

NAHBA Survey

May 11, 2011

Does your state currently have any policies and procedures in place concerning wind turbines and solar panels on outdoor advertising structures?

State	Response	Comments
Alabama	No	Not sure if structure is designed to carry the extra weight and wind pressures.
Alaska	NA	Billboards prohibited.
Arizona	No	
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado	No	They are not prohibited. We already have solar panels on several billboards.
Connecticut	No	
Delaware	No	Delaware has not been approached to use this type of technology. It does not look like there is anything in the law to prevent them.
Florida	Yes	Included in language concerning modification of nonconforming signs.
Georgia	No	
Hawaii	NA	Billboards prohibited.
Idaho	No	
Illinois	No	We would allow alternative energy on permitted signs but would not allow on nonconforming as it would be an improvement.
Indiana		
Iowa	No	Not allowed on nonconforming since any structural change constitutes modification and modification is not allowed.
Kansas		
Kentucky	No	
Louisiana	No	We have a meeting set with Lamar Advertising concerning that subject.
Maine	NA	Billboards prohibited.
Maryland	No	
Massachusetts	No	
Michigan	No	MDOT has been approached about adding these to sign structures. We have discussed and concluded that the addition of wind turbines would be prohibited under section 252.318(f) of the Highway Advertising Act of 1972- "The following signs or sign structures are prohibited...Those that involve motion or rotation of any part of the structure..." There were no issues with the addition of solar panels to legal conforming structures.
Minnesota	No	Have turned down requests for wind turbines based on prohibition of flashing and moving signs.
Mississippi	No	We have discussed the possible need of guidelines but not any specific regulations.
Missouri	No	
Montana	No	

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Nebraska	No	We have discussed this possibility though, and as long as neither are providing additional structural support, and there is no type of advertising on the turbine/panel itself- we probably would allow it as long as it was not going to provide lighting on a nonconforming sign that previously had no lighting.
Nevada	No	
New Hampshire		
New Jersey	No	We have recently been approached by sign companys to allow turbines and panels.
New Mexico		
New York	No	Official policies/procedures are not required. Current regulations would allow wind turbines and solar panels to be added to conforming signs, but not to nonconforming grandfathered due to loss of status.
North Carolina	No	
North Dakota	No	
Ohio		
Oklahoma	No	We have had a couple of individuals call in asking about the possibility of utilizing wind turbines to power digital displays...we would probably allow them as long as no commercial adv. Were to be displayed on the turbine unit and that it would have to be maintained so as not to present any kind of safety distraction to drivers. These conditions were imposed by my local FHWA liaison after she visited with DC on the matter.
Oregon	No	There has been discussion about solar panels, but there is nothing in place related to it.
Pennsylvania	No	In view of FHWA's recent memo, we are currently preparing a policy that will probably align with FHWA's stance.
Rhode Island		
South Carolina	No	
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas	Yes	Texas allows both solar panels and wind turbines under new state rules effective July 1, 2011.
Utah	Yes	
Vermont	NA	Billboards prohibited.
Virginia		
Washington	No	
West Virginia	No	I believe solar panels would be allowed. Wind turbines produce movement and would not be allowed.
Wisconsin	No	
Wyoming	No	