

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding Section
5 5-12020 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/5-12020 new)

7 Sec. 5-12020. Wind farms. A county may establish standards
8 for wind farms and electric-generating wind devices. The
9 standards may include, without limitation, the height of the
10 devices and the number of devices that may be located within a
11 geographic area. A county may also regulate the siting of wind
12 farms and electric-generating wind devices in unincorporated
13 areas of the county outside of the zoning jurisdiction of a
14 municipality and the 1.5 mile radius surrounding the zoning
15 jurisdiction of a municipality. There shall be at least one
16 public hearing not more than 30 days prior to a siting decision
17 by the county board. Notice of the hearing shall be published
18 in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. Counties
19 may allow test wind towers to be sited without formal approval
20 by the county board. Test wind towers must be dismantled within
21 3 years of installation. For the purposes of this Section,
22 "test wind towers" are wind towers that are designed solely to
23 collect wind generation data. Any provision of a county zoning

1 ordinance pertaining to wind farms that is in effect before the
2 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General
3 Assembly may continue in effect notwithstanding any
4 requirements of this Section.

5 Section 10. The Illinois Municipal Code is amended by
6 adding Section 11-13-26 as follows:

7 (65 ILCS 5/11-13-26 new)

8 Sec. 11-13-26. Wind farms. A municipality may regulate wind
9 farms and electric-generating wind devices within its zoning
10 jurisdiction and within the 1.5 mile radius surrounding its
11 zoning jurisdiction. There shall be at least one public hearing
12 not more than 30 days prior to a siting decision by the
13 corporate authorities of a municipality. Notice of the hearing
14 shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the
15 municipality. A municipality may allow test wind towers to be
16 sited without formal approval by the corporate authorities of
17 the municipality. Test wind towers must be dismantled within 3
18 years of installation. For the purposes of this Section, "test
19 wind towers" are wind towers that are designed solely to
20 collect wind generation data.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
22 becoming law.