

For Renew Wisconsin, new, uniform rules for wind farms in the state were a huge deal. The group lobbied for the new rules hard. So, Renew's Micheal Vickerman is especially pessimistic about the outlook for wind energy in the state now that those rules have been suspended. He says the short term outlook is "bleak." Longer term, it's more "fraught with uncertainty."

Vickerman says the Wisconsin Realtors Association is behind the suspension of the wind farm rules. He says the Realtors oppose wind farms because they allow farmers to hold on to their land and not sell it for development. Although realtors opposed the wind siting rules, so did the Wisconsin Towns Association as well as a special interest anti-wind power group run by former state senator Bob Welch, among others.