

Original Questions:

1. Once they are in the area, will a “live” person be available for troubleshooting or to take calls from concerned citizens that have valid complaints? How quickly will these issues be addressed, i.e.—noise, dead birds and animals, etc. **Project specific, but see response below.**
2. What are the maintenance requirements (lubrication, parts & labor) of the turbines? **See response below.**
3. What about vandalism? Will extra police be added to the already low road coverage to protect these turbines for hunters or kids with guns? **Project specific.**
4. What is the blade-attachment failure rate for turbines installed in the past five years (i.e., the most modern variety)? **Beyond scope of this project, but see response below.**

Questions and Responses:

These questions may have been recategorized and reorganized. Some may have been sent to another “theme” area (this will have been explained in red under the “Original Questions” section). In other cases two or more questions will be answered with one response.

11. Once they are in the area, will a “live” person be available for troubleshooting or to take calls from concerned citizens that have valid complaints? How quickly will these issues be addressed, i.e.—noise, dead birds and animals, etc.

Response: Depending on the requirements of the permit, developers can be asked to establish a compliance monitoring program in advance. This agreement should make sure that the project is being properly monitored and operators should communicate with community members to solve problems as – and often before – they arise. However, this depends upon the developer’s permit and contract, and it is a concern that should be brought up directly with the permitting authorities. While somewhat dated now, the National Wind Coordination Collaborative did discuss this in their handbook, “Permitting of Wind Energy Facilities”. This document can be accessed at <http://www.nationalwind.org/assets/publications/permitting2002.pdf>.

12. What are the maintenance requirements (lubrication, parts & labor) of the turbines?

Response: Answering this question comprehensively is beyond the scope of this project. Each turbine manufacturer has specific requirements. For one example, see Proven Energy’s “Wind Turbine Maintenance Instructions” manual for a description of the procedures and schedule necessary for proper turbine maintenance. For a general description of turbine maintenance tools and strategies, see the World Wind Energy Association’s technology guide at http://www.wwindea.org/technology/ch03/en/3_4_3.html.

14. What is the blade-attachment failure rate for turbines installed in the past five years (i.e., the most modern variety)?

Response: This information is often proprietary and was unavailable to the research team. The failure is most often not at the point of the blade attachment but with the blade itself.