

WIND ENERGY READY COMMUNITY

Communities interested in becoming a certified Wind Energy Ready Community should use this guide to help guide them in the requirements before applying.



ELIGIBLE COMMUNITIES

In accordance with IC 8-1-41-6, eligible communities include county and municipal units of government.

WIND POWER REGULATION ADOPTION

To be certified, your community must adopt a wind power regulation that includes clear standards for the construction, installation, siting, modification, operation, or decommissioning of one or more wind energy systems in the community. This regulation must include:

- ✓ Standards that are not more restrictive, directly or indirectly, than the default standards outlined in IC 8-1-41.
- ✓ A clear and transparent process to identify potential wind power project sites.
- ✓ Does not unreasonably eliminate portions of the community for wind power projects.
- ✓ A fair review and approval process with a final approval that cannot be revoked.
- ✓ A specific plan for how incentive funds granted by the Center will be used for economic development within or near the project's footprint, or otherwise benefits residents and businesses within or near the project's footprint.

DEMONSTRATION TO COMMITMENT

As a part of the certification process, your community must demonstrate a commitment, of at least 10 years from the project's start date of full commercial operation, to:

- ✓ Maintain the standards and procedural framework established in your community's wind power regulation.
- ✓ Maintain all applicable zoning, land use, and planning regulations.

HOW TO APPLY

To become certified as a Wind Energy Ready Community, submit your application to the Indiana Office of Energy Development using the application guidance and template available [online](#).

DEFAULT WIND STANDARDS

Below is a condensed summary of the voluntary default wind standards outlined in Indiana Code. Applicants considering certification need to consult [IC 8-1-41](#) before applying.

Setback Requirements – A wind power device may not be installed or located on a property unless the distance measures as a straight line, from the vertical centerline of the base of the wind power device to:

- 1.1 times the wind power device’s blade tip height, as measured from the ground to the blade tip to:
 - The centerline of any: Runway of an airport; Public use highway, street, or road; and Railroad easement or right-of-way
 - The property line of any nonparticipating property
- 3 times the device’s blade tip height to the nearest point on the outer wall of a dwelling located on a nonparticipating property.
- 1.2 times the blade tip height to the nearest edge of the right-of-way for any utility transmission or distribution line.
- 2 times the blade tip height to the property line of any undeveloped land within the unit that is zoned for residential use.
- 1 mile from a state park.
- 1 mile from the corporate boundaries of any municipality. However, the municipality may waive or reduce the minimum distance.

Shadow Flicker – The project owner must use shadow flicker computer modeling to estimate the amount of shadow flicker anticipated from the device. The model must indicate that a dwelling on a nonparticipating property will not experience more than 30 hours per year of shadow flicker. The project owner must also work with the owner of any dwelling on a nonparticipating property to mitigate the effects of shadow flicker to the extent reasonably practicable. This requirement may also be waived with the written consent of the owners of each nonparticipating property.

Signal Interference – Any installed device must be installed to minimize impacts to signals, such as television, radio, and doppler radar.

Sound Level Limitations – The device must not exceed an hourly average sound level of 50 A-weighted decibels, as modeled at the outer wall of an affected property.

Light Mitigation Technology – A wind device must be equipped with light mitigation technology, unless the Federal Aviation Administration denies the application to use light mitigation technology, the technology is pending review, or the owner determines the use of light mitigation technology is not economically feasible.

Damage to Drainage Infrastructure – All damages to waterways, drainage ditches, field tiles, or other drainage related infrastructure caused by the project must be fully repaired or replaced, so as not to impede the flow of water. All repairs must be timely, and subject to all applicable regulations.

Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan – A project owner must submit a decommissioning and site restoration plan to the permit authority before a project may begin. More information on the plan can be found at IC 8-1-42-16.