

February 5, 2022

We are writing in support of SB353. We know that the only way you will understand about wind turbines is to visit the sites where turbines are placed. We live in Marshall County Ks, in the footprint of the Irish Creek Wind Farm. Our experience is nothing like NextEra told people it would be. They say that wind energy has always been sensitive to all involved and has gotten better in making siting decisions. Well, now that Irish Creek Wind Farm is completed, that is not true, the wind turbines are sited where they are most convenient to the company not the best for the people who live in the footprint. No noise, little shadow flicker and no health issues! Ha Ha. If wind would have been practicing proper setbacks and working with everyone there would be no need for SB353.

The first thing is that everyone says, landowners have rights, and the Kansas legislators and county commissioners can't take that right away. The problem with that is that we are landowners, so we have the same rights. The current regulations provide the non-participating landowner or homeowner no rights for protecting their value of their land or the safety of their home. Let me explain that to you. Our land where our home is located has a turbine approximately 900 ft from our property line, basically we will never be able to use that land for anything except grassland.

Irish Creek Wind Farm, a few facts. Approximately 119 landowners are in the footprint. Of those landowners, only 34 signed leases and 85 did not. Of those 34 signees, only 25% live within the footprint. That is not overwhelming support for this project.

From our home, we have a 500 ft turbine 3400 ft from our front door. See picture below.

Less than 1 mile: 3

Less than 2 miles: 14

Less than 3 miles: 29

Less than 4 miles: 39

We can stand on our front porch and count at least 43 and at night the blinking red lights we can count 60 plus. No one should be subjected to this kind of wind turbine placements. One-mile setbacks from the property line will not kill the

project it will just make it work for non-participating landowners and participating landowners. People will know the regulations before the company comes into an area.

The turbines are loud, depending on the weather and the wind direction. It is sad that when we go outside, it sounds like an airport, but the plane never lands. Or at times you hear the constant woosh, woosh, woosh. We are outdoor people and take great pride in our farmstead and our yard. The noise is wearing on you and not right.

Second: Shadow flicker should not be allowed to happen to anyone. My sister can't even be in her front part of her house during the afternoon. So we support the no shadow flicker for non-participating.

Third: Property values, who is going to protect the value of our homes and land. Giving a mile setback from our property line will at least give us options and opportunities.

Fourth: We have been treated like we are nobody during this entire project. Everything has been done in secrecy and no commissioner or signee(landowner) will tell you anything about what is going on. The commissioner kept saying, "it will get worse before it gets better." Yet, it hasn't gotten better, only worse. They have torn up our roads and dumped terrible rock on roads, blocked entrances to our farm ground, backed into fields, tore up crops (didn't pay for them), rough roads which are hard on our expensive farm equipment, watered the roads so much that our equipment and vehicles were always covered in sloppy lime and dirt. It has been a horrible situation.

I honestly don't know how the company can still go into areas and affect people's lives forever without any regulations. Our lives have changed forever.

We need help from the state level. Thank you for supporting SB353.

Sincerely,  
Chet & Mary Ann Fincham



