

Town of Hopkinton
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Taxpayer Survey Results – Re: North Ridge Wind Farm

*Please note that not all participants answered every question. There was a total of 263 responses for a 29% response rate.

1. Have you heard about the potential North Ridge Wind farm development?
 Yes - **232** No – **30**

2. Are you more likely to support, oppose or remain neutral regarding this project in your community?
 Support - **95** Oppose - **129** Neutral – **39** (or unsure)

If yes, why do you support (check all that apply):

- 102** I support renewable energy sources.
- 86** The project will provide monetary benefits to the community.
- 42** The project will help to preserve our local farms and rural setting.
- 81** The project will assist the country in becoming more energy independent.
- 85** The project will create local jobs during construction and operation.
- 64** The project will offer opportunities for local businesses.
- 62** Wind power will stabilize electricity rates and could save customers money.
- Other(s): _____ comments are included with the Support summary of comments

If no, why do you oppose (check all that apply):

- 116** I am concerned that a wind farm will ruin the aesthetics of the community.
- 114** I am concerned about the noise levels generated from the wind turbines.
- 89** I am concerned that only a few property owners will receive direct monetary benefits.
- 97** I am concerned about potential health hazards.
- 109** I do not support this as the community will not benefit from the power created.
- 105** I feel that this project will have an impact on the wildlife.
- 109** I am concerned this project may have a negative impact on farming and rural living.
- 117** I am concerned my property values may decrease as a result of this project.
- Other(s): _____ comments are included with the Opposing summary of comments

If you remain neutral, please check the reasons that most clearly represent your thoughts:

- 23** I have not obtained enough information regarding this matter.
- 9** I do not have an opinion either for or against a wind farm in the community.

3 Other: _____

3. Prior to this survey, how much have you heard about the North Ridge Wind Farm?

99 A lot

101 Some

33 Very little

24 None at all

4. Do you believe there are direct economic benefits for the community to host a wind farm?

65 Yes

119 No

25 Unsure

5. Do you believe that a wind farm would lower your property value?

118 Yes

79 No

58 Unsure

7. A **PILOT** is a payment in lieu of taxes, made to compensate a local government for some or all of the tax revenue that it loses because of the nature of the ownership or use of a particular piece of real property. Usually it relates to the foregone property tax revenue. If the wind project were to proceed, which would you favor?

62 A pilot agreement in lieu of taxes (a guaranteed, pre-negotiated set of payments)

154 Actual taxes based on assessment (currently unknown amount, could be higher or lower than pilot payment)

Additional thoughts regarding this proposed wind project:

See typed comments separated by Support, Oppose, Neutral

Name (Optional) _____

