

Information #5 submitted by Cindy Chapman

This is the link to the article about creating fire breaks beneath wind turbines. The next link is data from UNL about the number of wildfires in Nebraska and their causes. In 2014 there were 43 lightning strikes that resulted in 1,766.8 acres burned. With the high number of lightning strikes we receive in this state each year, the likelihood that turbines will be struck is great. By following the recommendations of the NFPA and creating a fire break area beneath each turbine, we can minimize the risk of wildfires. These fires will be in rural areas with small volunteer fire departments whose response times can be considerably less than the city fire department. Considering how populous Lancaster County is and the red flag (fire danger) warnings we often have, it is incumbent upon the county to mitigate the fire risk to residences near industrial wind turbines.

<http://wildfire.blog.nfpa.org/2015/03/mitigating-wildfire-risk-at-wind-farms.html>

<http://nfsdata.unl.edu/wildfire/wildfirebycause.asp>