I know firsthand how military bases and wind farms can coexist. If the impacts of a proposed project cannot be properly mitigated, the project won’t get built. Since the Clearinghouse stood up in 2011, no energy project has been built over the opposition of the Department of Defense or any military service.

— Colonel David Belote, USAF (Ret.)
First-ever Executive Director of the Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse

Generic standoff distances are not useful [...] Due to the wide variety of missions and the variability of impacts on different types of obstructions, it is not possible to apply a ‘one-size-fits-all’ standoff distance between DOD military readiness activities and development projects.

— DoD Clearinghouse
Report to United States Congress, March 2015

No wind power facility has been built against the wishes of the federal government because rigorous, state and federal, military-focused standards protect military installations from encroachment. New state policy enacting a buffer zone between wind projects and military installations is not needed. Here’s why:

**National airspace and military installation protection belong explicitly to the FAA and DoD** and are well-regulated through the Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse.

**The existing Clearinghouse process offers a consistent, reliable point of contact and determinant** for energy developers, federal and state agencies, tribes, and local governments.

**In Texas, industry and military officials work through issues earlier** than in other markets due to the requirement of a signed affidavit regarding DoD Siting Clearinghouse review prior to an interconnection study application at ERCOT. This process was led by Governor Abbott in 2016 and supported by the wind industry.

**Wind farms already operate near military installations** in a fully compatible manner, including within the proposed buffer area around Robert Gray Army Airfield at Fort Hood.

**The current process is working**, including in cases that have led to the cancellation of wind power facilities near the type of military installation specified in CSHB 1443.

**Existing federal provisions exceed any policies adopted at the state level.** Additional state action is unnecessary and would be subject to legal challenge.

**Arbitrary buffer zones are a violation of private property rights** and will likely constitute a regulatory taking. No landowner should have their property devalued unless national security issue is in peril.

**Existing regulations protect military installations and honor private property rights** while ensuring the continued, responsible growth of a low-cost, domestic energy resource. When proposed wind power facilities are problematic, current protections prevent them from being built until corrective measures are taken by the developer.

**Texas Does Not Need CSHB 1443.**