

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**JOINT INFORMATIONAL MEETING
July 15, 2008**

A joint meeting, properly advertised and open to the public, was held to gather information on windmills with the following people in attendance: PennWind representatives: Rob Irwin; Justin Dunkelberger and Vanessa Smoley; Millheim Borough Council: Linn Auman, Kay Brown, Marlene Corl, Alan Ilgen, Tom Strebel, Lauralee Snyder and Sharon Heckman; Gregg Township Supervisors: Doug Bierly and Pat Leary; Haines Township Supervisors: Steven Breon and Daryl Schafer; Miles Township Supervisors: Harold Rudy and Regan Harter; Penn Township Supervisors: Warren Sasserma, Bob Fox, Dean Smith and Barbara Shaffer; Penn Township Planning Commission: Dennis Heggenstaller and Henry Beiler; Centre County Planning Office: Norman Lathbury; Citizens: Penn Township - Richard Steinberger, Tom Shaffer, Maggie and Dana Harlan; Millheim Borough – Karen and Phil Yanak.

This meeting began at 7:00 p.m. in the Millheim Borough Council Room. Mr. Justin Dunkelberger, CEO of Penn Wind, is a civil engineer and a township supervisor for Pointe Township in North Cumberland County. Handouts were distributed and a Power Point presentation explaining the history of the company and various projects that are currently in progress was viewed. Penn Wind is located in Sunbury but the mother company is located in Germany. The following information was given:

1. Legislation requires energy companies buy excess energy produced.
2. Provides job growth. Local office creates 3-5 full-time jobs at \$20-\$30/per hour.
3. Tax credits expire by the end of 2008.
4. Heavy load is within three hours of here in the northeast.
5. Transmission is available comparable to other regions.
6. Legislation does not allow wind farms to be taxed so the Company makes payments in-lieu-of taxes.
7. Windmills create a new revenue source for municipalities.
8. Penn Wind does everything from beginning to end of project and pay all the costs, including upgrades to transmission lines. Their money is made selling the power to the electric company.
9. If frequencies are set correctly, there are no problems with cell phones, etc.
10. A project takes 3-5 years with zero costs to the municipality.
11. 1 MW turbine provides = 2,800,000 KWH/year = enough to provide electricity for 812 households with 4 people.
12. The base is 35 feet and requires ¼ acre of land for each turbine.
13. Deer hunting won't change; higher soaring birds are affected.
14. After construction, Penn Wind reseeds the area and after construction only room for a pickup truck is needed for maintenance.
15. Each blade is 70-110 feet long. 50 decibels is a self-imposed noise limit at the property level.
16. Old outdated windmills can be removed and a modern one replaces it or they are decommissioned and reseeded. Penn Wind can provide bonding.
17. All 25-year leases have options that allow both parties to terminate early.
18. Ordinance would regulate reseeded, etc.
19. Penn Wind would own the wind farm but Allegheny Power is still billing agency. Reduction on individual electric bills would only happen if a Community Wind Farm were put into place. Mr. Dunkelberger said in his experience this doesn't work well in the Northeast. Municipalities would have new revenue coming in as earned income tax from people receiving rent for windmills on their property and fees-in-lieu of taxes. These monies could offset electric costs.
20. Tonight's meeting is the first step in the process. They want to work with the municipalities and if there is no interest in a wind farm the company will move on.
21. They would like to see an intermunicipal agreement so everyone is working together and they would fund the Solicitor's costs for this.
22. Penn Wind wants to do a contiguous area. They will not do a project if they can't get the support they want.
22. All windmills would be on top of the mountains, 100 meters above ground level. (A meter equals 3.28 feet.) Heights vary based on the size of megawatts.

Mr. Dunkelberger explained that a Community Based Wind Farm would mean that everybody would share in the income even if the property had no turbines. Penn Wind would pay off their project in approximately five years and then the community owns the project. The community then gets the income for twenty years.

Mr. Dunkelberger explained that solar is not as good here as in the south or west. He explained that solar is more expensive than wind energy and takes more land for solar panels than wind turbines.

Mr. Dunkelberger explained that if there is interest from the municipalities Penn Wind would start the due diligence process of the project. In the next few months each municipality would be contacted by Penn Wind to determine if they are interested in a wind project.

The meeting ended at 8:46 p.m.

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer