

Do spinning Win Turbines really mess with Radar?

Scientific studies do show Win Turbines distort Radar

But the problem is manageable. For more than Fifteen years

Working together Scientists Engineers and Federal regulators

Have successfully managed Win turbine interference of radar.

Win turbines create two problems for radar on ships

And for ground based systems looking for aircraft blips.

Steel supports and blade flashes are troubling objects

Making it difficult for radar to pick up other nearby objects

The steel supports of Win turbines can reflect electromagnetic waves

And the blade flashes on a radar screen can appear with rotating blades.

Pentagon officials in recent weeks have blocked reviews of One Hundred Fifty

onshore Win farms, citing issues of national defense and radar interference.

President Trump has called Win farms ugly and expensive, and has vowed

not to allow them to be built. But researchers studying radar interference avow

the problem is manageable, by using new technologies and relocation

of where companies initially intended to build Win turbines.

There will be some interference,” an expert in radar signal processing, said.

“That’s the nature of the physics. But it’s a solvable situation”, he said.

A Two Thousand Twenty Four report by the Energy Department stated

that Win industry new technologies and federal agencies collaborated

to “enable federal radar agencies to continue to perform their missions without

significant impacts, and enabled significant Win energy deployments throughout

the United States.” Newer solid state radar systems can cope with win farm interference,

by blade adjustments to eliminate some of the rotating blade disturbance.

Turbine blades can also be coated with radar-absorbing carbon or other composite

materials used on stealth aircraft to dampen some of the distortion. Experts also say if

the shape of towers and blades can also be designed to make them a smaller target

for radar signals that can lessen the scattering effect. In Two Thousand Twenty Three

Republican lawmakers asked Congress’s watchdog arm, the Government Accountability

Office, the G A O to look at the offshore win farm potential impactions

including how they might affect military operations and maritime navigation.

The G A O convened a panel of experts and consulted with the Defense Department.

That expert study found ways to solve the problem, making some areas off limits

or temporarily turning off turbines during military operations. The interference issues

are the same whether the turbines are on land or at sea. “The physical properties

of the Win farm that can disrupt some radar would be the same,” an expert said.

Interference from Win farms can cause problems for ground-based radar used

to track aircraft but does not affect radar used by aircraft flying above the turbines.

Since late Two Thousand Twenty Four, the Interior Department has tried unsuccessfully

to halt five offshore Atlantic Coast Win farms under construction citing national security

concerns. But federal judges dismissed those arguments. Scientists, engineers

and federal regulators have worked together for more than 15 years as managers

of interference. The Energy Department tracks the location of Seventy Five Thousand

Seven Hundred Twenty Seven win turbines in Forty Five states and territories

to help military and civilian planners. Win farm developers and the military

discussed the issues of radar interference before, during and after the process

of picking a site for proposed Win turbines, important as a national security process.