



# Elkhart County Planning & Development

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## REQUIREMENTS FOR WIND TOWERS

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The procedure for obtaining an improvement location permit and a building permit for a wind tower in Elkhart County is as follows:

- 1) The Applicant must submit application for a Special Use Permit and appear before the Board of Zoning Appeals. Be sure to verify application deadlines on the Elkhart County Planning Calendar.
- 2) If the Special Use is approved, a building permit will be issued. The manufacturer's specifications and/or engineered design must be left with the Building Department at the time the permit is issued (Ord. 2008-400-6-c).
- 3) A series of inspections will take place (Ord. 2008-400-8):
  - a. **FOOTING and/or FOUNDATION.** Prior to the pouring of concrete, the excavation for the footing, the footing form and the reinforcement shall require inspection.
  - b. **ELECTRICAL ROUGH-IN.** Service equipment and enclosures shall be open for inspection. All buried wire shall not be backfilled prior to inspection.
  - c. **STRUCTURAL FINAL.** Upon completion of the tower installation, all structural connections visible from ground shall be inspected. Guy wire connections will be verified per manufacturer specifications.
  - d. **ELECTRICAL FINAL.** This is done after all electrical connections have been made and before the unit is ready to be energized.

### IMPORTANT POINTS

- Be sure to check with your local utility company for any applications or permits that may require. An Improvement Location Permit is not required however, building permits are required.
- All Electrical work shall be performed by tradesmen licensed per Elkhart County Ordinance (2003-119).
- Energizing the system prior to utility company release is a violation of the Elkhart County Building Ordinance (2008-400-6-d).
- All electrical equipment shall be approved for the intended use (NEC 705.4).
- All disconnecting means shall be readily accessible and labeled (NEC 705.22(1) and (3)).
- No work shall be done on any part of the project beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the approval of the Building Department as per Elkhart County Building Ordinance (2008-400-8).
- This notice can be amended or replaced from time to time. Please confer with the Building Department and/or Zoning Administration before any work begins.

PLEASE NOTE: Code and/or County Ordinance sections referenced on this document do not contain the entire code and/or county ordinance section or exact wording. Additional code and/or county ordinance requirements or exceptions may apply and are the responsibility of the Owner and/or General Contractor in charge of the work being done. The code and/or county ordinance references are included for your convenience only.