Resolution #68-2020/2021

MORATORIUM ON C-WEC CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 331.302(10)(a) requires a county to compile ordinances every 5 years, and the County's current commercial wind energy conversion (C-WEC) ordinance was last amended in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recently has learned that a wind energy company is seeking easement rights from land owners in a region of Grundy County; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that C-WEC turbines can interfere with microwave communications signals; and

WHEREAS, Grundy County is the locus of two C-WEC "farms" which have been the source of citizen complaints; and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in preventing and abating any resulting nuisance from decommissioned commercial wind turbines through more robust decommissioning requirements; and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in protecting the County's infrastructure, natural resources and property rights through adequate setback provisions;

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in preventing and abating any resulting nuisance from noise and provide for the decibel testing and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors will require substantial time to gather information and coordinate with multiple agencies for the purpose of reviewing, updating or creating ordinances, policies and procedures relative to C-WEC development;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Grundy County, Iowa, that Grundy County now imposes a moratorium, effective immediately and indefinitely, on C-WEC permit applications for the purpose of drafting and adopting any necessary and proper revisions to the C-WEC ordinance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of May, 2021.

Heidi Nederhoff, Chairperson
Grundy County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Rhonda R. Deters, County Auditor

CERTIFICATE OF AUDITOR

I, Rhonda R. Deters, County Auditor of Grundy County, Iowa, do hereby certify and state that the foregoing Resolution, being Resolution No. 68-2020-2021 is a true, correct and complete copy of said Resolution as adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Grundy County, Iowa, on May 10, 2021.

Dated at Grundy Center, Iowa, this 10th day of May, 2021.

Rhonda R. Deters Grundy County Auditor