Real Property Conservation Rights Act; or [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 - b) Registered or designated as a nature preserve, buffer, or land and water reserve under the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 24. "Supporting facilities" means the transmission lines, substations, access roads, meteorological towers, storage containers, and equipment associated with the generation and storage of electricity by the commercial wind energy facility. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

1.06 Standards

1. Location:

- (a) A large wind system may only be located in areas that are zoned A-Agriculture, C-Conservation, an M-Restricted Industrial, or M-2 Heavy Industrial District with a Conditional Use and Building Permits.
- (b) A small wind system may be located in any Zoning Map District with a Conditional Use Permit and Building permits.
- (c) A small wind energy system shall be located 1.1 times total tower height or more from an occupied structure on adjoining property and 80% total tower height or more from an occupied structure on subject property measured from the wind tower base.
- (d) Wind data collection towers shall be located:

2. Setbacks

A county may require:

- (1) a wind tower of a commercial wind energy facility to be sited as follows, with setback distances measured from the center of the base of the wind tower:

Setback Description	Setback Distance
Occupied Community Buildings	2.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the nearest point on the outside wall of the structure
Participating Residences	1.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the nearest point on the outside wall of the structure
Nonparticipating Residences	2.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the nearest point on the outside wall of the structure
Boundary Lines of Participating Property	None

Boundary Lines of Nonparticipating Property	1.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the nearest point on the property line of the nonparticipating property
Public Road Rights-of-Way	1.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the center point of the public road right-of-way
Overhead Communication and Electric Transmission and Distribution Facilities (Not Including Overhead Utility Service Lines to Individual Houses or Outbuildings)	1.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the nearest edge of the property line, easement, or right of way containing the overhead line
Overhead Utility Service Lines to Individual Houses or Outbuildings	None
Fish and Wildlife Areas and Illinois Nature Preserve Commission Protected Lands	2.1 times the maximum blade tip height of the wind tower to the nearest point on the property line of the fish and wildlife area or protected land

This Section does not exempt or excuse compliance with electric facility clearances approved or required by the National Electrical Code, The National Electrical Safety Code, Illinois Commerce Commission, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and their designees or successors.

(2) a wind tower of a commercial wind energy facility to be sited so that industry standard computer modeling indicates that any occupied community building or nonparticipating residence will not experience more than 30 hours per year of shadow flicker under planned operating conditions;

The requirements set forth in this subsection (e) may be waived

subject to the written consent of the owner of each affected nonparticipating property. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

- (a) A small wind system must be set back from all property lines of the parcel on which it is located and from any right-of-way distance 1.1 times total tower height measured from the wind tower base.
 - (b) Wind data collection towers must be set back a minimum distance of 1.1 times the total tower height from any and all public or private right-of-way lines measured from the wind tower base and must be set back a minimum distance of 100 feet from all property lines measured from the base.
- 3. Spacing and Density: A wind energy system shall be separated from any other wind energy system by a minimum of 200 feet measured from the tips of the blades when the blades are parallel with the ground.
- 4. Construction: A wind energy system shall be of freestanding construction
- 5. Height: The total height of a wind energy system shall be in compliance with the height allowed under a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation by the Federal Aviation Administration under 14 CFR Part 77. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
- 6. Clearance: The vertical distance from the ground level to the tip of a wind turbine blade when the longest blade is at its lowest point must be at least 25 feet.
- 7. Access: Any wind tower located in a wind energy system, including any climbing aids, shall be secured against unauthorized access by means of a locked barrier or security fence.
- 8. Electrical Wires: All electrical wires associated with a wind energy system, other than wires necessary to connect the wind turbines to its base and to overhead collection lines, shall be located underground unless a variance is approved by the board.
- 9. Lighting: As required by the Federal Aviation Administration. Required lighting must comply with FAA minimum requirements and whenever possible be at the lowest intensity allowed using red lights

at night. If more than one lighting alternative is available, the alternative that causes the least visual disturbance must be used.

