### Leasing for Wind Energy

Farmland Leases: Tales, Types, and Trends
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
November 27, 2012

Justin Schneider
Staff Attorney
Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc.

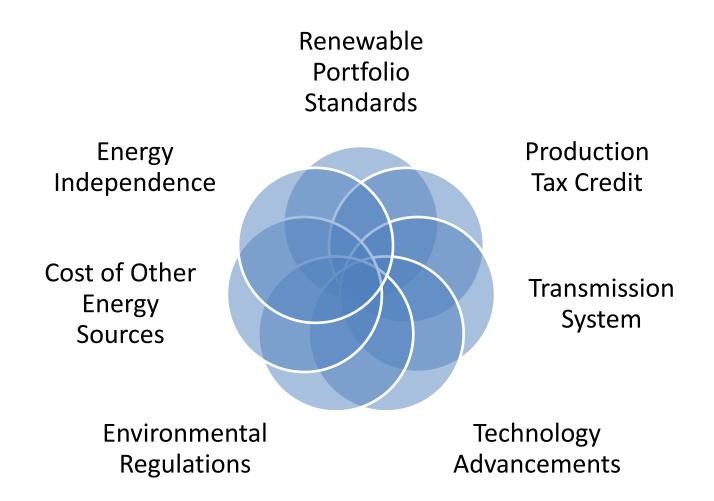


### Disclaimer

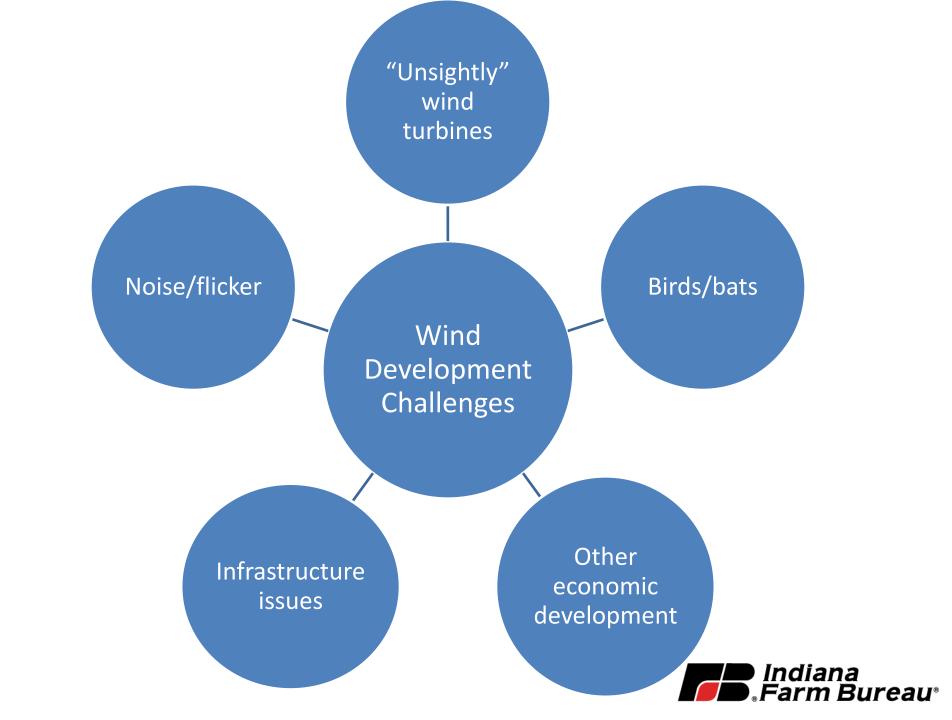
 The information provided in this program is not legal advice and is for informational purposes only. Please seek the advice of your own counsel.

