

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

In the Matter of:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CAPE WIND ENERGY PROJECT

NANTUCKET SOUND, MASSACHUSETTS

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
Edgartown Road
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Monday
December 6, 2004

The above entitled matter came on for
hearing, pursuant to Notice at 6:00 p.m.

BEFORE:

Colonel Thomas Koning
Commander and District Engineer

Larry Rosenberg, Moderator
Chief, Public Affairs

James Hunt, Director
Mass. Environmental Policy Act Office

Karen Adams, Chief
Permits and Enforcement Branch

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(6:00 p.m.)

MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Good evening.

Good evening and welcome to this National Environmental Policy Act public hearing on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Cape Wind Energy Project that will lead to a decision by the Federal Government on a permit application submitted by Cape Wind Associates for their proposal to build a wind energy project in Nantucket Sound, in Massachusetts.

The Corps of Engineers public hearing is being conducted with participation from the Commonwealth MEPA office. My name is Larry Rosenberg. I'm the Chief of Public Affairs for the United States Army Corps of Engineers in New England. I will be your moderator and your facilitator this evening.

One note. The fire exits are located to the left and right of the stage and, of course, the doors you came into this theater in.

Before we begin, I would like to thank you for getting involved in this environmental review process. You see, we're here to listen to

1 your comments, to understand your concerns and to
2 provide you an opportunity to appear on the
3 record, should you care to do so. This forum is
4 yours.

5 Our hearing officer this evening is
6 Colonel Thomas Koning, the Commander and District
7 Engineer of the United States Army Corps of
8 Engineers of New England. Should you need copies
9 of the public notice, the hearing procedures or
10 any other pertinent information, it is available
11 in the registration area out of this theater.

12 The agenda for this hearing is,
13 following this introduction, Colonel Koning will
14 address the meeting. He'll be followed by
15 Mr. James Hunt, Director of the Massachusetts
16 Environmental Policy Act Office, who will discuss
17 the involvement of the Commonwealth and the state
18 processes.

19 Then the Corps project manager,
20 Ms. Karen Adams, will provide an overview of the
21 Corps' processes to date to compile and publish
22 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
23 Following that short presentation, we will begin
24 to receive your comments according to our

1 protocol.

2 Please, feel free to bring up any and
3 all topics that you feel that need to be discussed
4 on the record. I assure you that your comments
5 will be addressed in this environmental review
6 process. It's very important that you understand
7 that no decision has been made with regard, by the
8 Corps of Engineers with regard to this proposed
9 activity. Furthermore, the Corps is not here to
10 defend any aspect of the proposed activity; we are
11 here to listen to what's on your mind concerning
12 this permit application.

13 Before we begin, I'd like to remind you
14 the importance of filling out these cards that
15 were available at the door. These cards serve two
16 purposes: first, they let us know that you're
17 interested in the Draft Environmental Impact
18 Statement so we can keep you informed; second, the
19 provide me a list of those who wish to speak this
20 evening. If you did not fill out a card, but wish
21 to speak or receive future information regarding
22 this permit application and the federal processes,
23 one will be provided at the registration desk.

24 One additional comment. We are here to

1 receive your comments, not to enter into any
2 discussion of those comments or to reach any
3 conclusions. Any questions you have should be
4 directed to the record and not to the individuals
5 on the panel.

6 Thank you.

7 Ladies and gentlemen, Thomas Koning.

8 COL. KONING: I'd like to welcome you
9 today to this public hearing on the Draft
10 Environmental Impact Statement for the Cape Wind
11 Energy Project permit application submitted by
12 Cape Wind Associates and their proposal to build a
13 wind energy project in Nantucket Sound,
14 Massachusetts.

15 I would also like to thank you for
16 involving yourself in the process. Please, feel
17 free to bring up any and all topics that you feel
18 the need to be discussed on the record. I assure
19 you that all of your comments will be addressed
20 during this process.

21 I am Colonel Thomas Koning, Commander of
22 the New England District of the U.S. Army Corps of
23 Engineers. Our headquarters is in Concord,
24 Massachusetts. Other Corps of Engineers

1 representatives with me tonight are Karen Adams,
2 our project manager, John Almeida from our office
3 of counsel, Sue Holtham from our environmental
4 resources section and Larry Rosenberg, who will
5 facilitate today's session. Also joining me
6 tonight is Mr. James Hunt, the Director of the
7 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act office.

8 Tonight's hearing is being conducted as
9 part of the Corps of Engineers regulatory program
10 solely to listen to your comments. This hearing
11 is being conducted as part of the National
12 Environmental Policy Act requirements and by the
13 Corps of Engineers regulatory responsibilities to
14 seek out public comment regarding the content of
15 this Draft EIS.

16 Our authorities and statutory efforts
17 come from Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act
18 and the National Environmental Policy Act, often
19 referred to as NEPA. I first would like to review
20 the Corps of Engineers' responsibility in this
21 process.

22 First, the Corps' jurisdiction in this
23 case is Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.
24 That authorizes the Corps to regulate structures

1 in the navigable waters of the United States. The
2 Corps' New England District received a permit
3 application from Cape Wind Associates in late
4 November 2002 for a Section 10 permit for the
5 installation and operation of an off-shore wind
6 energy project in the federal and state waters off
7 the coast of Massachusetts in Horseshoe Shoals, in
8 Nantucket Sound.

9 Second, the detailed regulation that
10 explains the procedures for evaluating permit
11 applications and unauthorized work is found in
12 Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 320
13 through 330.

14 Third, the Corps decision will rest upon
15 several important factors to include, in
16 accordance with those aforementioned regulatory
17 and statutory authorities, our decision to issue a
18 permit will be based on an evaluation of the
19 probable impacts of proposed activities on the
20 public interest.

21 Our decision will reflect the national
22 concern for, both, the protection and the
23 utilization of important resources. The benefits
24 that may reasonably accrue from the proposal must

1 be balanced against its reasonable foreseen
2 detriments, and all factors which may be relevant
3 to the proposal will be considered prior to our
4 making the decision.

5 And those factors include, but are not
6 limited to, conservation, economics, aesthetics,
7 general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic
8 properties, fish and wildlife values, flood
9 hazard, flood plain values, land use, navigation,
10 shoreline erosion, accretion, recreation, water
11 supply, conservation of water quality, energy
12 needs, safety, food, fiber production, mineral
13 needs, considerations of property ownership and,
14 in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

15 Additionally, as part of our regulatory
16 responsibilities, a number of other federal laws
17 apply, including the National Environmental Policy
18 Act. Underneath, the federal agencies must ensure
19 that environmental information is available to
20 itself and to the public for review before
21 decisions are made. This hearing is part of that
22 review, and your comments will help us in reaching
23 a decision.

24 The record of this hearing will remain

1 open, and written comments may be submitted
2 tonight by e-mail or mail until February 24, 2005.
3 All comments will receive equal consideration.
4 Lastly today, no decision has been made by the
5 Corps of Engineers with regard to this permit. It
6 is my responsibility to evaluate all the impacts
7 prior to my decision, and in order to accomplish
8 that, I need your input.

9 It is crucial that, in this public
10 process, that your voice is heard, and I thank you
11 in advance for taking the time to involve
12 yourselves in this environmental review and
13 providing us the information that is so necessary
14 in order for the Corps of Engineers to make an
15 informed decision regarding the Cape Wind Energy
16 Project.

17 Thank you.

18 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

19 Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. James Hunt.

20 MR. HUNT: Good evening, and thank you
21 for participating in this important environmental
22 review proceeding for the Cape Wind project.

23 My name is Jim Hunt, and I serve as
24 assistant secretary for the Executive Office of

1 Environmental Affairs for the State of
2 Massachusetts. I administer the Massachusetts
3 Environmental Policy Act office, commonly known as
4 MEPA, for the secretary of Environmental Affairs,
5 Ellen Roy Herzfelder. I'm happy to say that
6 Secretary Herzfelder has joined us here this
7 evening.

8 The MEPA office is not required to
9 convene or participate in public hearings during
10 the environmental review process; however, we are
11 participating in these Army Corps hearings because
12 we recognize there is tremendous interest in this
13 project from many different perspectives, and we
14 want to hear from you.

15 I want to thank Colonel Koning, Karen
16 Adams and the Army Corps staff for allowing MEPA
17 to participate in these hearings and for their
18 assistance throughout the review of this project.

19 The Massachusetts Environmental Policy
20 Act requires the public study and disclosure of
21 environmental impacts, as well as the development
22 of feasible mitigation measures for any proposed
23 project. It does not pass judgment on whether a
24 project can or should receive a particular permit

1 for those decisions are left to the permitting
2 agencies. MEPA review, however, occurs before
3 state permitting agencies act to ensure that the
4 agencies and the public fully understand the range
5 of potential impacts that may result from state
6 actions.

7 The review of the Cape Wind project
8 commenced with the filing of an environmental
9 notification form in November 2001, which was
10 followed by a scope requiring an EIR, an
11 Environmental Impact Report, that was issued in
12 2002, April.

13 This Draft Environmental Impact
14 Statement for the Cape Wind project was prepared
15 by the Army Corps to meet federal requirements
16 under the National Environmental Policy Act,
17 otherwise known as MEPA. The document also serves
18 as the Draft Environmental Impact Report under
19 MEPA.