10. Equipment: Unless located underground, any electrical equipment associated with a wind energy system shall be located under the swept area of a blade assembly unless a variance is approved by the board.
11. Appearance, Color, and Finish: The exterior surface of any visible components of a wind energy system must be a non-reflective neutral color. Wind towers and turbines in an established wind farm system that are located within 1000 feet of each other must be of uniform design, including tower type, color, number of blades, and directions of blade rotation unless a variance is approved by the board.
12. Signs: No wind turbine, tower, building or other structure associated with a wind energy system must be used to advertise or promote any product or service. No word or graphic representation, other than appropriate warning signs and owner identification may be placed on a wind turbine, tower, building or other structure associated with a wind energy system so as to be visible from any public road.
13. All wind energy facilities must meet the Department of Agriculture's standard wind farm agricultural impact mitigation agreement, template 81818, as applicable and in effect on December 31, 2022. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
14. All wind energy facilities must meet the sound limitations established by the Illinois pollution control board under 35 Ill. Adm. Code parts 900, 901 and 910. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

1.07 Permit Requirements

- (1) Building Permit: A building permit is required for the installation of each wind energy system and each wind data collection tower. [Effective since 27 April 22]
- (2) The application for a building permit must be accompanied by the required fee:

Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Building Permit Applicant must deposit a Building Permit Fee equating to:

0-10	kilowatts (kW)	\$ 100.00
11-50	kilowatts (kW)	\$ 250.00
51-100	kilowatts (kW)	\$ 500.00
101-500	kilowatts (kW)	\$ 1,000.00
501-1,000	kilowatts (kW)	\$ 2,500.00
1,001 – 2,000	kilowatts (kW)	\$ 5,000.00

Over 2,000 kilowatts (kW) \$ 100.00 for each additional 0–100 kilowatts.
[Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

(1) A small wind energy system used for farming purposes is exempt from building fees only. A construction permit application is still required. [Effective since 27 April 22]

(2) A wind data collection tower is exempt from building fees only. A construction permit application is still required. [Effective since 27 April 22]

(3) Special provisions relating to public schools.

(a) In exercising the powers under this Division with respect to public school districts, a county shall act in a reasonable manner that neither regulates educational activities, such as school curricula, administration, and staffing, nor frustrates a school district's statutory duties. This subsection (a) is declarative of existing law and does not change the substantive operation of this Division.

(b) In processing zoning applications from public school districts, a county shall make reasonable efforts to streamline the zoning application and review process for the school board and minimize the administrative burdens involved in the zoning review process, including, but not limited to, reducing application fees and other costs associated with the project of a school board to the greatest extent practicable and reflective of actual cost but in no event more than the lowest fees customarily imposed by the county for similar applications, limiting the number of times the school district must amend its site plans, reducing the number of copies of site plans and any other documents required to be submitted by the county, and expediting the zoning review process for the purpose of rendering a decision on any application from a school district within 90 days

after a completed application is submitted to the county.
(Source: P.A. 99-890, eff. 8-25-16.) [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

(4) Financial Assurance:

(a) Reasonable evidence of financial ability to construct the wind energy system as determined by the County Board is a condition precedent to the issuance of any special use or building permit under this ordinance.

(b) Knox County and/or the property owner leasing land for a wind energy system may require a performance bond, surety bond, escrow account, letter of credit or other financial assurance to Knox County and/or property owner for each wind energy system that guarantees the performance of the restoration requirement set forth in Section 1.08

1.08 Restoration Requirement

(1) A wind energy system that is out of service for a continuous 12-month period will be deemed to have been abandoned. The Zoning Officer may issue a Notice of Abandonment to the owner of a wind energy system that is deemed to have been abandoned. The Zoning Officer will withdraw the Notice of Abandonment if the Board approves an extension based on hardship conditions.

