

Temporary halt sought on wind projects

**(KMZA)--A local citizens group is seeking a moratorium on wind energy projects while regulations are being developed.**

**Group representatives, Brad Lueger and Will Eisenbise, presented the Nemaha County Commission this week with a proposed county resolution that would halt action on wind farms until April 1, 2019.**

**Letters were presented from several area businesses and industries that support the moratorium, which could be extended.**

**Commissioners were asked to give a formal response on the proposed resolution in a week.**

**Also presented was the draft copy of a bill that has been introduced in the Kansas House that would regulate wind developments in the state.**

**In addition, the Commission was presented with a list of requests for wind energy developments in Nemaha and Brown Counties.**

**It requests a one-mile setback from turbines to non-participating landowner residences and a 1,500-foot setback from property lines of non-participating landowners. A 500-foot maximum structure height is also requested.**

**In addition, requested is a property value guarantee in the event that a wind development causes neighboring property values to drop, a substantial annual payment in lieu of taxes, protections against shadow flicker and noise along with a decommissioning plan.**

**County resident Melinda Sperfslage presented Commissioners copies of resolutions approved by other Kansas counties that regulate noise control in their counties.**

**Nemaha County is currently in negotiations with Florida-based NextEra Energy Resources on terms for the proposed Soldier Creek Wind Farm.**

**Attorney James Neeld, who the county has retained to conduct the negotiations, was not available this week due to a family funeral.**