20 MEPA review is required for this project
21 pursuant to 301 CMR 11.03(7)(b)4 of the MEPA
22 regulations because the project involves the
23 construction of a new electric transmission line
24 greater than one mile in length with a capacity of

1 69 kV or more.

2 The portion of the project within
3 Massachusetts will require state permitting
4 action. It will require a 401 water quality
5 certificate and a Chapter 91 license from the
6 Department of Environmental Protection, approval
7 from the Massachusetts Energy Facility Siting
8 Board, a construction permit from the
9 Massachusetts Highway Department, an Order of
10 Conditions from the Barnstable and Yarmouth
11 Conservation Commissions and, potentially, a
12 superseding Order of Conditions from the
13 Department of Environmental Protection, if those
14 orders are appealed. In addition, the
15 Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management office will
16 conduct a federal consistency review of the
17 project.

18 All of these permitting agencies are
19 participating in this review. The project is
20 also being reviewed in accordance with an MOU
21 between MEPA and the Cape Cod Commission that was
22 established due to the extensive overlap between
23 our agencies' statutory responsibilities. The
24 Cape Cod Commission reviews developments of

1 regional impact, DRIs, that present regional
2 issues or potential impacts to the resources of
3 Cape Cod. The joint review process allows issues
4 that are relevant to the Commission review that
5 they be incorporated into the EIR.

6 While the Army Corps of Engineers, MEPA
7 and the Cape Cod Commissions are conducting joint
8 reviews for public convenience and administrative
9 purposes, it is important to note that each agency
10 retains their independent review authority and
11 jurisdiction over matters before them.

12 Finally, I want to inform you that, at
13 the request of Secretary Herzfelder and the
14 consent of the project proponent, the common
15 deadline for the state review under MEPA has been
16 extended to run concurrently with the MEPA comment
17 deadline of February 24, 2005.

18 Additional information about the MEPA
19 review process and how to comment can be found on
20 the information presented in the lobby or on the
21 MEPA Web site at www.mass.gov/envir/mepa.

22 Thank you again, and I look forward to
23 hearing your comments tonight.

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

1 Ladies and gentlemen, Karen Adams.

2 MS. ADAMS: The Draft EIS/EIR addresses
3 the potential impacts and public interest factors
4 identified by the scoping process and is intended
5 to fulfill the regional, state and federal
6 environmental assessment requirements. The
7 summary brochure's available at the registration
8 area.

9 We started our review by inviting input
10 from the general public, in addition to the
11 seventeen federal, state and regional agencies who
12 were asked to participate as cooperating agencies,
13 in accordance with the National Environmental
14 Policy Act and policy guidance from the
15 President's Council on Environmental Quality.

16 Many of the agencies have jurisdiction
17 over various aspects of the project, and their
18 participation in a combined EIS/EIR fosters
19 efficiency in the project review process. Other
20 agencies agreed to participate as cooperating
21 agencies to provide technical expertise.

22 We're the lead federal agency because of
23 the Corps' jurisdiction under Section 10 of the
24 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 which provides for

1 federal regulation of any work in or affecting
2 navigable waters of the United States. We direct
3 the applicant to provide the information necessary
4 for federal review.

5 The Corps EIS fulfilling requirements of
6 the National Environmental Policy Act is one of
7 many processes that must be implemented prior to a
8 final permit decision by the Corps of Engineers.
9 The Corps is required to address several federal
10 requirements, including the Endangered Species Act
11 and the National Historic Preservation Act.

12 These are just some of the approvals
13 that are needed prior to the start of
14 construction. There will be others, such as the
15 Oil Spill Response Plan, that will be required by
16 Mineral Management Service prior to the start of
17 operations.

18 Cape Wind Associates has applied for a
19 permit under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors
20 Act to install 130 wind turbine generators within
21 a 24 square mile area of Nantucket Sound. This
22 will be 4.7 miles south of Yarmouth, 9 miles from
23 Edgartown and 13.8 miles from Nantucket. Each
24 monopile support structure will have a 16 foot

1 diameter with a total of approximately one acre of
2 sea bottom dispersed by the 130 structures. The
3 rotor hub will be approximately 246 feet above the
4 water surface, and the total height, including the
5 rotor, would be approximately 417 feet.

6 Cables are propose to run between these
7 structures to an electric service platform. This
8 platform will be 100 feet by 200 feet. Two cables
9 buried a minimum of 6 feet below the seabed would
10 bring the power to the landfill location at New
11 Hampshire Avenue, in Yarmouth. The cables will
12 then continue through local streets to the
13 existing NStar transmission lines in Barnstable.

14 The permit application plans are
15 included in the public notice which is available
16 in the registration area. After our initial
17 review of the application, we determined that an
18 Environmental Impact Statement would be needed in
19 December of 2001, and we then proceeded with the
20 public scoping of the ERS.

21 Public scoping hearings were held in the
22 spring of 2002. We greatly appreciated the
23 opportunity to participate in a series of
24 stakeholders' meetings sponsored by the

1 Massachusetts Technology Collaborative in 2002 and
2 2003 to gain a better understanding of local
3 issues and concerns.

4 We held our own public information
5 meetings in November 2002 and October 2003 to
6 provide updates of our review process. We have
7 now brought all this information together in a
8 Draft EIS. The public comment period began on
9 November 9th and will continue through February
10 24, 2005.

11 Our next step is to catalog all these
12 comments and address each issue that is presented
13 to me as comments. We will continue to work with
14 the appropriate cooperating agencies and the
15 applicant to address these issues. The Corps of
16 Engineers will carefully consider all comments
17 received.

18 Following this review, we will prepare a
19 final EIS. Thirty days later, the Corps can
20 prepare a Record of Decision. This will contain
21 our decision as to whether to deny the permit,
22 issue a permit or issue the permit with
23 conditions.

24 Thank you.

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, Karen.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, as you know, this
3 is a federal hearing, and our first speaker
4 tonight is Congressman Bill Delahunt.

5 Sir?

6 (Applause.)

7 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: Well, thank you,
8 Larry and members of the panel. It's good to be
9 in the Vineyard. Unfortunately, I have to leave
10 this evening for Washington.

11 (Laughter.)

12 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: Yeah, you should
13 laugh, I think.

14 (Laughter.)

15 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: Let me first
16 extend my gratitude to the panel and to members of
17 the community for their indulgence in allowing me
18 to address you.

19 First, as I said, I do have to return to
20 Washington because of a legislation that is of
21 some consequence and that is pending tomorrow.

22 I think it's important that I speak to
23 the public record as to my opinion on the issue of
24 this particular proposal and all the attendant

1 issues implicit in this proposal.

2 First, let me be clear, I support
3 renewable energy, including wind farms. I have
4 consistently voted for legislation that creates
5 incentives for renewable energy, and I will
6 continue to do so, but I do not believe that, in
7 the effort to solve our national energy crisis and
8 address the profound concern that many of us share
9 about global warming, that we should sacrifice
10 possibly, potentially, our marine environment, and
11 to advocate our responsibility to protect a very
12 special marine ecosystem of national significance,
13 such as Nantucket Sound, is simply absurd, and
14 it's a false choice.

15 (Applause.)

16 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: It is, as if to
17 save the environment, we must degrade possibly the
18 environment. That simply doesn't compute.

19 (Applause.)

20 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: And there's some
21 bittersweet irony in the fact that this hearing
22 this evening is being conducted on the Vineyard
23 where, back in 2000, President Bill Clinton signed
24 into law the Oceans Act on a bluff overlooking

1 Nantucket Sound. That law was intended to create
2 a new framework for better stewardship of our
3 waters, and that Act was written due to a
4 recognition and confirmed by the Oceans
5 Commission's report that currently there exists no
6 coherent, thoughtful and adequate national ocean
7 policy in this country, none whatsoever.

8 Now, I've offered legislation which I
9 believe adequately responds to many of the
10 concerns and recommendations that were expressed
11 in the report by the Oceans Commission released
12 this year, and that or similar legislation -- in
13 fact, the Bush Administration has submitted House
14 Resolution 51-56.

15 Prior to entertaining proposals such as
16 the Cape Wind concept, legislation creating a
17 national, thoughtful, coherent oceans policy
18 should be enacted.

19 (Applause.)

20 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: So any
21 suggestion that concerns expressed about the Cape
22 Wind proposal being predicated on a NIMBY,
23 so-called NIMBY, mindset is simply untrue. This
24 is about a national ocean policy, and we, in this

1 part of the world, and the Cape and Islands, have
2 been concerned for decades about our waters, about
3 our ocean, a long time, a long time before Cape
4 Wind Associates came forward with this particular
5 proposal, and by the way, Nantucket Sound is not
6 our backyard. It really is our front yard.

7 (Applause.)

8 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: And it's just
9 not about a view for those living and working on
10 the water. It is our economy. It is the heart
11 and soul of what we are, and furthermore, it's a
12 national treasure for all Americans, for all
13 Americans.

14 (Applause.)

