



This is the print version of the [Skeptical Science](http://sks.to/windem) article '[Electromagnetic radiation from wind turbines poses a threat to human health](http://sks.to/windem)', which can be found at <http://sks.to/windem>.

Does EM radiation from wind turbines pose a threat to human health?

What The Science Says:

Multiple studies have found that the electromagnetic fields (EMFs) generated by wind turbines are lower than those generated by most common household appliances and that they easily meet rigorous international safety standards.

Climate Myth: Electromagnetic radiation from wind turbines poses a threat to human health

"Recently, concerns about exposure to EMF from wind turbines, and associated electrical transmissions, have been raised at public meetings and legal proceedings." ([Ohio Department of Health](#))

Multiple studies have found that the electromagnetic fields (EMFs) generated by wind turbines are lower than those generated by most common household appliances and that they easily meet rigorous international safety standards (McCallum et al. 2014, Alexias et al. 2020, Karanakis et al. 2021). For context, the average home that is not located near power lines has a background level EMF of roughly $0.2 \mu\text{T}$ ¹. However, this value varies greatly depending on proximity to certain household appliances¹. For example, from a distance of 4 feet, an electric can opener's EMF is $0.2 \mu\text{T}$, but this value increases to $60 \mu\text{T}$ from a distance of 6 inches². A 2020 academic study found that the EMF generated by turbines are approximately $0.44 \mu\text{T}$ at a distance of 1 meter but less than $0.1 \mu\text{T}$ at a distance of 4 meters, as shown below (Alexias et al. 2020).

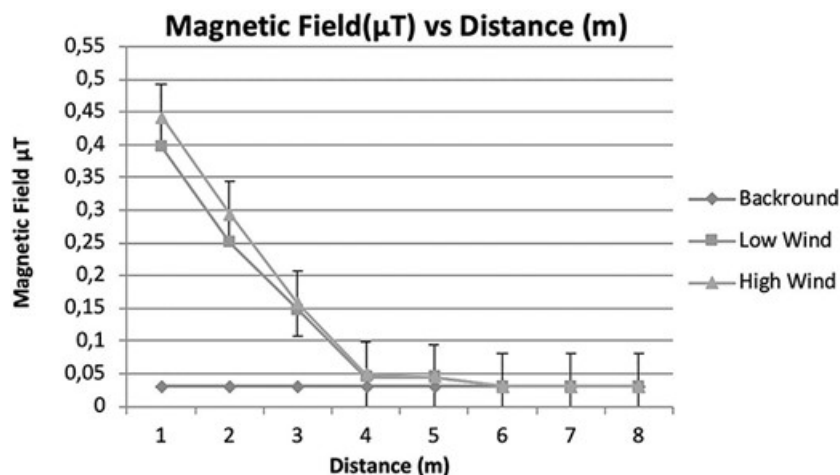


Figure 10: The EMF level, measured in microtesla (μT), is shown to drop dramatically with increase in distance from source. Source: [Alexias et al. \(2020\)](#)

These EMF levels are not dependent on wind speeds.

Footnotes:

[1] [Radiation: Electromagnetic fields](#), World Health Organization (August 4, 2016)

[2] [Electromagnetic Fields \(EMF\)](#), Wis. Dep't. of Health Serv. (Sept. 14, 2022)

This rebuttal is based on the report '[Rebutting 33 False Claims About Solar, Wind, and Electric Vehicles](#)' written by Matthew Eisenson, Jacob Elkin, Andy Fitch, Matthew Ard, Kaya Sittinger & Samuel Lavine and published by the [Sabin Center for Climate Change Law](#) at Columbia Law School in 2024. Skeptical Science sincerely appreciates Sabin Center's generosity in collaborating with us to make this information available as widely as possible.

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