

To Whom It May Concern

My husband and I are residents of Rumney, NH. We own a home on Stinson Lake and 40 acres on the Quincy Road that also meanders along 1/2 mile of the Baker River. The land will have a close-up view of the wind farm turbines. We have been watching and reading the discussions with interest. First, we are big believers in renewable energy and less waste - so that side of us says "we should do it." BUT, we also drive down the Stinson Lake Road each day and take great joy in the unspoiled view. And we bought the land for those exact views, the wildlife, the tranquility of the stars at night - and the dream of one day building on it. It's more beautiful than being on the lake. That part of us says "not in my backyard." So we have tried to be impartial but find ourselves falling hard on the side of JUST SAY NO based on the hard realities.

Research and reading has provided us with the following conclusions and thoughts:
- It is factually recorded that it does use more energy and generates more harm to the environment to produce these turbines than they will generate in their lifetime.

- Numerous reports note residents living under other wind turbine projects around the country do complain about the noise and the strobe effects.

- Iberdola - at a town meeting - stated that they do not have any studies showing the impact of windfarms on recreational activities such as hiking, fishing and camping, as there are no windfarms bordering national parks or heavily utilized recreational areas. A key economic driver to the area - do we want to take that risk?

- This project will not add any measurable employment to the region. You'll be able to count the long-term jobs on less than one set of hands.

- Will the state really be able to continue calling Rt 25 a Scenic Highway? Are wind turbines part of the definition of what qualifies a highway as scenic in the state?

- Property values will likely be impacted due to the "not in my backyard" sentiment. Property in the Baker Valley is purchased for the views and tranquility. Not so that one can look at a wind turbine.

- Without the demand for property, values will decline and so will town revenues.

- Significant portions, if not all, the energy created will be purchased out of state - so local residents do not drive any renewable value.

We're just not seeing anything positive here. If there is, help us understand what it is. It's not impactful enough to change our fuel dependency and the bad habits of this country when it comes to energy waste. One could argue it's a baby step - but remember, it will use more energy to put it up than it will generate.

My husband and I purchased the land 10 years ago to fulfill a dream and to keep its beauty out of the hands of developers who would cut it up and dump down plastic split level homes. The land remains in current use, and we have intentions of moving portions of it to the national land trust so it is preserved forever. We never had an economic interest in generating gains from it - only preserving what little beauty is left in this state and this country.

However, as we look down the road, if this wind farm comes to being maybe we will split the land up and turn it into a suburban plot of plastic houses. Maybe we can angle their position such that they don't have the view of the turbines and are more salable. We'll plant tall evergreens up close to the houses so the view is partially obstructed all seasons. Let's see - 2 acres per home - 20 homes. We could be rich! And, hey, at least it will drive revenue for the Town of Rumney. We're guessing our neighbors will be really pleased as well.

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