15 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: Because, as you
16 know so well here on this island, it is such a
17 special place, and that's been recognized for
18 decades by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as
19 early as 1970, when the Legislature, in its
20 wisdom, created a Cape and Islands State Marine
21 Ocean Sanctuary to protect Nantucket Sound.

22 (Applause.)

23 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: Governor Ed King
24 and former Attorney General Frank Bellotti

1 nominated Nantucket Sound, including Horseshoe
2 Shoals, as a National Marine Sanctuary because of
3 the concern of the people of the Commonwealth
4 about Nantucket Sound, and that was back in 1980.

5 When the United States Supreme Court did
6 carve out the so-called donut hole that
7 encompasses Horseshoe Shoals, in 1986, in a
8 Supreme Court decision, they didn't for one minute
9 suggest that it was not worthy of state and
10 national protection.

11 This, as I said, has been a consistent
12 position of the Commonwealth for decades now.
13 That sanctuary proposal that was put forward by
14 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was endorsed at
15 the time by an independent scientific panel and
16 supported by biologists at the United States Fish
17 and Wildlife Service and NOAA, the National
18 Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and
19 while it was not acted upon because of federal
20 cuts in spending at the time, the sanctuary
21 proposal that was put forth, itself, clearly
22 reflects the Commonwealth's long-term policy that
23 Nantucket Sound is sacrosanct, and any significant
24 development within the sound, such as the Cape

1 Wind proposal, is inconsistent with the interests
2 of the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
3 and its public policy at the state level.

4 (Applause.)

5 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: And let me
6 suggest there's an issue that is even more
7 fundamental, and that is who has the right to use
8 and occupy public lands and waters in the United
9 States of America?

10 Well, let's not lose sight of the fact
11 that this is a public resource, that the waters
12 and the seabed underneath Nantucket Sound are
13 owned by us and by the American people. That is
14 who owns Nantucket Sound.

15 (Applause.)

16 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: One of the many
17 flaws in this current process requires developers
18 who file applications for Section 10 permits to
19 only provide a written affirmation, with no proof
20 that they have a property interest in the site of
21 the proposed project, and it's my understanding
22 that, under current Corps policy, the signature on
23 the Section 210 permit application is apparently
24 deemed sufficient enough proof of a property

1 interest or a right to use.

2 Well, Cape Wind does not own Horseshoe
3 Shoals.

4 (Applause.)

5 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: It has no
6 property interest or right to use it. Only the
7 Congress of the United States can convey any
8 interest in public lands or waters, such as
9 Nantucket Sound, and the United States Congress
10 has not done that.

11 (Applause.)

12 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: Just imagine, if
13 we take that theory that, clearly, the proponents
14 must ascribe to, what would happen to our public
15 waters?

16 One can see a floating casino; one can
17 see a variety of projects, if that is the theory
18 upon which a proposal such as the Cape Wind farm
19 is predicated on. It just simply flies in the
20 face of logic, common sense and the history of our
21 juris prudence.

22 You know, the people of the Cape and
23 Islands have led this nation in protecting its
24 natural resources from inappropriate and unplanned

1 development forever, and we don't have to take a
2 back seat to anyone when it comes to the cause of
3 respect for the environment and conservation.

4 (Applause.)

5 REP. WILLIAM DELAHUNT: It is here that
6 the Cape Cod National Seashore was created, the
7 Monomoy Wildlife Refuge and the Waquoit Bay
8 National Reserve, the creation of the Stellwagen
9 National Marine Sanctuary, the establishment of
10 numerous state parks from one end of the Cape to
11 the other, the 15,000 acre Upper Cape Water Supply
12 Reserve, the strict permit conditions on the
13 MWRA's outfall pipe and the creation of Land Banks
14 and land use agencies on the Cape, Martha's
15 Vineyard and Nantucket.

16 Collectively, these efforts are not just
17 huge victories for the protection of the Cape and
18 the Islands, but reflect among the standing that
19 the region possesses unique and particularly
20 fragile resources that are truly worthy of
21 conservation and protection.

22 People in this part of the world are
23 passionate about these issues. I know. I know
24 you. I have learned from you, and in spite of the

1 significant opposition to the proposal put forth
2 by Cape Wind Associates, I would argue and believe
3 that the vast majority of Cape and Island
4 residents are quite supportive of renewable
5 energy, and, yes, windmills are part of our
6 heritage, but let's do it right.

7 First, let's follow the recommendations
8 of the Oceans Commission. Let's provide the legal
9 authority so that an appropriate siting of a wind
10 farm can be considered; then, let's craft a policy
11 that properly guides their construction. Let's
12 create zones in our ocean where they ought to be
13 encouraged with objective and independent
14 planning, with open and transparent and real local
15 involvement and construction and monitoring
16 standards that protect our wildlife and marine
17 environment, just like we do for oil and gas
18 development.

19 Then, once we do this, let's allow all
20 companies to bid on the sites. Let's make the
21 process transparent, and let's make those zones,
22 those sites, available to all. Competition and
23 entrepreneurship is a good thing. Protection of
24 the environment and entrepreneurship are not

1 mutually exclusive, and we have proven that time
2 and time again here on the Cape and Islands.

3 Unless we do this, I have no doubt that
4 the endless litigation that will follow each and
5 every project will happen. Quite frankly, nothing
6 will get done, and given the clear and significant
7 benefits of renewable energy, that would be,
8 indeed, unfortunate.

9 With that, thank you for indulging me,
10 and I hope that I have another opportunity to
11 further amplify on my remarks.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

15 (Applause.)

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir,
17 for taking the time and addressing this hearing
18 this evening. Thank you very much.

19 Ladies and gentlemen, it is crucial to
20 this public process that your voice is heard, and
21 we're here to listen, to listen to your comments,
22 to understand your concerns and provide you an
23 opportunity to put your thoughts on the record,
24 should you care to do so.

1 The hearing tonight will be conducted in
2 a manner that all who desire to express their
3 views will be given the opportunity to do so. To
4 preserve the right of all who express their views,
5 I ask that there be no further interruption.

6 When you came in, copies of the public
7 notice and the procedures to be followed at this
8 hearing were available. If you did not receive
9 these, both are still available in the
10 registration area. I will not read either the
11 procedures or the public notice, but they will be
12 entered into this record.

13 A transcript of this hearing is being
14 prepared, and the record will remain open, and
15 written comments may be submitted tonight, by
16 e-mail or by mail up until February 24, 2005. All
17 comments will receive equal consideration.

18 Anyone who cannot attend that you know
19 of, but still wishes to provide comment may come
20 to any of the other three hearings in the next
21 week and a half or may send written comments to
22 our headquarters, in Concord, Massachusetts.

23 Lastly, I'd like to re-emphasize that
24 the Corps of Engineers has made no decision with

1 regard to this permit. It is our responsibility
2 to fully evaluate the proposed activity and its
3 impact prior to any decision, and in order to
4 accomplish that, we need you.

5 Again, we're here to receive your
6 comments, not to enter into any discussion or to
7 reach any conclusion. All questions should be
8 directed to the record, not to the individuals on
9 the panel.

10 Sir, if there's no objection, I will now
11 dispense with the reading of the public notice of
12 the hearing and have it entered into the record.

13 * * * * *

14
15 PUBLIC NOTICE

16
17 Cape Wind Associates, LLC, 75 Arlington
18 Street, Suite 704, Boston, MA has requested a U.S.
19 Army Corps of Engineers permit under Section 10 of
20 the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 to install 130
21 wind turbine generators and associated cable.
22 This work is proposed in Nantucket Sound with the
23 cable landfall at New Hampshire Avenue, Yarmouth,
24 MA. The wind turbine generators would be spaced

1 1/3-1/2 mile apart over a 24 square mile area
2 producing up to 454 megawatts (MW) of wind
3 generated energy to be transmitted from a
4 centrally located Electrical Service Platform via
5 a submarine cable to the landfall location in
6 Yarmouth. The overland cable will be installed in
7 existing roadways and right-of-ways to NSTAR's
8 existing electric system in Barnstable. The cable
9 will consist of two solid dielectric cable
10 circuits jet-plow embedded into the seabed. The
11 work is shown on the enclosed plans entitled "Cape
12 Wind Project," on 18 sheets, revised "6/1/04."
13 The applicant's intended purpose is to provide
14 wind-generated energy that will be transmitted and
15 distributed to the regional power grid, including
16 Cape Cod and the Islands. They plan to begin
17 construction in November 2005 an begin operating
18 in November 2006.

