

Opposing Comments (Typed as presented, no changes to grammar or spelling):

Missing question: "I have, or a relative of mine, has signed a lease with the wind farm company." I am concerned that very few land owners (individual lease signers) have a majority stake or control over the other land owners (opposed to wind). Need more accurate information to make a sound decision. There are no controls (reference numbers) on this survey, which means there is no way to determine who is responding to the survey.

Our "therapy in the woods" would be greatly affected.

What a coincidence the box is missing (referring to the Oppose selection). There is so much to learn and everything is biased except for the stuff on believes. Not this Spanish company. Come on of course it does. Maybe those Iberdrola representatives will move here? Not. I do not favor industrial foreign owned wind companies. I am for locally owned wind power where the town all benefits. Iberdrola won't give enough electricity to Hopkinton to light that light out front of the library.

Although I am leaning toward opposing, I am remaining neutral at this time because there may be some advantages that could outweigh what I feel are more apt to be disadvantages. I am not sure. Who do we believe – the decidedly pro, many of whom either have nothing to lose, or those who have much to gain monetarily? Or do we believe the rabidly anti, most of whom do have something to lose, and are the most vocal. We read stats and figures regarding funding that are above the comprehension of nearly all but politicians and financial geniuses. I travel to Plattsburgh and the turbines on the way there don't seem to have had that much of a positive impact on the area. A few big farms seem to thrive but the area looks depleted otherwise – abandoned homes and small farms, generally run down conditions. I worry about property values as we are nearing old age and may be looking at having to sell our home in the future. I can't imagine it being worth much with those monstrosities close. The one advantage we have in our area is the scenic beauty, being able to look down the valley and as far as the St. Lawrence. That will surely be impacted. That is something that can never be replaced if obstructed. I thought we had no say in this, as our illustrious governor signed a bill saying municipalities have no say in the fate of construction of alternative energy sources.

Ironically, the proposed project borders (sic) the APA. The APA was established to preserve nature in a forever wild condition for future generations to enjoy. We are faced with the proposed wind project that will dramatically change the landscape immediately and for future generations. Other then (sic) the landowners who lease land, the rest of us will "enjoy" relatively small tax breaks that will over time amount to very little compared to what we gave up to receive. I see no positive outcome of a wind farm coming to these towns.

In communities where wind farms have already been installed, the negative greatly outnumber the positive benefits. I sincerely hope our local government is not swayed by big talkers! Thank you.

The harmful effects should be enough to turn every one off unless you have land with wind towers. It will probably ruin this town unless your (sic) in with "wind." P.S. Remember I pay \$1812.91 for 20 acres. What do the places with wind towers pay?

Eagles killed, birds, osprey, migratory birds. Where are the environmentalists on this? Ok to kill thousands of birds every year? I can't pick up an eagle feather without going to jail!

Do not think it will do the town any good, only cause problems. Leave things the way they are. Let people enjoy their homes and property.

The efficiency of these wind towers is very low as compared to hydropower. As such, the federal resources are not being used appropriately or wisely. Further, with the new administration, we have no idea how much longer the Federal gov't will subsidize Avangrid Renewables – then what? Have read the info that was handed out as well as doing our own research online. For the landowners that have signed a contract. We can't blame them as it would be crazy to turn the money down. However, the issue runs deeper to the Federal Gov't funding such inefficient endeavors. Please see attached and check out <https://www.fastcoexist.com/3041300/portlands-new-pipes-harvest-power-from-drinking-water>.

I spoke to one of my co-workers recently. He was neutral on the wind farm but I had asked him would he buy a home such as mine with close proximity of the wind turbine. His answer was no. So my question to you, how would you expect any of us to sell our homes if people will not buy to the closeness of these turbines.

Not in the long run – only will benefit a few. How could it not – wake up!! This project does not need a pilot – if the board is foolish enough to let this happen it needs to go for full payment. The creation of “maybe” 6 jobs does not warrant a tax break!!!

