
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

- Changes, from 750 feet to 1,250 feet, the minimum setback distance for wind turbines of an economically significant wind farm beginning on the effective date of the set back distance change.
- Maintains the current minimum setback distance of 750 feet for Power Siting Board certification applications that are filed before the effective date of the setback distance change, even if amendments to those applications are filed on or after that date.

Wind turbine setback

(R.C. 4906.20)

The bill increases the minimum setback distance for wind turbines of an economically significant wind farm from at least 750 feet to at least 1,250 feet beginning on the bill's effective date. However, the bill maintains the current setback distance of at least 750 feet for Power Siting Board (PSB) certification applications that are filed before the effective date of the setback distance change, and that setback distance applies even if amendments to such applications are filed on or after the effective date of the change.

The standard for measuring the setback distance, unchanged by the bill, is the horizontal distance measured from the tip of the turbine's nearest blade at 90 degrees to the exterior of the nearest, habitable, residential structure, if any, located on adjacent property at the time of the application for PSB certification.

Under current law, PSB rules must prescribe minimum setbacks for wind turbines at economically significant wind farms. The setback, however, does not apply to the following:

- Cases in which all owners of property adjacent to the wind farm property waive application of the setback to that property according to a procedure established by PSB rule; and
- Cases in which the PSB determines that a setback greater than the minimum is necessary.

Current law defines an economically significant wind farm as wind turbines and associated facilities with a single interconnection to the electrical grid that are designed



for, or capable of, operation at an aggregate capacity of at least five but less than 50 megawatts.¹⁵³

¹⁵³ R.C. 4906.13, not in the bill.