19 A Draft Environmental Impact Statement
20 (EIS) has been prepared by the Corps of Engineers
21 in compliance with the National Environmental
22 Policy Act to provide the data needed for the
23 Corps in performing the public interest review
24 described below. The Draft EIS compares

1 alternatives to the benefits; and requests
2 comments on this assessment. This document is
3 available for public inspection at the Corps New
4 England District office by appointment and at the
5 locations listed on the attached Table 1. In
6 addition, copies have been provided to federal,
7 state and local agencies. The agencies are
8 specifically to provide comment on areas within
9 their expertise, to provide guidance to the Corps,
10 and include recommendations for permit conditions
11 should a permit be issued. the Draft EIS is being
12 distributed widely on compact disk and be obtained
13 by contacting us at the above address. In order
14 to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking
15 public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is
16 encouraged to do so. It is important that we
17 receive your comments on or before January 10,
18 2004. Please follow these instructions to ensure
19 that your comments are received on time and
20 properly recorded:

21
22 Reference file no. NAE-2004-338-1

23
24 Address written comments to:

1 Karen Kirk Adams
2 Cape Wind Energy Project EIS Project Manager
3 Corps of Engineers, New England District
4 696 Virginia Road
5 Concord, MA 01742-2751

6 or email: wind.energy@usace.army.mil

7 Mail your comments so that they will be
8 received in Concord, MA on or before January 10,
9 2005

10 In addition to, or in lieu of, sending
11 written comments, you are invited to attend one of
12 our public hearings. The public hearings dates
13 and locations are:

14
15 Monday -- December 6, 2004
16 Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
17 Edgartown Road
18 Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

19
20 Tuesday -- December 7, 2004
21 Mattacheese Middle School
22 400 Higgins-Crowell Road
23 West Yarmouth, MA 02673-2512
24

1 Wednesday -- December 8, 2004

2 Nantucket Community School

3 10 Surfside Road

4 Mary P. Walker Auditorium

5 Nantucket, MA 02554

6

7 Thursday -- December 16, 2004

8 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

9 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 10-250

10 Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

11

12 All interested federal, state and local
13 agencies, interested private and public
14 organizations, and individuals are invited to
15 attend. Persons wishing to provide oral comments
16 are asked to register prior to the start of the
17 hearing. Transcripts of the meetings will be
18 prepared. The hearing procedures are available on
19 our web site at
20 <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/projects/ma/ccwf/hprocedures.pdf>. After these comments are reviewed,
21 significant new issues are investigated, and
22 modifications are made, a Final EIS will be
23 published and distributed. The final EIS will
24

1 contain the Corps responses to comments received
2 on the Draft EIS.

3 The applicant's proposal will have an
4 adverse on 0.68 acres of Essential Fish Habitat
5 (EFH). The District Engineer has made a
6 preliminary determination that site-specific
7 impacts may be substantial. Accordingly, the
8 Corps of Engineers has included an expanded EFH
9 assessment in the Draft Environmental Impact
10 Statement, which is being submitted to the
11 National Marine Fisheries Service, who in turn
12 will provide conservation recommendations. The
13 EFH consultation will be concluded prior to the
14 final decision.

15 The applicant's proposed location is on
16 the USGS Dennis quadrangle sheet at the UTM
17 coordinates 4610281N and 395983E.

18 The document was also prepared to
19 satisfy the requirements of the Massachusetts
20 Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and the Cape Cod
21 Commission. Cape Wind Associates, LLC intends to
22 file the DEIR/DRI with the Massachusetts
23 Environmental Policy Act office for the November
24 15, 2004 submittal date and it will be posted in

1 the Environmental Monitor on November 23, 2004 to
2 fulfil the Executive Office of Environmental
3 Affairs' (EOEA) MEPA requirement. Publication of
4 the Environmental Monitor will provide information
5 on the comment period duration for the DEIR/DRI.

6
7 /s/

8 Christine A. Godfrey, Chief
9 Regulatory Division

10 * * * * *

11
12 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

13 A transcript of this hearing is being
14 made to assure detailed review of all the
15 comments. A copy of the transcript will be
16 available at our Concord, Massachusetts,
17 headquarters for your review, on our Web site for
18 your use, or you may make arrangements with the
19 stenographer for a copy at your own expense.

20 Individuals speaking today will be
21 called to the microphone, there's one on each
22 side, each aisle, in the order that they signed in
23 and as provided for by our hearing protocol that's
24 distributed in the reception area.

1 When making a statement, please, come
2 forward to the microphone, state your name and if
3 you represent any interest. As there are many who
4 wish to speak and provide comment this evening,
5 and as we have to close this meeting at 10:00
6 p.m., you will be provided three minutes to speak,
7 no more.

8 Should we run out of time this evening,
9 we will close the hearing and provide for all
10 who've signed up, but did not have an opportunity
11 to put their thought on the record, an additional
12 opportunity, and a future time and place will be
13 determined later. Should that happen, each person
14 will be contacted individually by mail with that
15 information.

16 The traffic signal, the only one on the
17 Vineyard, thankfully--

18 (Laughter.)

19 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: --will indicate
20 the following. The green light will come on
21 indicating two minutes are remaining, the amber
22 light indicates one minute, and, of course, the
23 red light indicates your time has expired.

24 Once again, if you're speaking for an

1 organization or representing an interest of an
2 organization, please, say so. If you're speaking
3 for yourself, also, please, say so.

4 I want to emphasize that this is the
5 first of four hearings that we have scheduled in
6 order to provide everyone with the opportunity to
7 be heard on the record in this type of forum. I
8 encourage those here this evening to abide by the
9 three minute limitation in order to ensure that
10 others have the opportunity to be heard this
11 evening before we close at 10:00 p.m.

12 We will now begin to receive your
13 comments according to our protocol.

14 UNKNOWN: Will that light leave with
15 you?

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Excuse me?

17 UNKNOWN: Will that traffic signal leave
18 with you?

19 (Laughter.)

20 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Absolutely.

21 (Applause.)

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: My word.

23 Ladies and gentlemen, the first
24 individual to provide on comment is Secretary

1 Ellen Roy Herzfelder, Secretary, Massachusetts
2 Executive Office of Environmental Affairs,
3 representing Governor Romney.

4 SEC. ELLEN ROY HERZFELDER: Thank you.
5 Good evening. I appreciate this opportunity to be
6 here this evening and to discuss the significant
7 issue of ocean governance and management that Cape
8 Wind project illustrates, and I want to thank the
9 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for holding this
10 important public hearing, and I also want to
11 acknowledge the work that the Army Corps and the
12 Cape Cod Commission have done in cooperation with
13 my office at MEPA, and I, specifically, want to
14 salute Jim Hunt, the Director of MEPA, and his
15 staff, for their considerable efforts to conduct a
16 comprehensive review of this project.

17 My comments are not directed to the MEPA
18 office this evening. We will conduct a very fair
19 and thorough review of the project, as we would
20 any project that comes through our office.

21 However, the majority of the Cape Wind
22 Energy Project is located in federal waters of
23 Nantucket Sound and, as such, is subject to the
24 Army Corps permitting and federal MEPA review, and

1 I wish to address my comments to the Army Corps of
2 Engineers, and I want to, specifically, emphasize
3 the urgent need we have for a new type of
4 proactive management of our ocean resources.

5 Cape Wind is a precedent setting project
6 that has highlighted the current gaps in the wall
7 and the ability of, both, state and federal
8 governments to proactively manage our important
9 ocean resources. We are the Bay State, and our
10 state and federal waters are held in public trust;
11 yet, we've historically done no planning for our
12 oceans. It's still really being handled on a
13 first come, first serve basis, not unlike the old
14 Wild West, and we have new technologies becoming
15 available, and ocean real estate is up for grabs
16 in a way that I don't think our forefathers ever
17 anticipated and that our regulatory system is not
18 yet prepared to manager.

19 Rather than the current first come,
20 first serve approach we have today, Governor
21 Romney recognized this concern early in his
22 administration, and when he called on me to
23 address this problem, I responded by establishing
24 the Ocean Management Task Force, under the

1 leadership of Chair Sue Tierney, to come up with
2 recommendations on improved ocean stewardship.

3 The task force included numerous
4 stakeholders, many of, some of you may be here
5 tonight. I notice that Senator O'Leary is here.
6 And they produced six principles for managing
7 activities in the ocean, first and foremost, to
8 protect the public trust of the oceans which we
9 all own together, as well as sixteen
10 recommendations for further action around themes
11 of governance, management tools, scientific
12 understanding and outreach.

13 To implement this extensive task force
14 report, including new legislation as one of the
15 recommendations, the Governor will soon file a
16 bill to authorize resource management planning for
17 state ocean waters. The legislation will provide
18 for strong municipal citizen input and
19 participation. It will streamline governance of
20 ocean resources by coordinating state agency
21 responsibilities.

22 This bill will acknowledge the need and
23 provide the ability to improve the Commonwealth's
24 coordination plan with federal agencies for

1 activities occurring in federal waters that may
2 impact our resources in state waters.

3 In September 2004, the U.S. Commission
4 on Ocean Policies at the federal level made
5 similar recommendations and reported "a
6 comprehensive offshore management structure is
7 needed that enables us to realize the ocean's
8 potential while safeguarding human and ecosystem
9 health, minimizing conflicts among users and
10 fulfilling the government's obligation to manage
11 the sea in a way that manages long-term benefits
12 for all of our nation's citizens."

13 I urge the Army Corps to follow up on
14 the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on
15 Ocean Policy and explore ways at the federal level
16 to improve proactive planning for federal waters
17 and to increase coordination with states for
18 comprehensive ocean management.

19 Thank you. Good evening.

20 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

21 (Applause.)

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker, our next speaker if
24 Senator Robert O'Leary, who will be followed by

1 Selectman Arthur Smadbeck.

2 (Applause.)

