

Michigan Wind Activities

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Great Lakes Regional Wind Energy Institute
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Michigan Public Service Commission



Public Service Commission
Energy, Labor & Economic Growth



Major Wind Activities

- RPS passed in October 2008
- Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
- MPSC designation of wind energy resource zones
- MPSC issues *Report on the Impact of Setback Requirements and Noise Limitations in Wind Zones in Michigan*

Renewable Portfolio Standard

- Requires electric providers to achieve 10% renewable energy by 2015
 - Interim steps 2012 – 2014
- RPS covers 83 electric suppliers: investor-owned utilities, cooperatives, municipal utilities and alternative electric suppliers
- Consumers Energy needs about 900 MW
- Detroit Edison needs about 1,250 MW



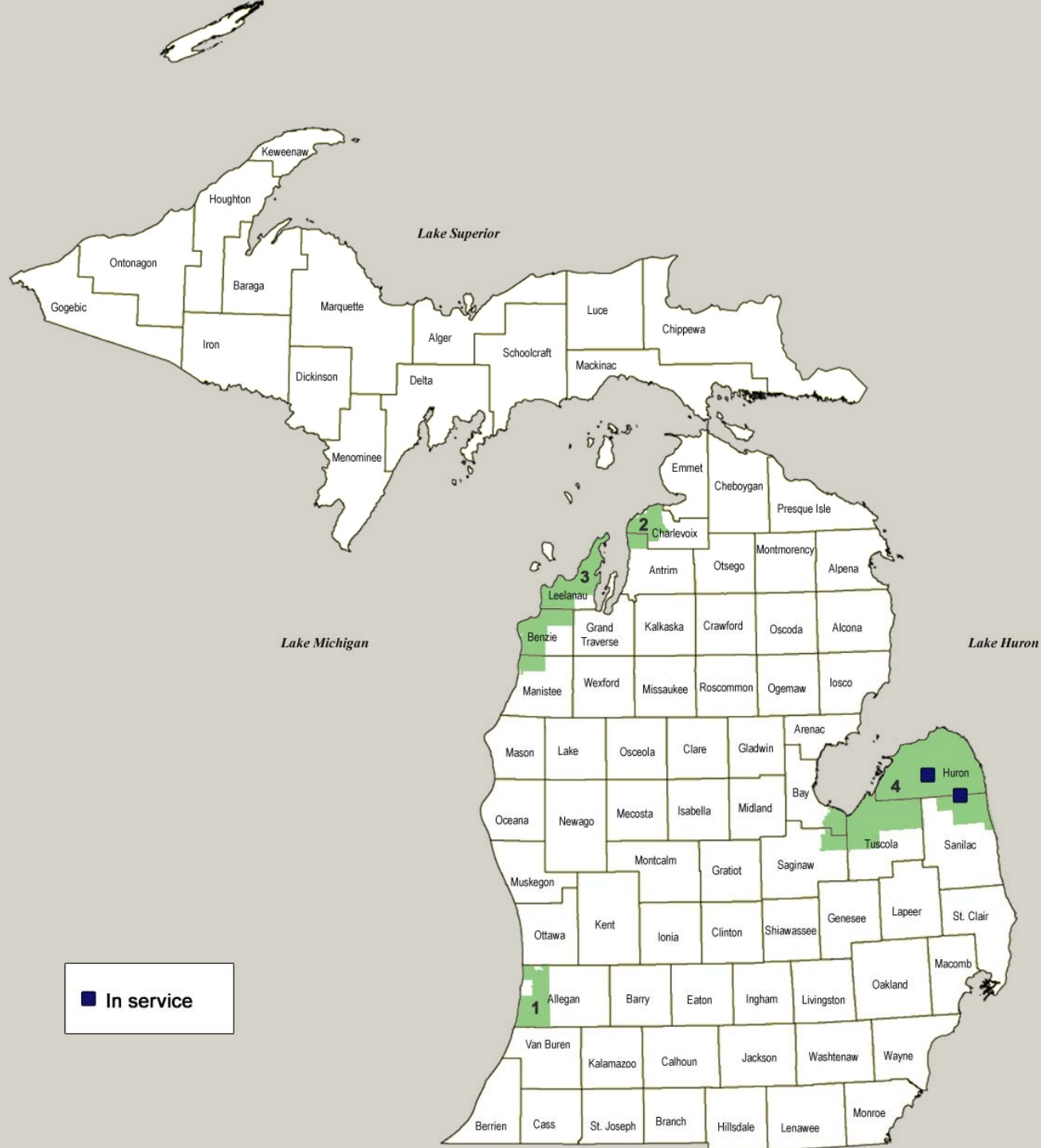
WERZ Board Responsibilities

- 11 member Board
- Study wind energy production potential and land availability
- Develop a list of regions in the state with the highest wind energy potential
 - Estimate the max & min wind capacity and wind energy production potential for each region
 - Estimate of wind generating capacity already in service in each region

Wind Regions Summary

Region	Counties	Minimum			Maximum		
		Number of Turbines	Capacity (MW)	Annual Energy Potential (MWh)	Number of Turbines	Capacity (MW)	Annual Energy Potential (MWh)
1	Allegan	166	249	747,938	296	445	1,338,415
2	Antrim Charlevoix	102	153	439,555	183	274	786,572
3	Benzie Leelanau Manistee	435	652	1,991,679	778	1,167	3,564,058
4	Huron Bay Saginaw Sanilac Tuscola	1,578	2,367	6,723,472	2,824	4,236	12,031,477
Total		2,281	3,421	9,902,644	4,081	6,122	17,720,522

Board Wind Regions



MPSC-Designated Wind Zones



Wind Turbine Siting in Michigan

- Currently handled by local governments
 - Townships (1,240)
 - Counties (83)
 - Cities & Villages
- Advantage: Local governments know the area and people
- Disadvantage: Wind turbine siting can be a highly contentious issue

MPSC Report

- MPSC issues *Report on the Impact of Setback Requirements and Noise Limitations in Wind Zones in Michigan* on January 25, 2010
- Before preparing report, the MPSC conducted public hearings in various areas of the state
 - Comments received from 78 parties – 12 representing organizations (municipalities, utilities, wind farm developers, and law firm) and 66 representing public at large

MPSC Report

Recommendations

- Decisions regarding appropriate setback distances and noise levels should remain under province of local planning and zoning authorities at this time
- Expand role of Wind Working Group to include sponsoring periodic meetings to provide needed scientific information to decision-makers
 - Wind & Wildlife and Health & Safety Working Groups

Issues Raised at Public Hearings

- Need greater setback requirements from homes
- Health impacts from turbine noise
- No more development until additional health studies are completed
- Real estate impacts
- Wildlife impacts
- Wind energy receives too much government subsidy money
- Wind energy isn't reliable and costs too much

Misc Wind Siting Activities

- Sample Zoning for wind energy systems
- Wind Working Group
- State Wind Outreach Team
- Michigan State University – Land Policy Institute Citizen Planner
- Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association
- Others

