



May 15, 2019

Jonesfield Township
217 Eddy Street, P.O. Box 117
Merrill, Michigan 48637
c/o Larry Tibbits, Supervisor

Re: Wind Park Design Parameters

Dear Supervisor Tibbits:

We understand that on May 7, 2019, the voters residing in the zoning jurisdiction of Jonesfield Township rejected a zoning ordinance amendment relating to utility-scale wind energy development adopted by the Township Board on August 20, 2019. We are writing to assure you that the voters apparent preference for less restrictive zoning regulations will not cause DTE to change its basic approach to siting wind turbines.

As a developer and operator of wind parks, DTE understands how to develop and operate wind energy facilities that are compatible with agricultural activities and respectful of nearby residences. Be assured that any plan for a wind energy facility in Jonesfield Township will reflect the following design parameters:

1. An average of two to three wind turbines per standard one-square mile township section. Where there is more than one turbine in a section, the turbines will be spaced about 1,000 feet apart so each has unimpeded access to the wind resource.
2. A maximum wind turbine height of 500 feet, as measured from grade to the tip of the rotor blade in its most vertical position.¹
3. Wind turbines placed no closer than 1.5 times tip height to a public road.
4. Wind turbines and access roads sited along common participating property lines or fence rows so the installation minimizes impact on farming operations. If an adjoining landowner is not participating in the project, the turbine will be sited 1.5 times tip height from the non-participating property line.
5. Wind turbines placed no closer than 1,320 feet to residential buildings on non-participating parcels, and no closer than 1,000 feet to residential buildings on participating parcels. (Residential buildings do not include barns and other storage buildings.)

¹ FAA "No Hazard Determinations" and MDOT Tall Structures permits are required irrespective of local zoning requirements. Aviation safety lighting is also determined by FAA rules.

6. Wind turbines placed no closer than 1,320 feet to boundary of a village, such as the Village of Merrill.
7. Underground electric collection systems installed at a depth that will accommodate continued agricultural activity, typically 4 feet below grade.
8. Shadow flicker at residential buildings managed through operational controls paired with other mitigation measures as necessary after consultation with the landowner and limited to no more than 30 hours in a year based on conservative shadow flicker modelling assumptions.
9. Sound pressure levels limited to no more than 55 dBA Leq (1-hour) at non-participating property lines and 45 dBA Leq (1-hour) at residences on non-participating parcels, based on conservative sound modelling assumptions.²

DTE is committed to decommissioning inoperable wind turbines and wind turbines that are no longer used for energy generation. DTE's standard utility easement for wind energy development (the agreement between DTE and landowners participating in the project) provides for the decommissioning and site restoration upon termination of its easement with a landowner. Additionally, DTE will provide advance notice of any decommissioning activities and seek Township input on any decommissioning plans.

As we do in all communities, as a project progresses through its various stages of development, we will work closely with you and the community to ensure you remain informed. This process, of course, will include submission of special land use permit application and site plan, per the requirements of Section 611 and 612(I), and a site plan pursuant to Section 907(1)(B).

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact our site manager Jason Hannath at (440) 477-4438, or me at (313) 235-5575.

Sincerely,



Matt Wagner
Manager, Renewable Energy Development

² When the sound dampening effect of the wall of a residence is factored in, interior sound levels generally drop by 17 dBA (open windows) to 27 dBA (closed windows).