3 SEN. ROBERT O'LEARY: Thank you very
4 much for having me here tonight. My name is
5 Robert O'Leary, and I represent the Cape and
6 Islands, and if one thinks about that, Horseshoe
7 Shoals, where this project is planned to be built,
8 constructed, is virtually in the middle of my
9 senate district.

10 I'm also Chairman of the Energy
11 Committee in the State Legislature, so I have a
12 clear interest, both, from a political perspective
13 and from a policy-making perspective, and I want
14 to reserve some of my comments for tomorrow night,
15 so I'll just make some general observations here
16 tonight and, and make some more specific comments,
17 if that's acceptable. I don't know if you allow
18 people to speak twice, in two different locations,
19 but I would ask if that were possible.

20 I am opposed to this project, and I feel
21 that this is simply, has been said many, many
22 times in the wrong place and simply too large, and
23 I know there's been accusations about NIMBYism for
24 those who are in our position, and I think if you

1 take into consideration that no one would deny the
2 fact that this is an area of enormous ecological,
3 environmental, commercial and resource rich area.

4 I think one can make an argument that to
5 dismiss those who wish to protect it is simply
6 parochial and NIMBY in their attitude, I think,
7 does, one, a disservice to Nantucket Sound, in my
8 opinion. It does a disservice to the hundreds of
9 thousands of people who live here in order to
10 enjoy Nantucket Sound and to the millions of
11 people who come here to enjoy it.

12 So I think--

13 (Applause.)

14 SEN. ROBERT O'LEARY: --that is simply
15 too dismissive, in my opinion.

16 Finally, I -- and, again, I will reserve
17 my specific comments, but I would like to make an
18 observation here about the history of the role of
19 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with respect to
20 Nantucket Sound.

21 It's clear that this proposed wind
22 generation facility violates some 35 years of
23 legislative intent to preserve Nantucket Sound and
24 its surrounding areas. That action, and many of

1 those actions, were taken by my predecessors who
2 occupied the seat that I currently occupy.

3 In 1970, with the creation of the Cape
4 and Islands sanctuary in Massachusetts, Ocean
5 Sanctuary Act, the Legislature, clearly,
6 articulated its desire to protect this valuable
7 resource.

8 The Act mandates, and I quote here, "All
9 ocean sanctuaries shall be protected from any
10 exploitation, development or activity that would
11 significantly alter the seabed or subsoil thereof
12 or the Cape Cod National Seashore. Specifically
13 prohibited under this Act is the building of any
14 structure on the seabed or under the subsoil, the
15 construction or operation of offshore or floating
16 electric generation stations."

17 In the 35 years following the creation
18 of the Massachusetts Ocean Sanctuary Act, the
19 Commonwealth has repeatedly enacted legislation
20 and policies to further its intent to protect the
21 waters.

22 In 1980, the Massachusetts Secretary of
23 Environmental Affairs and Attorney General further
24 pressed the matter of jurisdiction and protection

1 by nominating the central portion of Nantucket
2 Sound as a National Marine Sanctuary, and, again,
3 1983, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric
4 Administration recommended Nantucket Sound as a
5 candidate for National Marine Sanctuary status.

6 The fact of the matter is, the state
7 was, for more than three decades, sought to
8 protect this area, and now we find ourselves faced
9 with a proposal that will undo thirty some odd
10 years of our political efforts and legislative
11 efforts, and I think that's unfortunate, and I
12 hope you will not support this proposal.

13 Thank you very much.

14 (Applause.)

15 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

16 (Applause.)

17 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

18 Ladies and--

19 (Applause.)

20 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

21 Ladies and gentlemen, please, I know we
22 all have a desire to express our view, but the
23 applause is going to impact on the opportunity for
24 others to speak, so, please, no interruptions.

1 Next speaker, Arthur Smadbeck, Selectman
2 from Edgartown, who will be followed by the Oak
3 Bluffs Selectman, Roger Wey.

4 ARTHUR SMADBECK: Good evening. I'd
5 like to preface my remarks by thanking the Army
6 Corps of Engineers for convening this hearing.

7 The Town of Edgartown enjoys an
8 excellent relationship with the Corps. They have
9 been very helpful to our town over the years.
10 That being said, we're here tonight because the
11 Corps has the awesome responsibility of helping to
12 determine the future of the views and vistas we
13 presently enjoy in the Nantucket Sound.

14 The wind farm project is not subject to
15 any review by the Martha's Vineyard Commission or
16 the planning boards, conservation commissions or
17 historic district commissions of any of our
18 communities abutting the proposed wind farm.

19 The entire community of Cape Cod and the
20 Islands, are depending on the Corps to represent
21 us. We're all stewards of our environment here
22 for a short time on this earth, and just as anyone
23 leaves a camp site in better condition than when
24 one finds it, it is imperative, as stewards of our

1 larger environment, that we leave it in better
2 condition than when we found it.

3 We have in the wind farm project two
4 competing environmental causes. One is the
5 concept of alternative energy, and the other is
6 the concept of preserving the views and vistas of
7 the natural beauty we all enjoy.

8 Fundamentally, I am opposed to
9 sacrificing one environmental cause for another,
10 and there is no such thing as a little pollution
11 being acceptable. An oil tanker sitting out in
12 the sound that is leaking oils brings about a
13 response whether or not the leak is small or
14 large. There is no such thing as an acceptable
15 level of pollution.

16 Discussing the relevant size of visual
17 pollution is distracting from the fundamental fact
18 that this proposed project will, indeed, create a
19 level of visual pollution that will, for many
20 years to come, mar our seascape and leave for
21 future generations a camp site much diminished.

22 There are many forms of alternative
23 energy that can be employed to reduce our
24 dependance on oil, and there are many locations

1 that are not as sensitive as the Nantucket Sound,
2 but there is only one Cape Cod, one Martha's
3 Vineyard, one Nantucket and only one agency that
4 can help us be the best stewards of Nantucket
5 Sound. That is the Army Corps of Engineers.

6 Please, do not allow Nantucket Sound to
7 be used for this commercial industrial project.
8 It is the wrong place.

9 Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

12 Ladies and gentlemen, next speaker, Oak
13 Bluffs Selectman Roger Wey, who will be followed
14 by the Martha's Vineyard Commissioner, Richard
15 Toole.

16 ROGER WEY: I am Roger Wey from Oak
17 Bluffs. Thank you for holding this forum and
18 giving me the opportunity to present my position.
19 I'm here to speak in opposition to this proposed
20 wind power plant which it probably would develop
21 plans to build over 24 square miles of public
22 water in Nantucket Sound.

23 The 130 massive wind turbines and the
24 giant transformer station, all be it an

1 environmental and visual nightmare to the public,
2 it will diminish our vista and possibly jeopardize
3 our great natural resource.

4 A conservation plan of a well-balanced
5 energy program which includes land-based wind
6 power is the answer.

7 Thank you.

8 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

9 (Applause.)

10 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
11 Richard Toole, Martha's Vineyard Commission,
12 followed by Cliff Carroll.

13 RICHARD TOOLE: Thank you. My name is
14 Richard Toole, and I am on the Martha's Vineyard
15 Commission, but I'm representing myself and not
16 the Commission.

17 I guess I'm going to be the first one
18 tonight to speak in favor of this project.

19 (Applause.)

20 UNKNOWN: What's the order? I thought
21 that some speakers were at the end?

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Please, go ahead,
23 sir.

24 RICHARD TOOLE: I've been a resident of

1 Oak Bluffs for over 30 years and a member of the
2 Martha's Vineyard Commission for over 10 years,
3 and in all those years, I've gone to the state
4 beach, and I've enjoyed the views there. I don't
5 feel that this is going to destroy those views.

6 Also, being on the Martha's Vineyard
7 Commission, I've been involved in reviewing many
8 projects. I think the important thing to look for
9 is whether the benefits will outweigh the
10 detriments.

11 I believe this proposal is serving as a
12 wake-up call. It's time to reassess our energy
13 consumptive lifestyles and make some difficult
14 decisions. It's time to think about how we use
15 electricity and how we generate electricity.
16 Maybe, if we can make some changes as to how much
17 electricity we use, perhaps we won't need to
18 generate as much.

19 The electricity we do need should come
20 from non-polluting sources. Energy efficiency and
21 renewable sources should be top priorities. Cape
22 Wind's proposal is a huge step forward for clean
23 renewable energy.

24 I'm confident that the permit granting

1 and review boards can assess the proposal and
2 determine if the benefits will outweigh the
3 detriments. I believe we need this and other
4 alternative energy projects to go forward for many
5 reasons, environmental, economic, health and
6 international relations, to name a few.

7 Thank you.

8 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

9 Next speaker, Cliff Carroll.

10 (Applause.)

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: He will be
12 followed by Terry Funde, F-U-N-D-E.

13 CLIFF CARROLL: Thank you very much.
14 Good evening and thank you for the opportunity to
15 speak at this important event. My name is Cliff
16 Carroll. I'm one of the founders of windstop.org.

17 First of all, we are not against
18 alternative energy, but we are definitely against
19 the destruction of Nantucket Sound. I'm going to
20 be short and speak to the point because, like
21 Senator O'Leary, I'm going to reserve the majority
22 of my points for tomorrow evening's meeting back
23 on Cape Cod.

