

From: Warren Howard

Date: June 7, 2021 at 12:58:28 PM EDT

To: Brian Treble <btreble@westlincoln.ca>

Subject: Re: Renewable Energy Systems report and attachments

Reply-To: Warren Howard

I do not see a problem with the under 10 kw option. I am a little concerned that there is no guidance for larger turbines. Requiring an official plan amendment does not provide real guidance. At least that is what I saw in a quick scan of the documents.

As I understand the process, someone wanting to propose a new project goes to the zoning bylaws to see if it is prohibited. In West Lincoln, this would be read as they are allowed but there is a special approval process.

I would suggest some limits be included in the by-law - i.e. large wind turbines are not a compatible land use for prime agricultural land. Any turbines need to comply with specific setbacks from residential areas. If it is in your zoning by-law, then the setbacks cannot be challenged in court under earlier PC changes to legislation.

For example, Dutton-Dunwich put a 2 km setback in their Official Plan and I think that this has been approved by Elgin County.

Did you see the ERO posting 19-3471 which eliminated priorities for Renewable Energy Requirements in 3 pieces of legislation as they are no long needed given that Ontario already has a clean energy supply. WCO of course wrote a letter supporting these changes but also mentioned that they were not reflected in the direction being provided by the PPS - it also needed to be changed.

This is no longer an academic discussion. The Regional Municipality of Ottawa is in the process of developing their climate action plan for the 2050. They plan to move everything to electricity and since they do not believe that the Ontario grid is green enough for them, they are planning to build a network of wind turbines and solar panels to support their increased demand projections. These plans are not just limited to the rural areas of the municipality but also include neighbouring rural municipalities. It is a bizarre plan but that is where large cities are heading and the Ottawa plan is counting on federal infrastructure money to make it happen.

Warren