(2) The owner of a wind energy system shall provide the Zoning Officer with a written Notice of Termination of Operations if the operation of a wind energy system is terminated.

(3) Within 8 months of receipt of Notice of Abandonment or within 8 months of providing Notice of Termination of Operations, the owner of a wind energy system must:

(a) Remove all wind turbines, aboveground improvements, and outdoor storage;

(b) Remove all foundations, pads, and underground electrical wires to a depth of 4 feet below the surface of the surrounding ground; and

(c) Remove all hazardous materials from the property and dispose of the hazardous materials in accordance with federal and state law.

(4) Failure to comply with any of the conditions or restrictions imposed on a conditional use permit shall be deemed a violation of the Zoning Ordinance.

- (5) All Zoning Officer determinations may be appealed to the Zoning Board of Appeals

1.09 Conditional Use Permit Procedure

- (1) Conditional Use Permit Applications shall be submitted to the Zoning Officer. The application must be on a form approved by the Zoning Officer and must be accompanied by 2 copies of a scaled drawing and other descriptive information sufficient to enable the Board of Appeals to determine whether the requirements of this ordinance will be satisfied. The Zoning Officer will determine when the application is complete, and will then forward the application to the Knox Co. Board of Appeals.

This shall include all items listed:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, a county shall not require standards for construction, decommissioning, or deconstruction of a commercial wind energy facility or related financial assurances that are more restrictive than those included in the Department of Agriculture's standard wind farm agricultural impact mitigation agreement, template 81818, or standard solar agricultural impact mitigation agreement, version 8.19.19, as applicable and in effect on December 31, 2022. The amount of any decommissioning payment shall be limited to the cost identified in the decommissioning or deconstruction plan, as required by those agricultural impact mitigation agreements, minus the salvage value of the project.
- (b) A county may not condition approval of a commercial wind energy facility on a property value guarantee and may not require a facility owner to pay into a neighboring property devaluation escrow account.
- (c) A county may require certain vegetative screening surrounding a commercial wind energy facility but may not require earthen berms or similar structures.
- (d) A county may set blade tip height limitations for wind towers in commercial wind energy facilities but may not set a blade tip height limitation that is more restrictive than the height allowed under a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation by the Federal Aviation Administration under 14 CFR Part 77.
- (e) A county may require that a commercial wind energy facility owner provide:
 - (1) the results and recommendations from consultation with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources that are obtained through the Ecological Compliance Assessment Tool (EcoCAT) or a comparable successor tool; and
 - (2) the results of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consulting environmental review or a comparable successor tool that is consistent with (i) the "U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service's Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines" and (ii) any applicable United States Fish and Wildlife Service solar wildlife guidelines that have been subject to public review.

(f) A county may require a commercial wind energy facility to adhere to the recommendations provided by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in an EcoCAT natural resource review report under 17 Ill. Admin. Code Part 1075.

(g) A county may require a facility owner to:

(1) demonstrate avoidance of protected lands as identified by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission; or

(2) consider the recommendations of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for setbacks from protected lands, including areas identified by the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission.

(h) A county may require that a facility owner provide evidence of consultation with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office to assess potential impacts on State-registered historic sites under the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act.

(i) To maximize community benefits, including, but not limited to, reduced stormwater runoff, flooding, and erosion at the ground mounted solar energy system, improved soil health, and increased foraging habitat for game birds, songbirds, and pollinators, a county may (1) require a commercial solar energy facility owner to plant, establish, and maintain for the life of the facility vegetative ground cover, consistent with the goals of the Pollinator-Friendly Solar Site Act and (2) require the submittal of a vegetation management plan in the application to construct and operate a commercial solar energy facility in the county.

No later than 90 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources shall develop guidelines for vegetation management plans that may be required under this subsection for commercial solar energy facilities. The guidelines must include guidance for short-term and long-term property management practices that provide and maintain native and non-invasive naturalized perennial vegetation to protect the health and well-being of pollinators.