24 I will try to speak about items which

1 pertain to Martha's Vineyard only. I have here in
2 my hand three different letters which pertain
3 directly to the health and welfare of the people
4 of Martha's Vineyard. Two of the letters were
5 written back on October 1st by the selectmen of
6 Oak Bluffs and by the selectmen of Edgartown.

7 They were demanding that an oil spill
8 fatality chart be done to show where the 40,000
9 gallons of oil contained in the offshore oil
10 transformer will end up, wondering which beach and
11 who's going to inherit it in the event of a
12 rupture or a fire.

13 This chart was supposed to be done prior
14 to the DEIS. It was requested by every coastal
15 town in Nantucket Sound, and as far as I can see,
16 the request was ignored by the Army Corps until
17 recently when Minerals and Management, on November
18 22nd, has now ordered the Army Corps to prepare
19 such a chart.

20 The other letter I have is a letter
21 written by Mr. Will Brecht, from the Martha's
22 Vineyard Airport, contesting the FAA's
23 determination of no adverse effect.

24 In Britain, they are now denying almost

1 one out of every two wind farms based on radar
2 interference. The air approach and Cape approach
3 and the Air Traffic Controllers Association have
4 stated that there are over 400,000 flights a year
5 traveling through this air space.

6 Britain has now completed their two year
7 study recently, and they have shown that radar is
8 interfered with dramatically. There are also
9 defense issues, communication issues, search and
10 sea rescue problems with air helicopter rescues at
11 sea, finding people in the middle of a wind farm
12 which a lot of us should be worried about here,
13 and I ask the Army Corps to, please, pay attention
14 to the recently released radar study.

15 Please, obey the wishes of every coastal
16 town and Nantucket Sound and provide us with the
17 oil trajectory map to show who's going to inherit
18 the 40,000 gallons of dielectric oil when that
19 tank ruptures.

20 Thank you very much.

21 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

22 (Applause.)

23 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,

24 Terry Funde (sic), followed by Charles Monteiro.

1 TERRY FORDE: My name is Terry Forde.
2 I'm President of Chappaquiddick Island
3 Association. We have a membership of about 330
4 homeowners on Chappaquiddick out of about 410 or
5 415 homes on Chappaquiddick.

6 I am not speaking for everybody in the
7 membership. We've not taken a poll, but a number
8 of members have urged me to come here tonight and
9 speak against this proposal.

10 I live about five and a half miles,
11 maybe six miles, off of where this wind farm is
12 going, and it's going to be kind of like Cape
13 Canaveral has been dumped in my front yard. There
14 are a number of other issues which I'd like to
15 read.

16 A private entrepreneur should not be
17 allowed to use an offshore area over which no
18 government agency has jurisdiction. The right of
19 the Army Corps of Engineers to grant permission to
20 Cape Wind to build a wind farm in the sound is
21 questionable.

22 There are no established state or
23 federal guidelines or laws governing the
24 construction, staffing, operation and maintenance

1 of wind farms. Until such rules have been agreed
2 upon by citizens and Legislature, there will be no
3 way of compelling companies, such as Cape Wind, to
4 conform to any acceptable safety standards or
5 environmental regulations.

6 Renewable energy projects must not and
7 need not undermine protection of coastal habitats
8 and living marine resources. To further this
9 goal, prior to the siting and operation of such
10 projects, comprehensive environmental reviews
11 should consider potential impacts on coastal and
12 marine life inhabitants, the safety of local and
13 migratory bird populations, visual impacts and
14 noise.

15 The review also should address the
16 substantial near and long-term environmental
17 benefits wind projects can provide. Currently,
18 there is no mandatory comprehensive federal
19 environmental review process for offshore wind.
20 There is a deficiency that needs to be addressed
21 by Congress. However, this will require careful
22 deliberation.

23 We oppose the last minute effort to fill
24 the gap with House No. 5156, the Cuban fill.

1 Thank you.

2 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

3 Next speaker, Charles Monteiro, who will
4 be followed by Kent Healy.

5 CHARLES MONTEIRO: Good evening. My
6 name is Captain Charles Monteiro. I represent the
7 Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket
8 Steamship Authority. I've been employed with the
9 Steamship Authority since 1976.

10 I have been a deck officer since 1981
11 and advanced to captain in the early nineties. I
12 have sailed as captain on all the Steamship
13 Authority's vessels, on the Woods Hole to Martha's
14 Vineyard route and the Hyannis to Nantucket run.
15 I've experienced operating all vessels under all
16 conditions, which include limited visibility and
17 adverse weather conditions.

18 I was captain on the motor vessel Gay
19 Head this past winter during the heavy ice
20 conditions in Nantucket Sound, Nantucket Harbor
21 and Hyannis Harbor.

22 As a captain with the Steamship
23 Authority, I am strongly opposed to the
24 construction of the wind farm on Horseshoe Shoals,

1 and I have several safety concerns, navigation
2 safety.

3 As the proposed towers are placed in an
4 area where, both, commercial and recreational
5 traffic is at times heavy, the smaller vessels
6 will be forced to navigate more towards the east,
7 encroaching on the buoyed approach to Hyannis
8 Harbor; therefore, increasing congestion in the
9 area of Broken Ground and Bishops and Clerks.

10 This will have an adverse effect on our
11 ability to safely navigate the area. The
12 northeast tower of the proposed wind farm grid is
13 approximately 1.5 nautical miles from the R2 gong
14 buoy at Broken Ground. The track lines used by
15 our vessels pass within 0.75 nautical miles to the
16 southwest of the R2.

17 This indicates a distance of
18 approximately 0.75 nautical miles from the
19 northeast tower leaving less sea room for
20 collision avoidance. If one of our vessels were
21 to get in a situation that forced it within the
22 boundaries of the towers, the ability of our
23 vessel to safety maneuver in the area of the
24 towers would be compromised.

1 The capabilities of our vessels, due to
2 windage and handling characteristics, may have
3 difficulty navigating safely in the area of the
4 towers. Due to the currents in the area, there is
5 a potential for the towers to change the bottom
6 contours creating uncharted shoal areas in the
7 areas where larger vessels navigate.

8 Last winter was a testament to the
9 problem encountered when heavy icing conditions in
10 the sound are present. The effects of the towers
11 could possibly block the northern portion of
12 Nantucket Sound and interrupt vital service to
13 Nantucket.

14 During periods of inclement weather, in
15 particular, with a strong westerly nor'easter or a
16 blow from the southeast, our vessels would be
17 denied the use of some areas for maneuvering to
18 ease the motion of the vessel and allow for a
19 margin of safety with regard to the passengers and
20 freight on our vessels.

21 I have personally navigated in the way
22 of Horseshoe Shoal using a tacking maneuver to
23 ease the vessel's motion. Contrary to what that
24 may infer, there are areas that have water depths

1 over 30 feet. Our vessels have drafts not
2 exceeding 10 feet, 6 inches. That provides an
3 under-keel clearance well within safe limits for
4 squat, heel and trim.

5 As mentioned earlier, the ability of our
6 vessels to navigate safely in the area of broken
7 ground may be compromised. In the event of
8 limited visibility, a safe CPA, closest point
9 approach, for the vessels is what a captain feels
10 comfortable passing another vessel without the
11 risk of collision.

12 The Steamship Authority carries over
13 3,000,000 passengers and 600,000 cars and trucks
14 to the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket
15 every year. As a captain with the Steamship
16 Authority, I have strived for and managed to
17 achieve an excellent record for safety.

18 The placement of 130 towers in an area
19 already congested with recreational traffic and
20 larger commercial vessels will surely affect my
21 ability to provide a safe passage for our
22 customers. This could compromise my Coast Guard
23 license and my ability to make a living.

24 Thank you.

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

2 Next speaker--

3 (Applause.)

4 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Marc
5 Breslow, who will be followed by Kent Healy, and,
6 once again, oral and written statements do receive
7 equal consideration in our decision process;
8 therefore, if you have a lengthy written
9 statement, please, summarize it to fit the three
10 minute limitation and submit that entire statement
11 for the record.

12 Thank you.

13 Sir?

14 MARC BRESLOW: My name is Marc Breslow.
15 I represent the Massachusetts Climate Action
16 Network which, after taking careful consideration
17 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and,
18 from our concerns, also of the possible benefits
19 of the project, has taken a position in favor of
20 this project.

21 I stand here on behalf of organizations
22 in fourteen communities, including the Acton
23 Climate Action Team, Boston Climate Action
24 Network, Cambridge Green Decade, Climate Change

1 Action, Brookline, the Concord Green Team, the
2 Medford Climate Action Network, the Newton Green
3 Decade Coalition, the Salem Alliance for the
4 Environment, the Somerville Climate Action,
5 Sudbury Earth Decade, Sustainable Arlington,
6 Sustainable South Shore, Watertown Citizens for
7 Environmental Safety and the Westwood
8 Environmental Coalition.

9 All of these organizations' first
10 priority on the environment is stopping the global
11 threat of global warming, otherwise known as
12 climate change, and our concern is that, in order
13 to reach that goal, the Cape Wind project has
14 perhaps the greatest potential of any renewable
15 energy project in New England.