No good evidence that wind energy yields good results for anyone but the big guys at the top who are building it. A joke (PILOT). You can never replace a lost environment. Nor pay money that would offset such a loss but (see above) if it is built a pilot may offset some monetary damage to property owners.

My taxes fund turbine projects which I don't agree with.

Having knowledge of wind farms for many years now, I feel that the people who have signed contracts with Avangrid have no idea what they've gotten themselves into. Now that the project has been filed with the DPS/PSC, there is very little the towns can do. Avangrid needs only to show environmental compatibility and public need, and the project goes forward. I feel Hopkinton can better spend time and resources looking for mitigation, rather than fighting this. I am not opposed to wind farms; I am opposed to the location proposed for this one. It is far too close to people's houses.

Do not give a Pilot to Billionaires. Make them pay fair share of taxes like everyone else. If assessed properly for its value, the town, school and county will benefit. Pilots benefit the rich only!!!

If your neighbors do not want a wind turbine over shadowing their property, it's being a good citizen to respect their wishes. Not if it's run by a foreign corporation. Community cooperatives are a different story. Most of the value is in the “rural” appeal. This is not an industrial park and that's the value of living in our township. In all townships who have already had wind turbines come in, actual taxes have

paid more. There should be a town vote/referendum on the following issues (open to all residents): - whether the project/wind turbines should be banned altogether; - zoning: wind turbines require a clearance of 2000 ft. (documented to throw ice this far in Northern climates) so none should be built within 2000 ft. of another person's property; - If the project goes forward, whether the town opts for the "pilot" program or actual assessed taxes; Should there be a contract for transparency with the company? Where are they based? Who they are selling the electricity to; what's their policy for repair and removal.

I find them very unattractive.

With Robert Moses power dam, the Upper Raquette River plants and numerous other hydros in our area, local load is satisfied. Build the power plants where the demand is, e.g. off-shore New York City. What jobs will be sustained during and after they are built. Won't they bring their own crews in to build and then after they are built no one is needed.

They are taxpayer funded as are most of the property they will be on. Be real, it will be lower (Assess at their true value and they will not do it. Total negative impact! Check around to other's who have had them in their community. The towns involved have already taxed everyone above and beyond. We already have numerous power dams in the area that have ruined the rivers. Now you want to screw up natural wind flow and bird populations! Think about it. Who will benefit – very few.

They have no vested interest in the community. This issue should be put to a community vote.

Many questions have been asked without receiving answers about the feasibility of these wind turbines without government subsidies. Why not a USA company instead of a foreign country making these turbines and why not keeping the power here and available to us? Our town board was elected to represent the community as a whole with their wishes. Keep that in mind.

I have researched information on this company. Only to the ones who have signed a lease and won't talk about it. Please do not agree to their Pilot because any other business (that's not subsidized) has to pay based on assessment. Why not Iberdrola? I have seen documentaries on these turbines constructed near Lake Huron in Canada and found it distressing to hear from the people who live in and around them. There have been no positive comments about them.

Wind turbines are plain ugly in what is a beautiful area. There is no way they can be made visually pleasing! No monetary benefit which I doubt would occur is worth the price! Actual taxes on the use so that the rest of us who own property in the area benefit, but even with that, I am not in favor of such a project. There are many things that are beneficial – even though they are or have been innovative. I cannot express my level of shock at first seeing the wind turbines near Malone, NY. I will tell you that the shock has decreased very little since that day. I have seen some in the Finger Lakes region and find them equally appalling!

Why can't they be put on state land to generate revenue for NYS to help alleviate tax burdens on residents and away from the general population. Why should people suffer health issues so their

neighbors can make money. If pilot programs go thru w/the project then why can't the money be taken from the people who sign their property over to this project. Why should I have to pay higher taxes and they make money hand over fist off this thing. I don't want my house looking like the red light special every night. By looking at the map I would have these things on every side of my house.