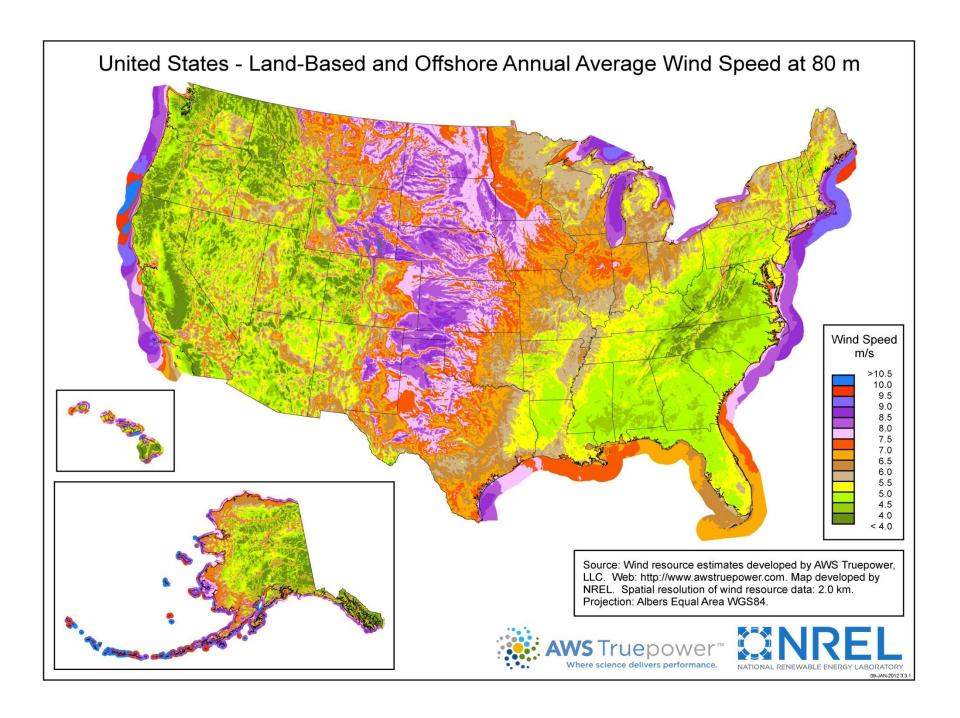


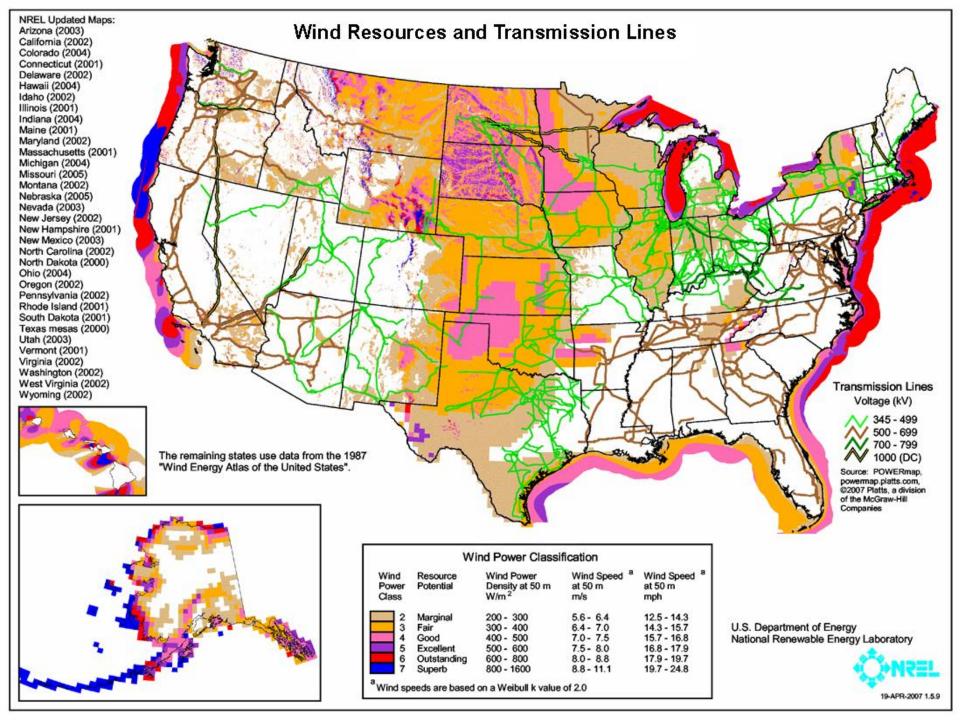
### Drivers for Wind Power Development











# Wind Energy Facts

- 51,630 MW Total US Capacity-June 2012
- 10,400,000 MW US Onshore Wind Resource Potential
- 6,816 MW Installed Capacity
   2011



### Top 5 States with Wind Power Capacity

Installed, through Q1 2012:

<ol> <li>Texas</li> <li>California</li> <li>lowa</li> <li>Oregon</li> <li>Illinois</li> </ol>	10,929 MW 4,570 MW 4,436 MW 3,153 MW 3,055 MW



## The Leasing Agent?







## What You May Be Asked to Sign

Option Agreement for Lease

Lease Agreement

Option Agreement for Easement

Land Lease and Easement Agreement

Cooperation Agreement



## IMPORTANT POINTS

- Shorter is not better
- Legal counsel needed



## Easement

An interest in land owned by someone else that entitles the party to a specific, limited use of the property

