



East Buckeye
Neighborhood Association

October 1, 2008

Alder Judy Compton
District 16
City of Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Alder Compton,

The East Buckeye Neighborhood Association board has discussed the recent wind turbine ordinance proposed by the City. We would like to express our concerns on behalf of our neighborhood's residents.

- We are concerned that the proposed ordinance would nullify covenants and restrictions. Covenants are an agreement by a builder and its home buyers, at least one of which remains in effect in our neighborhood. Removing wind turbines, a major structure, from this verbiage masks a critical consideration for a homeowner.
- Our understanding is that no public review process would be in place and, in fact, no permit needed whatsoever. This element alone paves the way for opportunistic companies to promote wind turbines to unsuspecting residents as an energy cost savings, regardless of their effectiveness or impact on their neighborhoods. The public process has been a cornerstone in the City of Madison and its removal would most certainly be a shift in the value structure of its leadership.
- Lastly, we understand that the State of Wisconsin is reviewing its own sustainable energy platform. It would be premature for the City to enact its own wind turbine ordinance until the State has had its chance to weigh in on its position.

An ordinance about something as large, domineering and contentious as a wind turbine should be given careful consideration. The devil is in the details. Other permanent structures in the City, like a home, require a more defined process. To eliminate this leaves the door open to considerable problems.

Please note and record this as a concern of our board. We appreciate your working toward addressing these concerns on behalf of our neighborhood's residents.

East Buckeye Neighborhood Association Board of Directors