Do not bring them – not an honest company. Wait a few years and more technology available.

Concerned about how it actually affects environment – wind patterns, soil quality, etc. My rights as an “individual” landowner are going to be violated by a company not from the USA and there won't be a thing I can do about situation.

Structural failure has happened in other areas; I'd much rather support solar farms.

Eyesore! If the wind project proceeds, my family and I will very likely consider selling our home in Hopkinton and move elsewhere. We do not want to look out our windows and see giant windmills. Hopkinton is a beautiful town – why ruin it?

I know my neighbors are very concerned about the development. We have received no information from the company planning to do this project. Seems to be very quiet which gives me an air of secrecy. I don't believe a pilot should be granted either. It appears, and I stress that word, that the company quietly approaches land owners offering a great deal to them. Why don't they come to the community as a whole to discuss their plan, vision, benefits, or negative impacts of this project? I am not saying wind power is bad, but it seems, again I stress that word, that this is a secretive process. I doubt any long term jobs on a large scale will be realized and that is why I don't support a PILOT. This is an opinion.

It depends on the agreement between the town and the wind farm. Some have been very beneficial to a community; others only help a small few. There is a reason companies target poor communities because they can often get away with more.

I am concerned that our town will not be compensated well. It goes against my grain that NONE of the power generated will be used for us. North country matters!

The amount of power it takes to produce, ship and construct a windmill far outweighs the amount of power it will produce in its usable life span. I am very concerned with the safety issues that would arise with having the massive equipment involved with projects like these in and around our quiet country properties. There will also be very little, if any, benefit to most property owners but we all will be impacted greatly in a project like this. If these were a guaranteed financial benefit to all in the project area, not just land owners with wind mills, I would be more willing to get on board. As in lower taxes (land) or cheaper power.

Property owners who border properties that lease their land will have negative impacts to usage and value. Don't want this at all! (1) Recommend the town investigate townships (i.e. Plattsburgh) that currently have wind farms to understand the pros/cons, tax values, noise, wildlife disruption, etc. (2) will

all property owners be notified of those that intend to lease their property? (3) thoroughly investigate noise levels and continuous blade frequencies.

We oppose a wind farm for many reasons. If constructed we may consider land sale. We oppose a wind farm in the Parishville / Hopkinton area. The wind farm owners are the only ones who benefit, they disrupt the flow of the natural landscape, which is one of the reasons people own property in this area. Please vote no and oppose the wind farm.

Negatives outweigh benefits.

I have bad migraines and I believe these would pose these to only get worse. Our land and beauty are not worth any money!! We are looking forward to building a home on our property on the ***** Road. I don't want to look out at that beautiful space and see or hear these tunnels!

We have a beautiful rural landscape. Wind turbines are ugly. Kills many birds (eagles). We are just starting to see eagles in the past few years. Build them off the coast – near NY city. They are owned by a company in Spain – let them build them there. No wind mills period. We should have a special vote in all communities involved.

This is a loser like ????? income taxes and property taxes, as usual, wasteful and a few well-???? Persons make big money on it.

Wind turbines at industrial size are not renewable. This company is foreign, \$ does not stay in U.S. The town already smells like cow manure, the pulp mill drowns out wood noises, the pesticides from fields poisoning us, these turbines will make it even worse and unhealthy. Taxpayers who can see them should get a large tax reduction. There needs to be true infrasound measurements done for long periods of time @ numerous locations. There needs to be protection for anyone that has a residence within 2.5 miles of these things. There are eagles, hawks, and bats here that are important. There needs to be a delegation with some of the board members and wind advisory board that goes to Hammond, Chateagay, Cape Vincent and spend the night in the worst locations, so they know what will happen here.

We do not support subsidies or the use in any way of the taxpayer dollars for these projects. We also are concerned about foreign ownership or involvement in anyway. We see little or no benefits for the majority of taxpayers in the town of Hopkinton or Parishville. Thank you.

If you ???? them in, you will regret it for long.

