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Subject:	Hearing on Wind Turbines Please
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Wind power is a major part of solving Climate Change. At first breath wind power in the Mountains of Western Maine seems a great idea. But the present uproar about constructing massive lines of 600 foot tall wind towers on Maine's western foothills raises very real concerns. These will re-surface all over Maine if these projects surge inexorably up our treasured coast and mountains.

All energy modalities, including experimental **4th** generation nuclear, are part of the solution. But each must be located in the right place, at the right time, and include all conceivable risk mitigation, not just be as cheap as possible. Right now, Japanese nuclear reactors built right on a fault-line melt down, leaking radiation. They have no power for shutdown in a predictable Tsunami catastrophe!

All scientific issues must be included in the ultimate risk/benefit analysis of massive wind towers to the Maine economy and our Maine Way of Life. Aesthetics must be addressed because scenic beauty makes us a major destination. Industry must address these issues immediately and forthrightly, rather than ignore them, or try to outflank them with politics, PR and paid media. Solutions to many of the legitimate concerns are possible, and will be helpful everywhere in the World. It is rumored that the project is partially funded by Yale University's Endowment Fund. If true, I would expect a higher index of social responsibility and scientific study.

A major concern is visual impact of whirling blades. We have technology now that can render something virtually invisible by transmitting sky color and intensity behind structures to the front. They would probably be much less distracting if they rotated different

axes horizontally, like a merry go round viewed from a distance, or vertically like a water wheel viewed from the side. Such systems are now being vetted successfully in Europe. They should be retractable on windless days. There are futuristic plans for structures that are basically giant tethered gliders- that could fly on windy days only.

The ugly glare of warning lights flashing everywhere in our dark skies, could easily be circumvented by requiring every pilot to have GPS, if not smart enough to already have it. We could shut the windmill zones at appropriate elevations, just as we shut off air access around nuclear and other sensitive facilities.

Horrific noise effects of the blades have been a described in a peer-reviewed work entitled Wind Turbine Syndrome by Dr. Nina Pierpont- available on the internet. Though anecdotal, people's reports are uncannily similar around the World. They include ringing in the ears, nausea to the point of vomiting, insomnia, generalized anxiety and difficulty concentrating- theorized to be from the additive interacting waves of vibrations of the blades on each tower and with each other and of the separate towers. Like opposing tidal current waves sloshing and jumping. Perhaps they are so bothersome because they mimic babies crying or mumbled speech in certain brain centers.

It would be fairly quick and easy to study using portable functional MRI machines, which are extremely detailed real time brain maps. They would show if symptoms reported are seen in anatomically appropriate brain centers, or whether people are just complainers looking for personal gain.

Sensitive People unable to sell houses near the turbines have sometimes just abandoned them, though some don't notice. Setbacks must be around a mile, depending on local geography. Victims within

these zones must be bought out based on the value of the property without the facility, since most of these properties have considerable scenic values.

Another major problem with industry noise analysis is that they use a totally inappropriate scale to measure the energy decibels of noise energy to define undesirable effects of very low frequency sound.

The Maine offshore Wind Project seems to a total win-win proposal, but still needs exhaustive study to be sure. That project would have prevailing 24/7 winds, strong tidal currents, and even solar enable efficient connection to a long overdue National Power Grid. Offshore platforms could even be placed floating in clumps like a small coastal city for workers, fisherman, and visitors.

The smartest solution is a national master-plan -huge winds farms in the upper Midwest, huge solar installations in the desert Southwest, geothermal near underground sources, and local solar everywhere as the Sun is the ultimate smart solution. After we first pick all the obvious low hanging fruit of energy conservation.

No matter where one stands on Climate Change, the wind blows both ways on the specifics of any given proposal!!