

Top ten reasons wind farms should not be built on the Texas Coast

1. Wind farms require vast amounts of land to produce a small amount of energy. A 1900 megawatt nuclear plant needs about 500 acres compared to wind farm which needs as much as 150,000 acres. When you consider the small amount of power produced per acre they are just not worth the cost.
2. Wind turbines do kill birds. Even though the wind industry has made improvements in this regard, plans to locate an industrial scale farm in Kenedy Co. in close proximity to one of the busiest flyways in North America is foolish and arrogant.
3. Wind turbines kill bats in a way that is unique. The fast moving (200mph) tips of the turbines concentrate insects that bats eat, thus the bats are drawn to the most lethal part of the turbines.
4. Noise is still an issue. Although less noisy than older models, people living near wind farms still find the noise intrusive and disturbing.
5. Strobing, sometimes called shadow flicker, is an issue that is just beginning to be understood as turbines are built closer to communities. This flickering is quite annoying over a mile away from the wind farms.
6. Eyesore. The oldest oak trees on the Texas coast are seldom 70 feet tall and currently dominate the landscape. Hundreds of shiny, white, 400 foot turbines will destroy, in a few days, a pristine view that took nature centuries to create.
7. Wind farms rely on federal, state and local subsidies and tax breaks. Yes, other industries also get big breaks but do we need yet another drain on our treasury?
8. They do not replace fossil fuel plants. Turbines only produce energy when the wind blows so regular standby plants are still needed. The Energy Institute of America predicts wind will contribute only 0.89% of U.S. electricity by 2030.
9. Imported oil will not be reduced in any meaningful way because of wind farms. Less than 1% of our electricity is derived from foreign oil.
10. They are only going to get bigger and more widespread. A new facility is about to be built in Corpus Christi, Texas that will double the size of the blade. Current blades are nearly 100 ft. long.

Please print out a copy and give one to a friend. To fact check and to get more information contact the Lower Laguna Madre Foundation. Telephone 956-944-2387 or e-mail us at llmf@granderiver.net.