

# Michigan Wind 3

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are some benefits of wind energy?**

Wind energy is a clean and renewable form of energy. It emits zero greenhouse gas emissions or conventional pollutants and consumes virtually no water. Wind energy is a drought-resistant form of income in many parts of the country, providing economic investments to rural communities through lease payments to land owners and tax revenue to host communities.

### **Are wind turbines safe?**

Wind turbines are robust structures built to withstand extreme weather conditions and shut down automatically when not operating as designed. For example, if a component were to overheat or if ice accumulates on the blades, the safety system senses this and stops the turbine.

### **Do wind turbines make noise?**

Modern wind turbines produce very little sound. Typically, two people can carry on a conversation at normal voice levels even while standing directly below a turbine. Setbacks and turbine spacing are designed to minimize sound impacts.

### **Do wind turbines create health problems?**

Independent studies conducted around the world have consistently found no evidence of negative health impacts to humans from wind turbines. For example, an independent expert panel in Massachusetts found no evidence for the existence of what some have tried to characterize as “Wind Turbine Syndrome.” Thousands of people worldwide live near wind farms with no ill effects.

### **Do wind farms affect property rights?**

Property rights are protected under current zoning. Setbacks from property lines and residences allow for current and future uses of property in and around the wind farm. Construction of a turbine on your property does not conflict with neighbors’ property rights

### **Do wind farms affect property values?**

Property values are not affected by wind turbines. Numerous studies, such as a 2014 study by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of Connecticut, have shown there is no correlation between wind turbines and loss of property value.

### **Do wind farms affect homeowner insurance rates?**

Wind turbines will not increase homeowner insurance rates. The project will carry liability insurance over the life of the project and will provide evidence of such insurance to each township.

### **What about “shadow flicker” from wind turbines?**

Shadow flicker is based on the sun’s angle, turbine location, and the distance to an observer. Computer models can predict the days and times during the year that specific buildings in close proximity to turbines may experience shadow flicker. Turbines can be sited to minimize flicker to a few hours per year.

### **Can first responders attend to emergencies at wind farms?**

First responders are not prohibited from responding to events or emergencies near wind turbines. First responders will respond as they normally would to both participating and non-participating residences near a wind farm.