

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 29 (2012/13)

Re: **Supporting Petition of Towns of Sherman and Holland to Public Service Commission for Emergency Rules Relating to Wind Farms**

WHEREAS, developers are in the process of attaining approvals to build industrial wind farms in Sheboygan County, and

WHEREAS, citizens living next to industrial wind turbines have made claims of suffering health issues potentially caused by low frequency noise and infrasound generated by wind turbines, and

WHEREAS, a report (Report #122412-1) released December 28, 2012, to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission by four acoustical consulting firms states that low frequency noise and infrasound created by wind turbines in the Shirley Wind Farm in Denmark, Wisconsin, exists in some homes surrounding the wind farm, and

WHEREAS, the report recommended additional study on an urgent priority basis, specifically:

- A comprehensive literature search far beyond the search performed under time constraints of the initial report;
- A re-test at Shirley to determine the decay rate of ultralow frequency wind turbine sound with distance with a more portable system for measuring simultaneously at the three homes and at other locations;
- A "Threshold of Perception" test with participating and non-participating Shirley residents;

and

WHEREAS, in part based on the report, the Public Service Commission, on February 17, 2013, denied a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Highland Wind Farm project in St. Croix County (Docket #2535-CE-100), and

WHEREAS, the same issues with respect to the effect of low frequency noise and infrasound on public health and safety concern the Town Boards of Sherman and Holland in Sheboygan County as those Boards consider the application for the proposed Windy Acres Wind Farm project in those townships, and

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2013, the Towns of Sherman and Holland petitioned the Public Service Commission for an Emergency Rule allowing municipalities to decline to approve PSC 128 applications for completeness until the PSC establishes low frequency noise/infrasound and noise modeling benchmarks for the municipalities to use in measuring application completeness, and

WHEREAS, the Sheboygan County Board agrees with the Town Boards of Sherman and Holland that the health and safety of the public require the establishment of benchmarks for low frequency noise/infrasound and noise modeling measurements for municipalities to use in determining application completeness, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sheboygan County Board supports the establishment of emergency PSC rules as requested in the Petition of the Towns of Sherman and Holland and directs the County Clerk to forward copies of the herein Resolution to the Public Service Commission, state legislative representatives having constituencies in Sheboygan County, and such other public officials as the Clerk may deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of March, 2013.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Roger L. Te Stroete
Roger L. Te Stroete, Chairperson

Thomas Wegner
Thomas Wegner, Vice-Chairperson

William C. Goehring
William C. Goehring, Secretary

Peggy Feider
Peggy Feider

George Marthenze
George Marthenze

Opposed to Introduction:

ADOPTED 04.16.2013