(Re Pilot) Will the additional amount each year that will result in funds sufficient to remove the wind farm at the end of their useful life. To be refunded to company if it will fulfill its obligation to remove them.

We know people from Indiana who live in the midst of a “wind farm.” They cannot sell their house – no will buy it. They cannot stand side effects of noise. The area around them is devastated. If you grant a

pilot, hydro in the school district will sue again to further lower their taxes. Do not like the secrecy surrounding the company. We own land surrounded by contracts, can't get information, and your meetings do not give info. You also do not listen to people who have information. Property values have already decreased! People are commenting "Don't buy in Hopkinton or Parishville!"

Only a select few will benefit while the rest of the community suffers for years to come.

We shouldn't complain – our taxes are low. Who decided this would be a good place for wind turbines? These things do nothing to enhance the beauty of an already lovely rural area. We are invaded by loggers cutting down the forests without replanting What we'll see now – huge turbines instead of trees.... Big, ugly Send them back to Spain. And just how many people (percentage of population) will benefit from this ugly invasion? And how much \$ will they get? Is National Grid involved in this.

We'd like to know the assessment value before making a decision on #7.

I do not trust the multi-national windfarm development company. They present skewed (sic) information. We are vehemently opposed to this wind farm project. I commend the board for reaching out to the community in this manner. I have researched this and other wind farms. Most communities have regretted their involvement with similar projects.

(re #7) who you kidding? These companies never intend to pay full taxes. Jan. 8 – Watertown Daily Times – Cuomo to close Indian Point Nuclear Facility; will replace that power by buying from Quebec and the wind farms in Northern NY. Jan 12 – Watertown Times – Cuomo proposes a wind farm offshore in Long Island for 2nd time. Rejected by public 1st time. Cuomo says "They don't have to be an eyesore." They will be located 30 miles offshore. These inefficiency and unreliable monsters are truly an eyesore. That's why they are being forced on us. Our beautiful rural landscape is being raped by NYS for the benefit of New York City. Take away the subsidies and the windmills will no longer exist.

Plan to leave area if they go ahead. Why don't you go with solar farms instead? This is not a US company. Who wants to live near one? Will not stay in area if these go in. Will be visible for miles. Get buzzing and popping in ears when travel through ones on 11 near Chatagay. Can't live near them. Will company buy house if it can't be sold?

I and my family are opposed. This will not help the community. It is an eyesore. It allows a foreign company to take advantage of our town. OPPOSED!

A solar array on these properties would be a better fit. I am completely against PILOT. Also concerned about long term – once they need to be removed or updated.

I don't like the fact that this foreign business will benefit from local resources with very little benefit to the local residents.

I would like to know who decides if this is passed or not. Also, I do not feel that this will lower our electric bills. I don't believe it will create jobs for local people during construction. I feel that all

construction will be out of state contractors. We won't see any benefit from these. I feel that all of the electric will go downstate. I simply do not want to see, hear, or get sick from these monstrosities.

Anything near or around the Adirondack Park should be kept as natural and pristine as possible and preserve nature. Not suitable for this area.

(re: #4) yes, but they are small and don't outweigh the negative impact.

We moved from New York City to enjoy the beautiful Adirondack region and do not want the Towns of Hopkinton and Parishville to become an Industrial Park! This proposed project will destroy our beautiful towns and surrounding area and produce a negative environment for our living conditions.

Simply don't want it.

Once in place, these beautiful but visually imposing giants will become a relic and a psychologically disfiguring and discomfoting presence. What's the plan to ??? and dismantle them when obsolete? Will the wind farm North Ridge still be around? Who will pay for it then? Thanks for the survey. Glad to be included.

It may be a deterrant to the guests we serve who come to ***** seeking outdoor camping, retreat and educational experiences in our rural setting. We serve 750-1000 guests per year. One of my biggest concerns is the way each of the "players" involved conduct themselves while trying to determine if this proposal is going to be a beneficial investment for the Parishville-Hopkinton communities. We have to live next door to our neighbors with either decision. AvanGrid Renewables won't have to live with any fallout.

