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# Letters: Wind farm near Horicon Marsh would pose threat to migrating birds

As incredible as it is to believe, a wind farm with 133 wind turbines projecting 388 feet into the sky is being pushed in Fond du Lac and Dodge counties, only two miles away from the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge.

These turbines will be much taller than any others in our state, and if approved this will be the largest wind farm in Wisconsin.

An article from Jan. 5 USA Today was entitled, "Wind Turbines Taking Toll on Birds of Prey," and another appeared in the Washington Post on Jan. 1 entitled, "Researchers Alarmed by Bat Deaths From Wind Turbines."

This area is a major migratory bird route for geese, ducks, cranes, and many others, with thousands of people traveling here to appreciate the beauty.

There are many concerned property owners and taxpayers who have gotten involved in the effort to stop this project. Concerns include health and safety issues, property value, noise, visual effects, groundwater contamination, shadow flicker, possible expansion of the project, stray voltage, and the impact on the environment.

I am asking that those who have concerns about this project being so close to the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge send a letter as soon as possible to: Jim Lepinski, Docket 9300-CE-IOO coordinator, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854

Additional information is available at the Web site for the Horicon Marsh Systems Advocates at: [www.hmsadvocates.org](http://www.hmsadvocates.org).

**CURT KINDSCHUH**

**Brownsville**

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### READERS RESPOND

"As a retired engineer who was involved in hybrid energy in the mid-80s, and installed a wind turbine at Cape Henry Light, Virginia (a MAJOR bird flyway) and

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saw no bird deaths, I can offer that only as an anecdotal response. Every problem has solutions — one, is of course not to build the wind turbines near Horicon. Maybe another is to paint the turbines some contrasting color that the birds can readily identify and to put some type of low dB noise device on them that can be only heard for a short distance. I don't mean to anthropomorphize our feathered friends, but they are quite intelligent and do learn readily and do pass on knowledge to succeeding generations. To paraphrase Rodney King, 'Maybe, we all can just get along.'" — William A Danner of Sheboygan

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