

Wind Energy Interference of the Military: An Overview

In the last 20± years, there have been multiple types of wind energy conflicts with the military. These problems have fallen into the following six (6) general categories:

- 1- [Tall structures obstructing low-level flight paths](#),
- 2- [Weather](#) radar interferences,
- 3- [Navigation](#) radar interferences,
- 4- Other radar interferences (e.g. [ROTHR](#)),
- 5- Infrasound problems caused to service personnel and sensitive military equipment: [here](#) and [here](#), *and*
- 6- Specialized cases (e.g. [interference with military drone operation](#)).

Put another way, these interferences can have one or more of these consequences:

- the lives of military personnel are jeopardized,
- the military facility's mission is sabotaged,
- the military facility's operational readiness is undermined,
- the military facility is more likely to have a [BRAC](#) downgrade, *and/or*
- our national security is compromised.

The wind industry's [stock response](#) is that the [DoD Clearinghouse](#) process effectively prevents these from happening – **but that assertion is provably inaccurate**. This is not really a surprise when one understands that the DoD Clearinghouse was **not** setup to protect the military – but rather the opposite: *to protect wind developers!*

In other words, since wind energy was politically favored at the time of the creation of the DoD Clearinghouse, the [process](#) was specifically designed to enable more wind energy implementation – while the statutory wording was carefully chosen to give the inaccurate impression that the military's concerns were being fully addressed.

For example, when military conflicts have been identified, the wind developer only has to *mitigate* those problems, not **fix** them. (*Mitigate* typically means making some superficial change. There is no requirement that a substantive change must be made.)

Another popular industry stall tactic is to ask for more studies – even though many have already been done, and the evidence is overwhelming. For example, here is a quick overview of some [studies](#) related to just the Radar issue.

To read about some specific cases where there are (or would be) wind energy interference with military operations, please see this detailed [Military Report](#).

The two best solutions to deal with this threat are:

- 1) fix the [several serious deficiencies](#) of the Clearinghouse process, *and*
- 2) states pass legislation to protect their military facilities (e.g. what [Texas did](#)).