

17.134 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS REGARDING WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS.

(a) Additional Standards. Wind energy conversion systems, commonly referred to as "windmills," which are used to produce electrical power, shall also satisfy the requirements of this Section in addition to those found elsewhere in this Article.

(b) Application. Applications for the erection of a wind energy conversion system shall be accompanied by a plat of survey for the property to be served showing the location of the generating facility and the means by which the facility will provide power to structures. If the system is intended to provide power to more than one (1) premises, the plat of survey shall show all properties to be served and the means of connection to the wind energy conversion system. A copy of all agreements with system users off the premises shall accompany the application. The application shall further indicate the level of noise to be generated by the system and provide assurances as to the safety features of the system. Energy easements shall accompany the application.

(c) Construction. Wind energy conversion systems shall be constructed and anchored in such a manner to withstand wind pressure of not less than forty (40) pounds per square foot in area.

(d) Noise. The maximum level of noise permitted to be generated by a wind energy conversion system shall be fifty (50) decibels, as measured on a dB(A) scale, measured at the lot line.

(e) Electro-magnetic Interference. Wind energy conversion system generators and alternators shall be filtered and/or shielded so as to prevent the emission of radio-frequency energy that would cause any harmful interference with radio and/or television broadcasting or reception. In the event that harmful interference is caused subsequent to the granting of a conditional use permit, the operator of the wind energy conversion system shall promptly take steps to eliminate the harmful interference in accordance with Federal Communications Commission regulations.

(f) Location and Height. Wind energy conversion systems shall be located in the rear yard only and shall meet all setback and yard requirements for the district in which they are located and, in addition, shall be located not closer to a property boundary than a distance equal to their height. Wind energy conversion systems are exempt from the height requirements of this Chapter; however, all such systems over seventy-five (75) feet in height shall submit plans to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to determine whether the system is to be considered an object affecting navigable air space and subject to FAA restrictions. A copy of any FAA restrictions imposed shall be included as a part of the wind energy conversion system conditional use permit application.

(g) Fence Required. All wind energy conversion systems shall be surrounded by a security fence not less than six (6) feet in height. A sign shall be posted on the fence warning of high voltages.

(h) Utility Company Notification. The appropriate electric power company shall be notified, in writing, of any proposed interface with that company's grid prior to installing said interface. Copies of comments by the appropriate utility company shall accompany and be part of the application for a conditional use permit.