If we had known that a wind project was planned for this community, we never would have considered the area for relocation.

Other than monetary benefit to a few property owners, there is really no benefit to this community of any kind.

(re: #7) Full market value – same as the rest of us.

Power goes to NYC. Will my taxes be lowered?

If the wind towers are erected, we will sell our home in Hopkinton and move elsewhere. We despise everything about them.

I am concerned that Iberdrola has very bad reviews from residents already living under wind projects. I am concerned that they are not a U.S. company. I am concerned that their technology will become obsolete long before the 20 year life span of turbines is up. The amount of money offered will be offset greatly by the negative impacts. If you give a tax break to Iberdrola, you should offer the same to all other businesses in your town. Why should a foreign company with huge revenues have a more

favorable tax rate than other businesses that employ as many or more people? The wind project will drastically change our town into an industrial utility zone. I think it's great that the Amish have revitalized many farms in our town and have helped the local economy. I have Amish friends and they have told me they do not want the wind project to come. How many of them will move away, or stop moving in due to this project? That would be an economic loss you should consider. I feel that more should have been done in the beginning to involve the community in decision making process BEFORE the wind company was allowed to approach land owners to sign leases.

The town officials should contact other towns with wind farms.

If this project takes place, I want my property taxes lowered significantly as this will affect the value of my home.

I do not want to live next door to an industrial electrical facility. Neighbors do/should not do this to another neighbor. There is very little upside for my family and my neighbors. "Don't drink the koolaid." i.e. Do not believe the Avangrid propaganda. Their bottom line is to make money for their stockholders.

Not in favor of wind turbines. I did not choose the area and the rural nature of it to raise my family to stare at giant wind turbines. If they come I will likely sell my property and leave Hopkinton.

I appreciate the rural, wilderness, and anti-bureaucratic, anti-technology aspect of my home here. Wind farms would threaten that in numerous ways.

The "Pilot" program is just a glorified tax break for the company. No other start up business receive "tax breaks." The only one to profit in the community is the landowners that these windmills are located on. What happens if there are high winds, such as we have experienced and damage occurs – who is responsible to neighbor's property? We are a community – and should be looking out for each other. Seems that only the individual landowners that are profiting from these windmills could care less about how their neighbors feel. And what this does to the value of their property. This will forever change our community and the relationships. Please don't let money and greed change our town.

This project does not help our community, it only hurts us. My husband and I will leave the area if the wind project is approved. Please let us preserve our beautiful community for future generations. Once it's gone, we won't get it back.

Hey, if they can get tax breaks and arrange a PILOT for putting up noxious structures, can I get even more of a tax break for me? After all, I strive to maintain my property in harmony with a local, rural, Adirondack aesthetic ----- and I don't have any ugly and dangerous towers.

The majority in Parishville and Hopkinton does not want these monstrositys (sic). The local politician need to listen to the people and not be stuffing their pockets with dirty money and making backroom deals. The whole project stinks. It seems that most people in the community no (sic) that the pilot program is a rip off for us. It seems that the only people that don't realize this is Sue Woods and her hillbilly board. INCREIBLY IGNORANT (sic) Beware election time.

Waste of tax payer money to fund windmill construct and do not feel there will be any benefit to community as a whole.

Tax payer subsidies to wind farm developers is misguided. Will not benefit local community as a whole – tax reduction will be miniscule.

Attached letter

The company building its lack of transparency and seeming dishonesty is very concerning. Impact of construction phase on area, rebuilding roads, wetlands damaged;, clear cutting. How well are we protected in contracts, are the fines high enough that they would not just pay them, instead of fixing the roads or just using different roads, or doing construction @ night, etc. Not following the contracts. The thought of the Amish moving out of our area, because of this project is also very sad concerning a lot of farms will become vacant if this happens, they are very concerned.