Parties have relatively equal access

## Lease

A contract for exclusive possession of land for a period of time for specified compensation

Ownership maintained but control limited



## Types of Easements

#### Private easements

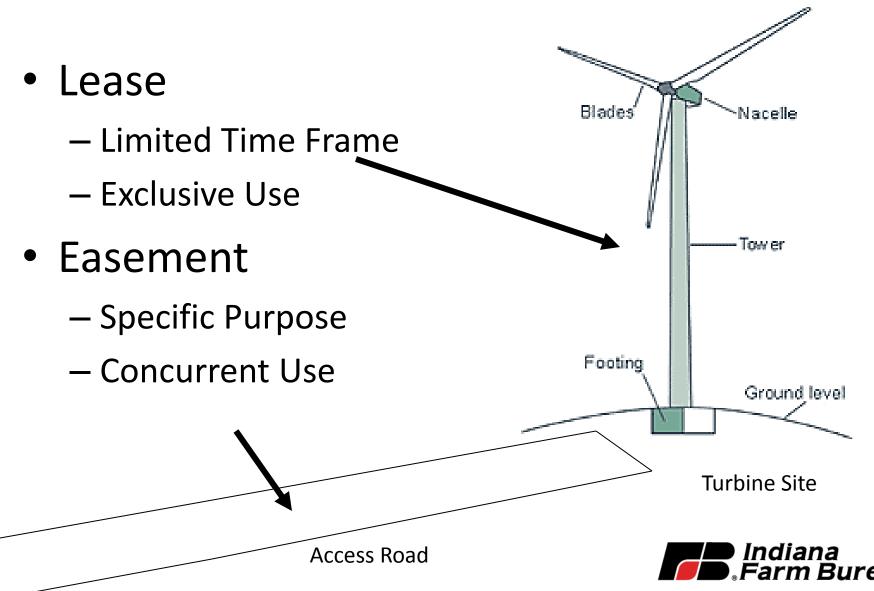
- Benefit the parties of the agreement
- Voluntary

### Utility easements (Public)

- Have power of eminent domain
- Wind projects generally not "utilities"



Use of Leases and Easements



## Contract Conditions

- Scope/Terms of use
- Location/Footprint
- Depth/Height
- Damage mitigation
- Duration
- Fencing/Livestock
- Indemnity/Hold harmless
- Termination/Decommissioning
- Recording/Release
- Aerial Applications





### Monetary Considerations

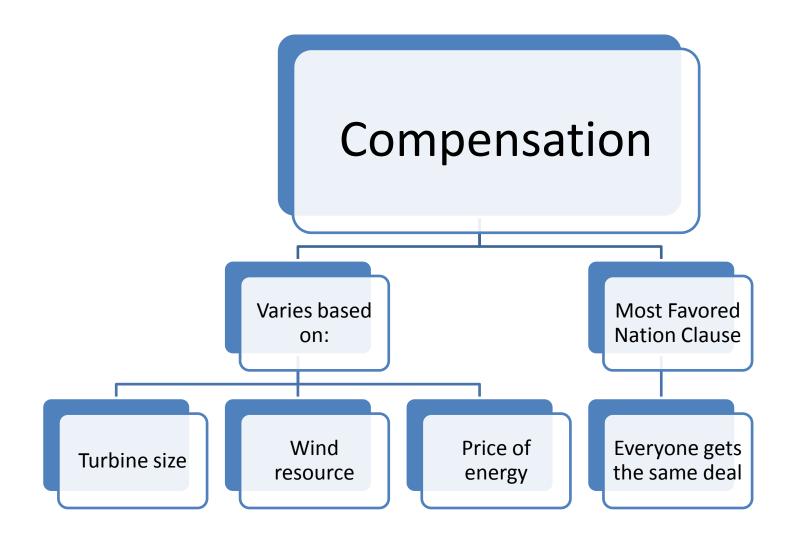
- Easements vs. Leases
  - Some different considerations
  - More flexibility for easement
  - Both based on knowledge and negotiating ability of landowner



### Compensation

- Land value
- Burden on the land
- Duration
- Associated damages (Tenant vs Landlord)
- Future sale of property
- Sentimental value
- Value of use
- Property tax impacts







## Compensation Packages

### Fixed Payments

- Set and stable source of income
- Use an escalator

### Royalty

 More risk but more reward?

### Combination

Best of both worlds?



\$18,500

\$2500



# Thank You

Justin Schneider jschneider@infarmbureau.org 317-692-7835

