

Setback Requirements Sought for Proposed Wind Farm

(KMZA)-A group of Nemaha County, Kansas residents continue to seek the establishment of setback requirements for turbines to be built in connection with a proposed wind farm in the northeast portion of the county.

Thirteen county residents met with Nemaha County Commissioners Monday to discuss the issue again. Also present for the discussion was County Attorney Brad Lippert and James Manning with Juwi Wind LLC.

The group is concerned about the noise the wind turbines would create.

Melissa Detweiler, representing the group of residents, presented research to commissioners she had done regarding the distance that turbines should be from homes. The group's research showed the closest they should be located is a half- mile away from homes, while Juwi Wind suggests that a quarter-of-a mile is sufficient.

The group is asking commissioners to place setbacks of 25-hundred feet from people's homes. Commissioners said they had visited an existing wind turbine and didn't think the noise was a nuisance.

After some further discussion, the commission agreed to investigate what other counties have done regarding setting setbacks requirements for wind turbines from residences.

Nemaha County does not currently have any zoning regulations.

Later in the meeting, Manning told commissioners he will put together some information for them to review regarding the effect that setback requirements would have concerning the number of turbines that could be constructed with the proposed wind farm project.

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