People will not want to move to Hopkinton. Chatagway – town taxes went down 40%. School and county increased. \$ will initially be there.

Attached letter.

Our peace and quiet will be lost for years during construction of these skyscrapers. Could I build a series of 40-story office or apartment buildings? Please think about who you want to live here in the future. Some people were born here or nearby and lack the motivation to go/do anything. They will stay (perhaps with life changing illnesses). Some moved away and came back realizing the precious land and community they left. Others of us came here when we had choices across the globe. We came because we liked the people, the small town and the landscape.

I have a special needs child with hearing loss which includes severe tinnitus. The sound frequency from the turbines will make this worse. Our family is concerned on many levels about the negative impact this wind farm will have in our small community. Once they are here, we cannot go back. Hopkinton will no longer be “A nice place to come home to”

(RE: reasons for opposing) All reasons listed have validity and there is credible independent research to support any one of the opposition reasons except that the project will have a negative impact on farming. Farmers in general are not going to sacrifice valuable farmland for a wind tower when the footprint of a wind tower is negligible as opposed to the payment the producer will receive for the minor amount of land lost to agriculture which is significantly more than a typical agricultural product that could be produced on the same footprint. However 500 foot structures sporadically spaced on the countryside will certainly impact rural living by dramatically altering a pastoral landscape and transforming it to a less than optimal aesthetic value than it currently provides and which is a significant reason why families reside in Hopkinton. However the opposition reasons are not going to be deciding factor under the current situation but rather the governing boards are considering the economic benefits over non-monetary values that rural living provides and landowners who have signed onto

lease agreements have minimal concern about anything other direct economic benefits at the expense community concerns or the rural scenic values that are taken for granted. *(RE: economic benefits)* The economic benefits to the community come at a cost to the community and all taxpayers. Avangrid is provided substantial government subsidies to construct the towers which indirectly is also used to pay leases while at the same time the corporation will not build these structures unless granted the government subsidies and a school payment-in-lieu of taxes. The biggest beneficiary of economic benefits is the corporation at taxpayer expense. In return the corporation offers gratitude to the schools (playgrounds, sporting facilities/fields) and towns (fire trucks, plows, discretionary funds) to accept their gracious offer which is actually supplied to Avangrid via the taxpayer. The real direct economic benefit to the community would be to eliminate taxpayer subsidies, refuse payment-in-lieu of taxes and require the corporation to pay full taxes while constructing the structures at their own expense. This course of action the corporation will obviously not take which is why the corporations target small communities where they stereotype the politics as small-minded, towns as fiscally struggling and characterize the community as generally impoverished and ignorant. *(RE: property value)* There is independent research that indicates this and the only those that would state otherwise are Avangrid and individuals in a position to directly benefit at the tax payers expense for the development of the proposed project. Ask yourself if you would move into a property that contained a tower or in the vicinity of a tower and if you can answer yes than you are probably someone who directly benefits economically from this project because common sense indicates otherwise. *(RE: PILOT)* Actual taxes based on an assessment even if the assessment is lower than a pilot offer because Avangrid will not construct the project without a PILOT. The town holds the natural resources that Avangrid wants so the town is in the position to negotiate, not Avangrid. In this regard I support denying any tax reductions to Avangrid and taking the chance that Avangrid either backs out of the project or takes their chances in court or with the State of NY. I do not accept the defeatist perspective being presented by a select few that accepting the PILOT is the only option available because a full tax assessment would result in lower payments or no payments because the project would not proceed. The town has the resources and can control the process and the circumstances should not be construed as reversed. Obviously most communities do not have the wind and some of the ones that have wind do not have the community characteristics that corporations such as Avangrid want to propose urban scale structures in because of resistance. Hopkinton has the wind and “perceived” community characteristics that wind corporations target to take advantage of. Say NO to tax abatements and let Avangrid show their hand. Avangrid can either negotiate, pay full taxes or back out of the project. The town loses nothing and maintains its rural characteristics which most residents but not all value and at the same time maintains its dignity by not becoming a recipient of unearned entitlements paid to by the taxpayers through Avangrid (i.e. PILOT payment). *(RE: Additional thoughts)* I have many more thoughts but I believe my opinion has been adequately expressed. However, I do want to emphasize that due to occupations or other responsibilities some residents cannot attend board meetings. In this regard the board should not construe attendance as a lack of concern from some residents such as myself when the opposite is in fact the truth which is some hold valid concerns over the details of this considerable landscape altering proposal that has the potential to negatively impact every rural value of the community that currently exists. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share with you some of my concerns.

