

# PETITION

TO: Members of Council, Corporation of the City of Ottawa

*RE: setback distances between renewable energy projects and residences in rural Ottawa*

*WHEREAS* the Province of Ontario via the Independent Electricity System Operator or IESO has launched a series of Requests For Proposals for new power generation projects; and

*WHEREAS* with the repeal of the Green Energy Act, Ontario municipalities now have local land use planning powers restored for renewable energy projects; and

*WHEREAS* the City of Ottawa has stated in its Energy Evolution climate action plan that it is open to wind power development and the City of Ottawa has already approved a motion to site renewable energy projects on city-owned land; and

*WHEREAS* there are concerns that because the new Official Plan allows for the siting of renewable energy projects on “*Rural Countryside*,” “*Greenbelt Rural and Greenbelt Facility*,” and “*Natural Environment Area*” this could mean power developments including industrial wind turbines near rural homes; and

*WHEREAS* the City has already acknowledged the risk of significant impacts on residents near wind power generation facilities in terms of noise emissions and vibration and plans to address these via appropriate zoning bylaws,

## **WE THE UNDERSIGNED REQUEST**

That the City of Ottawa enact a new zoning bylaw to protect rural residents from impacts such as noise, infrasound, low frequency noise, and vibration by:

- Creating a setback distance between the boundary of such projects and the property line of residences and other uses where people live and work that is 10 times the height to the blade tip of the proposed wind turbines or a minimum of 2 km;
- prohibiting any effect on land other than the parcel on which the wind power project is sited such as “shadow flicker” or strobe effect, or interference with an aquifer or groundwater supply;
- requiring a setback distance from property lines and roadways to protect against ice throw, fire, and collapse of equipment such as wind turbines;
- requiring the City of Ottawa to refuse the issuance of a building permit if the above setbacks and prohibitions are not followed.

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