16 I would note that one group of opponents
17 here, the Alliance, states that the project is
18 unimportant because it would only reduce
19 greenhouse gas submissions in New England by 1
20 percent to 2 percent of the total.

21 Well, the fact is that the goal set out
22 by all the governors in New England and by the
23 Eastern Canadian Premiers for the year 2020 is to
24 reduce submissions for all of New England by about

1 20 percent, which means that this project, by
2 itself, would be responsible for one-tenth to
3 one-twentieth of all efforts in New England to
4 reduce greenhouse gas submissions. I would call
5 that rather a major gain.

6 Now, the cost of global warming will be
7 felt here perhaps more than anywhere else because
8 of the shoreline, because of the coast. During
9 this century, coastal areas will be impacted very,
10 at a very large degree and predictions are by
11 scientists that, along with a temperature increase
12 of 6 degrees to 10 degrees Fahrenheit by the end
13 of this century, one would see the disappearance
14 of most of the shoreline on the Cape and Islands.

15 Now, I would also like to say that, on a
16 public health basis, this is also important.
17 Emissions from fossil fuel-burning power plants
18 cause large numbers of deaths and illnesses. The
19 estimate, by one estimate, Cape Wind would prevent
20 about 15 deaths per year from pollution and would
21 also cause a public health benefit of
22 approximately \$53,000,000 a year.

23 It would reduce particulate emissions by
24 about 450 tons, carbon monoxide by 120 tons,

1 sulphur dioxide by 4,600 tons and nitrous oxides
2 by 1,600 tons, approximately.

3 I would say that, I'd like to point out
4 that communities around this state and around New
5 England and the state governments are taking very
6 seriously this problem. Every state government in
7 New England is developing a Climate Action Plan.
8 The State of Massachusetts has issued one. All
9 the communities I mentioned before, including my
10 own, in Arlington, are trying, as communities
11 perhaps the size of the community here, to do what
12 we can to stop emissions of greenhouse gases.

13 So we're doing things like trying to
14 make our buildings as energy efficient as possible
15 and trying to buy fuel efficient cars, and we'd
16 like to site, if we could, one wind turbine in our
17 community, and others are trying the same.

18 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.
19 Thank you.

20 MARC BRESLOW: Thank you.

21 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Kent
22 Healy, who will be followed by David Place.

23 KENT HEALY: My name is Kent Healy. I'm
24 a civil engineer from West Tisbury.

1 Our society functions on fossil fuels:
2 coal for electricity; oil for transportation,
3 electricity and heat; natural gas for electricity,
4 heat; fertilizer and hydrogen.

5 Near soil wind is a clean and economical
6 energy source. As worldwide extraction of oil and
7 gas declines and prices rise, we must develop
8 alternate sources of energy. The Cape Wind
9 project would be a great start.

10 Thank you.

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
14 David Place, followed by Bill Meyer.

15 DAVID PLACE: Good evening. My name is
16 David Place. I'm here tonight on behalf of the
17 Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound.

18 For the past few weeks, I've been on
19 Martha's Vineyard talking to people and
20 encouraging them to attend tonight's hearing. I
21 think it's important that the people most directly
22 affected by this project have their say. I've,
23 literally, spoken to hundreds of people on this
24 island over the past few weeks, and I can tell you

1 that opposition to this project runs very deeply.

2 Many people, almost ten to one,
3 expressed their dismay that a private developer
4 could get a permit from the Federal Government to
5 build on public property that we all own as
6 citizens of the United States.

7 Having spent the last few weeks on the
8 island, I am more aware than ever how dependent
9 Vineyarders are on the transportation system to
10 and from the island and how tourism works in this
11 economy.

12 While the Vineyard is different from the
13 mainland in many respects, what the islands of
14 Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard share with Cape
15 Cod is Nantucket Sound. That common link is our
16 shared aesthetic heritage, our history and our
17 future.

18 I have great respect for the people of
19 Martha's Vineyard, and I hope that the U.S. Army
20 Corps of Engineers will fully consider the
21 implications of this project on the economy,
22 psyche and natural beauty of this island.

23 Personally, and on behalf of the
24 Alliance, I would like to thank everyone for their

1 hospitality and for sharing this beautiful island
2 with me these past few weeks.

3 Thank you.

4 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

5 Next speaker, Bill Meyer.

6 (Applause.)

7 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Followed by John
8 Packer.

9 BILL MEYER: Hi. Thank you. I'm Bill
10 Meyer, Co-Chairman of the Vineyarders for Clean
11 Power, and I speak solely for myself. Other
12 members of the group will speak later from their
13 perspectives.

14 I'm going to start with my conclusion,
15 as I might run out of time. Development of the
16 wind farm in Nantucket Sound will give impetus to
17 development of other innovative, renewable,
18 non-polluting energy projects in the USA.

19 Energy independence will be achieved
20 through decreased reliance on imported fossil fuel
21 and, hopefully, we'll never ever go to war for oil
22 again.

23 (Applause.)

24 BILL MEYER: I repeat, hopefully, we

1 will never go to war for oil again. Our children
2 and grandchildren will never have to ship out to
3 some tinderbox in the Middle East.

4 First, I want to give credit to the
5 civil servants in the Army Corps of Engineers who
6 wrote the Draft Environmental Statement. They
7 displayed courage in evaluating the wind farm
8 proposal by objective scientific standards. They
9 ignored the local and national politicians who
10 lined up in bipartisan unity to torpedo this
11 project.

12 We are eternally grateful to these
13 public servants. They concluded that the
14 environmental and economic effects of the wind
15 farm were benign. They diffused the hysteria over
16 sight lines and property values.

17 It is important to put the wind farm
18 project in the context of the global effort to
19 reduce greenhouse gases which are eating away our
20 shores in this bucolic corner of the world.

21 I met a friend last winter who is an
22 environmental lawyer in Washington. Even before
23 asking about my family and the Boston Red Sox, he
24 inquired about the status of the wind farm in

1 Nantucket Sound.

2 In Denmark, where they generate 20
3 percent of their energy needs from the wind, they
4 are watching us. They're watching us tonight in
5 this room. They are waiting to see if the U.S.
6 Government will encourage development of 21st
7 Century energy technology.

8 It is important to put into context the
9 opposition to the wind farm, and it has been
10 fierce.

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.
12 Thank you very much.

13 BILL MEYER: Can I mention one closing
14 remark? In closing, a new day is dawning in the
15 world, and it belongs to those nations who use
16 modern technology to break the chains of imported
17 polluting fossil fuels extracted from Middle East
18 oil wells.

19 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.
20 The next speaker is John Packer--
21 (Applause.)

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: --who will be
23 followed by Nick Van Nes.

24 JOHN PACKER: Good evening. John

1 Packer, Vineyard Haven. I'm here to represent my
2 children.

3 And, basically, it's 35 years since the
4 oil embargo, and we finally got to this room. I
5 apologize to my children. I'm embarrassed it's
6 taken this long to talk about alternative energy.

7 With respect to all the politicians, if
8 we let this opportunity go, how many more years
9 will it be? I am not raising two sons to fight an
10 oil war, and that's it. We talk about resources.
11 Our children are our resources. There's a young
12 football player sitting back there. I'd think he
13 has to go fight for oil because we don't have the
14 courage to build a windmill.

15 Thank you.

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

17 (Applause.)

18 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker is
19 Nick Van Nes, who will be followed by Emily Anne
20 Lindsey.

21 NICK VAN NES: Nick Van Nes. I'm from
22 West Tisbury. I'm speaking for myself and, I'd
23 like to think, for the rest of the country, maybe
24 not for this particular region, but for the rest

1 of the country.

2 I have many questions to ask of the wind
3 farm. Answers have to be coming, but what I
4 wanted to say was that it seems it's a trade-off,
5 you know, ambivalent feelings. They're saying
6 there's going to be cleaner air, and that's one of
7 the reasons I moved here, for cleaner air, and I'm
8 starting to see, over Cape Cod, the yellow sulphur
9 that was the reason I left New York. This is
10 coming our way.

11 They say there are going to be more
12 jobs. These are good jobs. These are jobs for
13 the environment. One of the problems I have with
14 capitalism is the jobs it takes. It takes more
15 and more growth just to maintain capitalism.
16 These are the jobs that we want to see happen,
17 jobs which are, which are encouraging renewable
18 energy.

19 They say it will help the cost of
20 energy. I'm not sure if these facts are right.
21 I'm not sure what to do, what happens if they're
22 just telling us this and it turns out that it's
23 not. Going back to jobs, maybe they're going to
24 hire all Danish people, everyone else except the

1 people from here. I'm not sure what's going to
2 happen if we still see sulphur, the color of
3 sulphur, over the Cape.

4 Let me see. Okay. I'm sorry to -- I
5 would say, in agreeing with the last couple of
6 speakers and, with all due respect to Congressman
7 Delahunt, that he talks about the -- this is our
8 front yard, not our backyard. To me it sounds
9 just so much like civil rights with a black or
10 Jewish person moving into the neighborhood, not in
11 my backyard. You know, the liberal people of the
12 North will talk environment.

