

MANITOWOC

## Herald Times Reporter

www.htrnews.com

NEWS | SPORTS | PACKERS | ENTERTAINMENT | SHOPPING | CARS | JOBS | HOMES | INFO

Manitowoc Weather

25°F  
Clear  
[Forecast »](#)

## LOCAL NEWS

Posted Aug. 31, 2004

## County discusses wind power

**By Michelle Kubitz**  
*Herald Times Reporter*

MANITOWOC — County and town officials will meet tonight to discuss a proposed ordinance that will regulate the number of wind turbines that may be built next year in Manitowoc County.

Navitas Energy Inc. of Minneapolis is looking at sites in the northern part of the county to construct 49 wind turbines on about 5,000 acres in the towns of Mishicot, Two Creeks and Two Rivers.

“It’s one of the best places in the state of Wisconsin to have these sort of towers,” said Mike Demske, director of the county’s parks and planning department.

Jerrid Anderson, a senior project developer for Navitas, expects construction to start next year.

He agrees that the northern part of Manitowoc County is a good location for turbines.

“There are electrical transmission lines, the infrastructure is there. You need land, you need wind and you need electrical infrastructure, and it’s all there,” he said.

Navitas is also in the process of developing two wind farm projects in Fond du Lac County, which would involve two 44-turbine sites.

Part of tonight’s meeting will resolve township issues brought up last week during a public hearing.

The current version of the ordinance requires that turbines be set back two times their height from property lines.

Town officials feel that 1.1 times the height would suffice, Demske said.

If the county board passes the ordinance — which regulates standards, fees and other considerations for the turbines — each township can decide to adopt the county’s ordinance or come up with their own.

Because wind turbines are a utility, counties do not have the ability to ban construction of the towers.

If you go

What: Planning and Park Commission meeting

When: 6 p.m. today

Where: Manitowoc County Office Complex, 4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc

Details: County officials and representatives from the towns of Mishicot, Two Creeks and Two Rivers will discuss a potential ordinance regulating wind turbines set to be built next year in northern Manitowoc County. A representative from Navitas Energy Inc., of Minneapolis will also be at the meeting.

For more information about Navitas Energy Inc.:  
<http://www.windpower.com>

  
Search our Site

Search 1999 to present

- [Main Page](#)
- [Local News](#)
- [Lakeshore Chronicle](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Packers](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Opinions](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Records](#)
- [Community Info](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Dating](#)
- [National Coupons](#)
- [Autos](#)
- [Homes](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Contacts & Info](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [EZ Access](#)



“The only way you can say no to a wind tower is you have to prove some impact on health and/or safety. If you can’t prove that, then you can’t say no,” said County Executive Dan Fischer.

However, the county is working to construct an ordinance that will minimize any negative impacts the turbines could have.

Having the ordinance in place will also help expedite the permit process, Fischer said.

“This would allow for the approval for several at one time, instead of a permit application for each one,” he said.

Anderson estimates that Manitowoc County could receive \$200,000 annually in shared revenue through operation of the turbines.

Both Demske and Fischer are positive about Manitowoc County’s contribution to the production of “clean” and renewable energy.

“I think these are nice and clean and renewable,” Demske said. “As long as the wind is blowing, they work.”

A proposed ordinance could be before the Manitowoc County Board at its Sept. 21 meeting.

[Back to Top](#)



---

[Front Page](#) | [News](#) | [Packers](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Obituaries](#)  
[Homes](#) | [Autos](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Contact Us](#)

---

Copyright © 2004

Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#).

Send your questions and comments to [Gannett Wisconsin Online](#).