(j) If a facility owner enters into a road use agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation, a road district, or other unit of local government relating to a commercial wind energy facility, the road use agreement shall require the facility owner to be responsible for (i) the reasonable cost of improving roads used by the facility owner to construct the commercial wind energy facility and (ii) the reasonable cost of repairing roads used by the facility owner during construction of the commercial wind energy facility so that those roads are in a condition that is safe for the driving public after the completion of the facility's construction. Roadways improved in preparation for and during the construction of the commercial wind energy facility shall be repaired and

restored to the improved condition at the reasonable cost of the developer if the roadways have degraded or were damaged as a result of construction-related activities.

The road use agreement shall not require the facility owner to pay costs, fees, or charges for road work that is not specifically and uniquely attributable to the construction of the commercial wind energy facility. Road-related fees, permit fees, or other charges imposed by the Illinois Department of Transportation, a road district, or other unit of local government under a road use agreement with the facility owner shall be reasonably related to the cost of administration of the road use agreement.

(k) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a facility owner with siting approval from a county to construct a commercial wind energy facility is authorized to cross or impact a drainage system, including, but not limited to, drainage tiles, open drainage districts, culverts, and water gathering vaults, owned or under the control of a drainage district under the Illinois Drainage Code without obtaining prior agreement or approval from the drainage district, except that the facility owner shall repair or pay for the repair of all damage to the drainage system caused by the construction of the commercial wind energy facility within a reasonable time after construction of the commercial wind energy facility or the commercial solar energy facility is complete.

(l) The amendments to this Section adopted in this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly do not apply to

(A) an application for siting approval or for a special use permit for a commercial wind energy facility if the application was submitted to a unit of local government before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly or

(B) a commercial wind energy facility if the facility owner has submitted an agricultural impact mitigation agreement to the Department of Agriculture before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly. (Source: P.A. 101-4, eff. 4-19-19; 102-1123, eff. 1-27-23.)

(2) The Board of Appeals will conduct a meeting and hearing on the application not more than 45 days after the filing of the application-which will allow for public notice. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

(3) The County Board may grant a special use permit if it determines that the requirements of this ordinance and state law are met and that granting the permit will not unreasonably interfere with the orderly land use and development plans of the county. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

(4) Both the Board of Appeals and County Board may consider the following factors when setting conditions:

- (a) Meets requirements of 55/ ILCS 5/5-12020 - 12021. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
 - (b) Proposed ingress and egress
 - (c) Proximity to transmission lines to link the system to the electric power grid.
 - (d) Number of wind turbines and their location.
 - (e) Nature of land use on adjacent and nearby properties.
 - (f) Location of other wind energy systems in the surrounding area.
 - (g) Surrounding topography.
 - (h) Proximity to residential structures, residential zoning districts, or areas identified for future residential use.
 - (i) Design characteristics that may reduce or eliminate visual obtrusiveness.
 - (j) Possible adverse effects on migratory birds, raptors, and other animals and wildlife.
 - (k) Possible adverse effects of stray voltage, interference with broadcast signals, shadow effect, and noise.
 - (l) Impact on the orderly development, property values, and aesthetic conditions within the county.
 - (m) Recommendations of interested parties that may be affected by the wind energy system.
 - (n) Any other factors that are relevant to the proposed system.
- (5) The Board of Appeals may consider variances.
- (6) The Board of Appeals recommendations, the finding of facts and conditions are forwarded to the County Board for final determination.
- (7) The County Board's decision to approve or reject the Conditional Use permit application may be appealed to the Circuit Court.

1.10 Building Permit Procedure

- (1) Building permit applications shall be submitted to the Zoning Officer. The application must be on a form approved by the Zoning Officer and must be accompanied by two copies of a drawing that shows the proposed location and distance of the wind energy system with reference to the property lines of the parcel on which it is located; and residence, business, or public building on an adjacent parcel; the right-of-way of any public road that is within 500 feet; and such other information as may be specified on the application form. Construction plans prepared and sealed by a structural engineer licensed to practice

in Illinois stating and illustrating compliance with the Knox County Zoning Resolutions as amended.

