A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, OR EXPANSION OF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES IN AREAS OF THE STATE WHERE IMPACTS OF VERTICAL OBSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN DETERMINED TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGH, WITH A HIGH RISK FOR DEGRADING SAFETY AND THE MILITARY’S ABILITY TO PERFORM AVIATION TRAINING.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 21C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 143-215.116A. Wind energy facilities prohibited in certain areas.

Construction, operation, or expansion activities associated with a wind energy facility shall be prohibited in any location included in the area designated in red as "Significant" on the map entitled "Vertical Obstruction Impact on the NC Military Mission," as the impacts of vertical obstructions in this area have been determined to be significantly high, with a high risk for degrading safety and the military's ability to perform aviation training. The Department of Commerce and the Department of Environmental Quality shall make the map available on their Web sites for public access."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to applications for permits for a proposed wind energy facility or a proposed wind energy facility expansion pending or submitted on or after that date.