Reprinted from a letter: A concern and active citizenry is the foundation upon which our republic was founded. As such, after careful consideration, I find it necessary to state my opposition to the proposed

North Ridge Wind Project. Sustainable and renewable sources of energy are necessary for our rapidly growing world. There is no doubt in my mind that green energy is the future. However, though progress often comes with a price, that price cannot be so high as to fundamentally change the relationship between the people and their municipality. In my opinion, the proposed project will do just that. I grew up in a bustling town located just outside of Albany. The sights and sounds associated with city life were always present; the lights; the throngs of people; the noise; the never ending commotion that many people hold near and dear. Having been around that type of environment for so long, coming to the North Country was a blessing. Friendly people, quiet nights, and the respect our neighbors have for one another was a welcomed departure from what I had become so accustomed to. It really is a completely different world in this area compared to many places in our great state. Owning a home in a small, friendly, rural town, especially one so close to our Adirondack Park, is one of the best experiences life has provided me. All of that will most likely end if the construction of the wind project moves forward. The pristine sights and sounds of our environment will be dotted with steel behemoths, constantly whining and reminding the people of the peace they once had. Remember, no other worldly force has had as destructive an effect as mankind. Some are willing to give all this up, and for what? Some members of the community are willing to risk this project due to direct monetary gains. This, in and of itself, is not an issue; people are free and often encouraged to engage in activities which will enhance their financial security. The fact that only a few will receive such benefits is also not the point driving my opposition: it is the fact that the rest of the community will be unduly burdened that drives dissent. A major concern of mine is that of the overall health of the community, both physical and mental. Numerous studies have found that prolonged exposure to areas surrounded by wind farms cause a plethora of ailments. As with many politicized business ventures, opposing research and studies have been conducted and collected which dispute the general scientific community's evaluations; this is unsurprising given that the opposition research is funded by the very groups who seek to lessen the influence of unbiased science. Remember, it is unwise to bite the hand that feeds you. Future business means ensuring the results are to the benefactors' approval. Ask someone who has to live in close proximity to one of these farms about their experiences with adverse health effects, and most agree that any short term benefits provided by the farms are not worth the long term damage that will follow. The argument that the turbines are relatively quiet also bears no merit. A leaky, dripping faucet also is quiet; yet having to hear the constant drip, drip, drip, even for a few days, is enough to drive someone to madness. Now multiply that by the number of turbines over a period of years, not days, and ask if that is a situation you are willing to place your family in. I know that I am most certainly not. Many people believe that "wind turbine syndrome" is a real problem; some do not. Personally, I am unwilling to find out. The harm that could come to our wildlife neighbors is also not forgotten. We may be the dominant global species, but that does not give us the right to forget about the rest of the life we coexist with. Part of rural living is living in harmony with nature, nurturing it, and being nurtured by it in return. The displacement, and potential destruction, of indigenous life is reprehensible, even if it is meant to benefit humanity. We must remember the deer, the eagles, the bats, the migratory birds, and all other species that can be negatively impacted by these turbines, were all here first. Other animals learn to live with the forces of nature; humans bend to our wills, which we know from history has not always had pleasant results. We need to keep our animal neighbors safe in addition to ourselves, because unlike people, they cannot fight on their own behalf. Health and aesthetics aside, the economic implications are far more important. Unfortunately, large multinational corporations are not known for always being magnanimous in their public dealings, and I believe this is the case regarding Avangrid and their parent

