

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS NEEDED!!

County Commission Meeting

**Tuesday, August 20th
6:00pm**

County Government Center
321 W. 3rd St. ~ Yankton

**600' TALL WIND TURBINES ARE
COMING TO YANKTON COUNTY**

MAYFIELD & TURKEY VALLEY TOWNSHIPS
NOW...OTHERS LATER?

- How close should they be to your house?
- Should there be special considerations for the lake area?
- Should a foreign owned, multi-billion dollar corporation or the county or the landowner be responsible for taking them down?

Come, listen, and speak up. This is your county! This is where you live!

Dear friends and neighbors, in and near Mayfield and Turkey Valley Townships, Yankton, SD:

We need your help to keep INDUSTRIAL wind projects out of our Yankton and Turner Counties.

In Jan of 2024, Yankton began the process of updating the outdated ordinance 26 governing INDUSTRIAL Wind Energy Conversion Systems. The official Wind Energy Task Force created by the Yankton County Commissioners began meeting twice a month. Many people testified about the dangers of INDUSTRIAL wind projects at these public meetings.

The taskforce did a great job evaluating the needs of Yankton County. The taskforce became convinced that INDUSTRIAL wind did not have a place in our farm country which is zoned for agriculture. **They voted to recommend that the Yankton County Commissioners ban INDUSTRIAL wind** from this county. The taskforce also completed their arduous job of updating the ordinance governing INDUSTRIAL WIND and provide protections for the non-participating residents. **These protections include: 2-mile setbacks, turbine heights limited to 600 feet, and decibel levels at property lines of 35 decibels.** A requirement for an escrow account with full funding of estimated decommissioning costs is included to protect the county. **This ordinance has several steps to complete before it becomes law in Yankton County.**

In August, the ordinance passed through the Planning and Zoning Board with only minor changes.

The final step is for the wind ordinance, article 26, to be heard and voted on by the Yankton County Commissioners. The commissioners will meet **Tues Aug 20 at 6 pm** to make their recommendations about the new wind ordinance. **The vote is expected to be on Sept 3.**

At the first hearing of article 26 on Aug. 6th, over 150 people from the area showed up to let the commissioners know that **the people do not want INDUSTRIAL wind projects in our counties.** Over 2 hours of public comments were heard. Swan Lake Wind LLC representatives spoke in favor of allowing INDUSTRIAL WIND to build in Yankton County. Only 2 people who do not live on the land that Swan Lake Wind wants to build on gave statements in favor of INDUSTRIAL WIND. Some of the commissioners seem to feel that the desires of the out of state, deep pocket, limited liability wind companies are more important than the needs of the people who live here. **Those commissioners are trying to remove all protections for non-participating residents from the new wind ordinance.**

To complicate the matter, Swan Lake Wind, LLC, applied for a conditional use permit in Yankton County on July 8. They claim they should be included under the weak, old, and outdated version of Article 26. **The Planning/Zoning will consider this CUP at their Sept 10 meeting at 7 pm.**

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO PROTECT OUR FAMILIES AND FARMS IN YANKTON COUNTY?

1. **Come** to the Yankton County Commissioner's meeting **Aug 20** to be seen and heard.
2. **Read** the enclosed concern sheet, and share it with a friend.
3. **Sign the enclosed petition**, asking the commissioners to include protection for non-participating residents; or ban INDUSTRIAL wind projects completely.

A self-addressed, stamped envelope is provided to return your petition.

4. **Contact** the Yankton County Commissioners and the Yankton County Planning and Zoning board by letter or email at the addresses below.
5. If you are in Turkey Valley or Mayfield townships, **Sign the enclosed petition** asking the Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the Swan Lake CUP
6. **Follow** the Swan Lake Wind Project page not affiliated with Next Era on Facebook.

Yankton County Commissioners and Yankton County Planning and Zoning

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Yankton County Commissioners

meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7 pm

John Marquardt	johnm@co.yankton.sd.us
Wanda Fox	wanda@co.yankton.sd.us
Ryan Heine	ryan@co.yankton.sd.us
Don Kettering	donk@co.yankton.sd.us
Dan Klimisch	dank@co.yankton.sd.us

Yankton County Planning and Zoning Commissioners

meet the 2st and 4rd Tuesdays at 6 pm

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