

Riley Township
Open Forum Meeting
With DTE Energy on January 20, 2017

I. **Called to Order, 3:00**

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Members Present:** Supervisor: Don Potts
Treasurer: Pam Feldpausch
Trustee: Trish Martens
Trustee: Brian Lawless
Member Absent: Lisa Powell

IV. **Called To Order of Business:**

Change the order of Business

- Move public comment on non-agenda items to the conclusion.

V. **New Business:**

Michael Sage specializing in technical wind and wind turbine projects, Scott Kehoe Government and Corporate Affairs with DTE Energy Operations.

Introduces to the Riley Board and the residents of the township the importance and advantages of wind production for an alternative for electricity reducing climate effect and the dependence of fossil fuels:

We believe being part of a community is so much more than simply doing business there. It's about doing our part to help that community and our customers thrive.

- Diversify the energy in Michigan and work toward a long term strategy goal
- Produced electricity from the earth's natural resources in which are constantly being replenished
- Wind energy is a completely renewable and non-polluting energy source, with minimal environmental impact, adding no new air or water emissions
- Gaging the steps to expand energy resources.
- DTE largest investor and producer of renewable energy and supplies 400.000 homes with clean energy

The Riley Township Clinton County has potential and is suitable for wind generation, why will it benefit us as land owners and a community:

- Property owners whose land becomes are a part of the wind park and will receive annual payments adjoining land owners will be contracted as a part of the farm, **THIS IS A TAXABLE INCOME!**
- The lease stays with the property!
- Currency will be spent on the local economy
- Counties and Townships receives tax revenue from the wind parks, providing funding for roads schools, police fire and other services
- Instillation of the wind parks creates jobs, with Michigan contractors and employees.
- Once the wind park is constructed, is still suitable for farming

Wind Development Process:

- The size of a wind park depends on the area of land available, additional electrical demand required, and available electrical system capacity.
- Wind development can require up to 5 years for siting, zoning, feasibility and environmental studies, permits, and construction
- Once complete, wind turbines and their service roads require only 3 to 5 percent of the total land in the wind park
- The vast majority of the land remains available for normal activities.
- Seeking community feedback through multiple meetings and open houses.
- Performing 3 years' worth of wildlife studies, including migration analyses.
- Installing meteorological towers to gather data such as wind speed, direction, temperature, pressure and icing conditions.

What Is A Wind Farm?

- Standard purchase agreement is 20 acres to be considered
- **Rotor**, Blades 160 feet and weighs 7 tons
- **Nacelle**, Generator gear box, length 30 feet, width 12 feet, height 8 feet 63 tons
- **Tower Sections**, Top mid base lengths from 50 to 70 feet, weighs 260 tons
- **Foundation**, 384 yards of concrete, 35 tons of steel
- **My Cell**, is how consumers extract electricity from the grid
- **Beauty Ring**, One acre around turbine and access road are close to fence lines
- **Tile repair**, is replaced if damaged with a local contractor
- Equalizing 700 ton assembling by two crane operators

Pit Falls:

- DTE is committed to the invasion of wild life and the pattern of migrating birds
- Shadow flicker is the casting of blade shadows and they adjust the pitch of the blade or the turning of the cell. Sometimes turning the blade off in the shadowing hours, mostly occurs early spring and late fall
- What happens if the turbine is no longer in use, Decommissioning, It is under contract that all mechanisms are removed from the property The ordinance states that contractors must dig 4 feet down to remove the concrete and return the land as it was, or requested by a independent contractor to be removed.
- Controversy and disagreements between neighbors and friends over the uneducated minds to the benefits or the disbenefits of the Energy Farms. Before making a concise decision or opinion, educate yourself and go to your township meetings to be involved in your community. This will save a lot of miss communication with your neighborhood.
- Flashing red lights, below 500 feet and only on the outer perimeters, it detects air traffic for safety.
- Wind does not blow all the time as long it blows between 15 to 18 % is beneficial
- Sound caused health problems: Because of indirect connections. The sound cannot be over 30 ambient sound and 5 decibels staying within the county regulations, a third party research will be involved with the sound research

How Does DTE Start the Wind Farm Inquires?

- Reviewing local zoning and permitting requirements.
- Consulting drainage tile maps for collector system design.

- Working with multiple local agencies like planning commissions and road and drain commissions.
- Educational presentations at schools, civic clubs, meetings and events.
- Establishing a complaint resolution process.
- Aiding landowners with title clearance issues

Questions and Answers:

- How much energy fo we extract?
Wind farms are 35% energy efficiency and 15% renewables, the Gap meet by energy efficiency
We do not want to buy energy from other states because of the commitment to Governor Snyder and Michigan by generating jobs and purchasing supplies
- What about tying the farm land up?
The land has to have the right formula to be considered to be placed. It just cannot be placed anywhere. The right grade, trees, wind detection etc...
- Are these wind farms placed in clusters or by random spacing?
Cannot cluster here in this area because it will deter the wind from another turbine causing the other turbine to default and steel its wind cycle
- How many turbines would be considered for Riley Township?
No determination because of the interviews and formulas are not into place yet.
- Concerned about neighbor turning against neighbors?
Need to speak for yourself, come to the meetings so your voice can be heard. As a land owner you have the right to use your land as you wish.
If the wind park decides to upgrade, change the design, DTE would use the existing turbine for the upgrade area
- Need no permit to talk to people of interested land owner parties for consideration

This Riley Township meeting forum was brought to the community by DTE Energy to educate and offer our future generation the opportunity to invest into our natural resources with the oldest and naturalist energy systems since ancient times. This forum was an educational tool only and nothing was decided at this meeting.

VI. Motion to adjourn: Pam Feldpausch

Motion supported by: Brian Lawless

Minutes recorded by: Trish Martens

Adjourn: 4:20