company, Iberdrola. First and foremost, the idea the community that houses the turbines is not offered the green energy produced is ludicrous. Having the chance to have my electricity provided by a local sustainable provider at a reasonable cost would be greatly welcomed. As I understand, however, this is currently not the case with the proposed project. The community would be constantly reminded that it is not worthy of something produced in its literal backyard. Any claim of job creation is also dubious at best. Without a stipulation that any work related to the construction and proper maintenance of the turbines, as well as any other necessary ancillary activity, must come from the local workforce, the company is free to see its labor elsewhere. How exactly would that benefit the people in the community? Prior explanations as to any permanent positions created would also be needed; how many and what type of permanent, decent paying jobs will this project offer the people, and for how long? Answers to these questions and concerns are absolutely required before anyone can make a reasonably informed decision. On a related subject, what happens to the turbines and any related construction in the foreseeable future once they are no longer profitable, deemed inefficient by current standards, or simply fail to operate? Once their usage is no longer functional or needed, do they remain where they stand, lifeless giants gazing down upon us? Or does the community bear the cost of their removal? I find it hard to believe the company would offer a monetary guarantee to return the area to the way it once was. It would be a tremendous sign of good faith, though, if they did. Many people, myself included, also believe the project would cause a drastic decline in the value of any property within eyesight of the turbines. People who decide to move away as a result may find it difficult, if not impossible, to do so; most potential buyers would be hesitant simply because of the turbines presence, and most property owners would have to take a loss if they could make a sale in the first place. This area is not like the city, where space is at a premium, and people are willing to compromise on otherwise undesired characteristics. If anyone believes the surrounding towns already have a hard time drawing people in, the wind farm will only add to the problem. Some people may come to the conclusion their best option is to simply leave, and abandon their property altogether. That would only further the harm done to the community. Empty properties pay zero taxes, and trying to collect from former occupants results only in the acquisition of the already useless parcels. The tax base could not handle that, and the townships must prevent it from occurring. If property values drop, and they will, the taxes levied will drop due to demands for fair reassessment, as no one will believe their property did anything but lose value, and it is not unreasonable to see costly lawsuits as a result. Again, how does this benefit the community? Any payments made by the company to make up for this lost tax revenue still does nothing for the people who would be the ultimate victims. The loss of personal equity, traded for a warped landscape and other, more dire, consequences, does not sound like something I am interested in seeing for my neighbors and myself. The question as to whether or not to allow a PILOT exemption is also ludicrous. The PILOT program was conceived as a means for communities to entice a wanted business to their area, providing tax relief in exchange for the promise of long term communal benefits. With the proposed wind farm though, the company sought the community out. Our area was specifically targeted, due to its rural location and overall economic status. The offer of thousands of dollars for land usage rights is something that might cloud a person's better judgment when it comes to potential future complications. It is easy to neglect contemplating the future when the present seems so much more intriguing. If the company is genuinely looking out for our interests, they would be willing to pay the actual tax for any land used, plus any deficit in collected taxes by the community as a result of the inevitable loss of property value. Anything less makes their motives seem suspect at best, and predatory at worst. Specifically targeting a low income, generally rural farming area for a project

potentially dangerous to the community and its people, with little to no benefit, is a practice of a business driven by greed, with zero regard for the destruction they intend to inflict. In closing, I am suggesting the towns call for a moratorium on the subject. Give the people in the communities more time to make an informed decision as to whether or not the proposed project is in our best interest, or purely for the purpose of making a profit. One must remember also that federal funding for wind energy related projects is set to start being cut back this year. If the company has to wait until after federal subsidies start to dry up, they may no longer see the project as profitable, and may decide to leave our community in its current state: quiet, peaceful, friendly, but above all, a nice place to come home to. Frankly, we all deserve that. Most people do not ask for anything more.