



SENATE BILL 513: Modify Rqmts. for Wind Energy Facilities.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Agriculture, Energy, and Environment.	Date:	May 7, 2025
	If favorable, re-refer to Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate		
Introduced by:	Sen. Hanig	Prepared by:	Jennifer McGinnis
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 513 would: (1) establish enhanced public notice requirements for proposed wind energy facilities; and (2) require wind energy facilities to install light-mitigating technologies.*

CURRENT LAW: [Article 21C of Chapter 143 the General Statutes](#) requires all wind energy facilities that have a rated capacity of one megawatt or more to obtain a permit from DEQ for construction and operation of the facility.

Among other requirements, a permit applicant for a proposed wind energy facility or wind energy facility expansion must notify every property owner adjacent to the proposed facility of the location of the proposed wind energy facility or expansion and the specific location of each turbine proposed to be located within one-half mile of the boundary of the adjacent property owner, as well as provide a description of the proposed facility or expansion.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) must hold a public hearing in each county in which the wind energy facility or wind energy facility expansion is proposed to be located within 75 days of receipt of a completed permit application, and provide notice of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in each of those counties.

BILL ANALYSIS:

The bill would modify notice requirements in current law to provide that:

- A permit applicant must notify every property located within 20 miles of any property boundary of the proposed facility.
- DEQ must provide notice of the required public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in not only the counties in which the proposed facility would be sited, but also in each county bordering those counties.

In addition, the bill would require:

- An applicant for a permit for a wind energy facility or wind energy facility expansion to file a request with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for approval to install and use a light-mitigating technology system, and, if approved, install the light-mitigating technology system on approved turbines prior to commencement of operations of the facility or expansion.

Kara McCraw
Director



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- A permit holder for an existing wind energy facility to file a request with the FAA for approval to install and use a light-mitigating technology system, and, if approved, install the light-mitigating technology system on approved turbines no later than 24 months following such approval.

The term "light-mitigating technology" is defined as an aircraft detection lighting or any other comparable system capable of reducing the impact of facility obstruction lighting while maintaining conspicuity sufficient to assist aircraft in identifying and avoiding collision with a wind energy facility.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when it becomes law and apply to permits to construct wind energy facilities or wind energy facility expansions pending or filed on or after that date, except that the section requiring installation of light-mitigating technology applies to wind energy facilities constructed prior to the effective date of this act, and a permit holder must file a request with FAA no later than 60 days after the date this act becomes law.