- (2) The Zoning Officer will issue a building permit for a wind energy system if the application materials show that the proposed tower location meets the requirements of this ordinance, building code, the Conditional Use permit and the requirements of 55/ ILCS 5/5-12020 – 12021 SHALL be approved by the County Board. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
- (3) The county will require a copy of the surety bond set to the amount of costs of decommissioning prior to issuing a permit for construction. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]
- (4) The building permit must be conspicuously posted on the premises so as to be visible to the public at all times until construction or installation of the tower is complete.
- (5) All Zoning Officer determinations may be appealed to the Board.

1.11 Signal Interference

The owner of a wind energy system must take such reasonable steps as are necessary to prevent, eliminate or mitigate any interference with cellular, radio, or television signals caused by the wind energy system.

1.12 County Highway and Township Agreements

Each wind energy system shall have a written agreement with the County Engineer and respective Township Highway Commissioner (s) regarding the use of county/township road, bridges, and right-of-way.

1.13 Wind Energy System Owner/County/Property Owner Restoration Agreement

Each wind energy system shall have a written agreement with Knox County and/or property owners regarding restoration requirements as discussed in this ordinance. Performance/surety bonds or other financial assurance documents may be required to guarantee restoration (decommissioning) before a building permit can be issued.

1.14 Violations

It is unlawful for any person to construct, install, maintain, modify or operate a wind energy system that is not in compliance with this ordinance or with any condition contained in a Conditional Use or Building Permit issued pursuant to this ordinance.

1.15 Administration and Enforcement

- (1) This ordinance shall be administered by the Zoning Officer.
- (2) The Zoning Officer may enter any property for which a special use or building permit has been issued under this ordinance to conduct an inspection to determine whether the conditions stated in the permit have been met as specified by statute, ordinance, and code.

1.16 Penalties

- (1) Zoning - petty offense. Maximum \$500.00 fine with each week violation continues uncorrected constituting a separate offense. Building - petty offense. Maximum \$500 fine with each week violation continues uncorrected constituting a separate offense.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the county from using any other lawful means to enforce this ordinance.

1.17 Related Rules and Regulations

Each wind energy system shall comply with all applicable local, state and federal requirements.

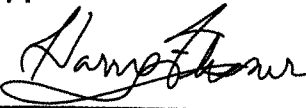
1.18 Severability

The provisions of this ordinance are severable, and the invalidity of any section, paragraph, or other part of this ordinance shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the ordinance.

1.19 Decommissioning

The amount of any decommissioning payment shall be limited to the cost identified in the decommissioning or deconstruction plan, as required by those agricultural impact mitigation agreements, minus the salvage value of the project. The county will require a copy of the surety bond set to the amount of costs of decommissioning prior to issuing a permit for construction. [Effective since MAY 24, 2023]

Reviewed and determined consistent with the Knox County Zoning Ordinances and recommended for approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

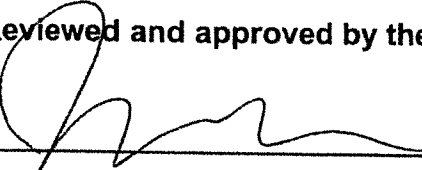


Dated:

6/2/23

Chairperson

Reviewed and approved by the Knox County State's Attorney

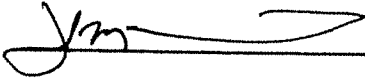


5/31/23

Dated:

Knox County State's Attorney

Approved by the Knox County Board



Dated: 5/31/23

Chairperson



Dated: 5/31/23

County Clerk

Rejected by the Knox County Board

Dated:

Chairperson

Dated:

County Clerk