



Advancing Wind Power in Illinois Conference 2009

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Large Wind – Siting & Zoning Panel Session

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IWWG Third Annual Advancing Wind Power in Illinois Conference

A Roads Perspective




July 15, 2009

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Stark County Engineer

A Roads Perspective

- ❑ *Highway Authorities- who's responsible for what roads?*
- ❑ *How does wind farm development affect the roads?*
- ❑ *Cost of Repairing Roads*
- ❑ *Road Agreements*
- ❑ *Cooperating to get the work done*



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A Roads Perspective

Highway Authorities:

605 ILCS 5/2-213 [Highway authority or highway authorities defined]

- *State Highway: The Illinois Department of Transportation*
- *County Highway: the county board (represented by the County Engineer)*
- *Township Road: Highway Commissioner*
- *Municipal Street: the corporate authorities of the municipality (village board or city council)*

A Roads Perspective

County Engineer (605 ILCS 5/5-201)

- Appointed by County Board
- Prepare plans for all road & bridge construction on County Highways
- Supervise maintenance and construction on County Highways
- Advise the Highway Commissioners

A Roads Perspective

Highway Commissioner (605 ILCS 5/6-201)

- Elected to a 4-year term
- Layout, alter, widen, or vacate township roads
- Maintain records
- Direct road district expenditures
- Supervise the construction, maintenance, or repair of township roads
- Maintain equipment

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A Roads Perspective

How does Wind Farm Development affect the roads?

- Possible damage to pavement structure from significant increases in traffic loading
- Possible damage to drainage structures (especially pipe culverts)
- Altering or widening roads & intersections is usually required
- Additional access points
- Utility crossings
- Crane crossings

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A Roads Perspective

440 Ton crane crossing IL Route 40 between Camp Grove & Bradford, IL



500 HP engine

315 ft tall

859,000 lbs

Transported on 19 semis

Max Speed = 0.77 mph

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A Roads Perspective

Cost of Repairing the roads:

- *Material costs for primary roadway maintenance operations have more than doubled since 2001*
- *Funding levels have stayed the same and in some cases have decreased since that time*
- *The cost to upgrade one mile of road from gravel to oil & chip:*
 - 2001 = \$34,000
 - 2009 = \$70,000

(most townships have about 40-50 miles of road)



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A Roads Perspective

Road Agreements- Why are they needed?

- *To protect the tax payer's assets*
- *Define expectations*
- *Maximize efficiency of construction*
- *Asset damage repair or prevention*



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A Roads Perspective

Road Agreements- What do they consist of?

- *Site Layout Plan / Asset Inventory (schedules of roads, culverts, etc)*
- *Damages (Escrow, pre-construction upgrades, bonds, etc.)*
- *Criteria for widening or altering roads/intersections*
- *Permits- Moving / Access*
- *Utility lines/crossings*



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A Roads Perspective

Cooperating to get the work done:

- *Weekly meetings between the County and Developer/Contractor*
- *Be reasonable with requests and expectations*
- *Take care of issues as they arise*
- *Maintain good communication*