13 Everybody here on the Vineyard is a
14 self-declared environmentalist, but not in my
15 backyard. He said, well, this happens to be our
16 front yard, but the argument is the same, not in
17 my front yard. What are we saying? What are we
18 telling the rest of the country?

19 I think it's a terrific opportunity. I
20 have some definite questions. I wonder if these,
21 if it will not pan out, if we're not going to save
22 the energy, if we're not going to see the
23 difference, if we're not going to get the jobs,
24 but if everything is what they say, I think we

1 would be sending a terrible message.

2 This is a terrific symbolic time, you
3 know, to tell the rest of the country, hey, we're
4 here first, we're doing this, and a windmill on
5 your own property could be as pretty as a tree.
6 It's what, it what it is. It's what it means.
7 It's not just, it's not just, you know, metal and
8 the same old story and more growth.

9 It's making a definite statement, and I
10 think that we should, I'm hearing an overwhelming,
11 I'm here because I heard this blitz on the radio
12 and whatnot, you know, we don't want it, we want
13 to save the environment. Well, we are saving the
14 environment.

15 I heard an argument from the captain of
16 the steamship vessel that reminded me down in New
17 York Harbor where they wanted special lights to
18 navigate into their, into their ports. They
19 wanted other boats, they wanted right of way of
20 all the boats, and the Coast Guard threw it out.
21 They said, hey, wait a second, you're a vessel, if
22 you can't maneuver, change your vessel, redesign
23 it. The vessel belongs to everyone.

24 I don't think it's a valid argument to

1 say it would not be safe. I think it adds to the
2 hysteria of the situation. I think the people are
3 reaching, our politicians are the ones that have
4 property values, and they're used to everything,
5 they're used to owning a view looking out over the
6 ocean and looking out to say, this is, this is the
7 house I bought, look at my view.

8 But for the people of this country, I
9 think it's especially important that we make a
10 statement to the rest of the world, say, hey,
11 look, this is pretty -- this is something we can
12 be proud of. Some of our best sailing down in New
13 York was out to Amherst lightship or out to
14 Buzzards Bay lightship up here.

15 I mean, it can be fun. It can be
16 pretty, and we can be proud of this. It's not
17 necessarily bad. It's, ultimately, it's a very
18 good thing, and we talk about other renewable
19 sources of energy, and I've heard people say that
20 there are plenty of renewable sources of energy.
21 Well, let's renew one. Nuclear energy's ours.
22 What can we do? You know, what is our choice?

23 We don't have any choice except to maybe
24 adjust and adapt. I mean, we can't just say, you

1 know, it's great, we're all for it, but do it
2 someplace else. If the Vineyard is an
3 environmentalist and wind is a renewable source, I
4 say let's use it, and listen carefully to the
5 arguments that you're hearing that it's not going
6 to be right. It will be something that we can be
7 proud of, and that's it.

8 Thank you very much.

9 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

10 Ladies and gentlemen--

11 (Applause.)

12 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Ladies and
13 gentlemen, one of the reasons we do not have
14 traffic lights on the Vineyard is sometimes,
15 during that cycling, you get stuck behind the red
16 light for twice as long, and I apologize for that.

17 Ladies and gentlemen, our next speaker
18 is Emily Anne Lindsey, who will be followed by
19 Theodore DeBettencourt.

20 EMILY LINDSEY: Hi. My name is Emily
21 Lindsey. I'm a junior at the high school, and I'm
22 speaking for the adults of tomorrow.

23 Here on the Vineyard, I have an
24 overwhelming opportunity at my fingertips. I'm a

1 local, and every day of the year, I can go out to
2 the beach and look beyond the horizon to the far
3 away lands and the vast waters. I know what a
4 great feeling that is, but I also know that when I
5 go to the beach, I love knowing that SPF-50 is
6 enough to keep me safe.

7 You guys should all be embarrassed at
8 the world you left me to live in, and actually
9 it's kind of funny because I'm speaking to the
10 adults who are going to act, once again, affecting
11 not their future, but mine.

12 I'll tell you what I'd like to do. I'd
13 like to reduce consumption, reduce the demand on
14 coal, oil and gas, but as a realist, I know it's
15 not going to happen living in a country whose
16 economy is built upon consumption.

17 I speak for the adults of tomorrow.
18 Given your habits, we're going to be the ones
19 suffering, and I'm breathless. Coal is not only
20 synonymous with the rebirth of strip mining
21 America, but it has history of ruining and
22 exploitation of not just the earth, but the
23 working conditions and lives of our fellow
24 citizens, but, wait, all is not lost because coal

1 does have the undisputed reputation of being the
2 most polluting to the air we breathe which,
3 according to the EPA, on certain days of the
4 summer is equal to the air quality of LA. So,
5 adults, please, more coal.

6 Oh, how about going nuclear? Jimmy
7 Carter just had the most advanced nuclear
8 submarine at his namesake. Nuclear power systems
9 are just small reactors. They can power a
10 neighborhood, so it would be whatever, you know,
11 fifteen, maybe fifty to power the whole Vineyard
12 for, at least, ten months of the year, but, hey,
13 we always have coal for backup, so it looks like
14 we're set; right?

15 Listen to me, guys. I can't vote, and
16 with society looking around here, I barely have a
17 say, but to my elders, I'd like you to reduce
18 consumption, and to my elders who can't, stop
19 exploiting the air and future generations like me.
20 Use wind.

21 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

22 (Applause.)

23 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker is
24 Theodore DeBettencourt followed by Creighton Peet.

1 THEODORE DeBETTENCOURT: How are you
2 doing? My name is Ted DeBettencourt. I want to
3 thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak
4 here tonight, and I just want to say I've been,
5 I'm a third generation out here. I've been here
6 for 22 years, my whole life, and I derive the
7 benefits from a seasonable business, and both,
8 they have good arguments on both sides about maybe
9 it will hurt economy.

10 We have a few gentlemen from Edgartown
11 saying, basically, we don't want to see it, and
12 then we have people on the Clean Power Now saying
13 that it's actually good. Well, who do you
14 believe?

15 Well, if you look at places that have
16 something like this, places like Denmark, tourism
17 has not been hurt by this. People actually go
18 there and like want to see these things, so to
19 make the argument that tourism's going to suffer,
20 I think, is kind of a moot point because you have
21 to look at somewhere that has this, and this is
22 had in Denmark and they do not hurt by this.

23 All right. I want to tell you about
24 something like, that's personal to me. When I was

1 driving back, I drove back from Providence College
2 tonight, and I drove by Brayton Point, and this is
3 one of the huge pollutants of our air. We had a
4 gentleman come up and talk about the sulphur and
5 the lowered rates of asthma which will happen.

6 Well, when I was eleven years old, my
7 best friend came and slept over my house, and what
8 happened? He had an asthma attack in the middle
9 of the night, and I woke up to turn around to see
10 my friend, Carl Crosslin, his face bright blue.
11 He couldn't breathe. He was having an asthma
12 attack. I didn't know what to do. I ran upstairs
13 to get my mother, and we ran into the emergency
14 room.

15 If I knew then what I know now, that
16 because of discolonies of scales, that places like
17 Brayton Point will become less economically
18 feasible and, therefore, eventually, less
19 pollutants will be spewed into my environment, to
20 my home town, I think that people like Carl should
21 have a chance not to suffer asthma attacks because
22 of pollutant plants like Brayton Point.

23 Another point I'm weighing it on is the
24 jobs. There's not a lot of jobs down here in the

1 winter, and I think that if this proposal goes
2 through, there'd be like 50 to 150 new jobs, year
3 round jobs, that people like me, who get out of
4 college next semester, will have a chance to do.

5 If I get out of college, there's not a
6 lot of options, but if this comes around, there's
7 another option for me to work.

8 Thank you very much.

9 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

10 (Applause.)

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
12 Creighton Peet, who will be followed by Robert
13 Skydell.

14 CREIGHTON PEET: Hi. My name is
15 Creighton Peet. Actually, I wasn't planning on
16 speaking. I was just planning on attending, but
17 since I am speaking, I just wanted to say that I
18 do support the wind farm for a variety of reasons,
19 most of which have been covered here, but for my
20 children and my children's children, I think it is
21 imperative that we take a stand and we use
22 renewable energy like this.

23 It is just astounding to me that we're
24 still thinking in terms of other sources and other

1 places, and there is no reason not to just start
2 somewhere. It has to begin, and, unfortunately,
3 the Cape Wind is not without its drawbacks or its
4 potential problems, but there are always going to
5 be drawbacks or potential problems wherever we
6 start.

7 So I think that, as a country and a
8 state and a community, we need to just make a
9 statement by going ahead with this, at least, as
10 far as we can until we find that, that there may
11 be a better place or some problem with this that
12 we can't get over, but until that happens, right
13 now, the vistas and the views and the property
14 values, I'm not hearing anything that makes it a
15 reason that there, that caused it as a, that makes
16 it so we should not go ahead with it, and so I
17 support it.

18 Thank you.

19 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

20 The next speaker, Robert Skydell, who
21 will be followed by Scott Elsasser.

22 ROBERT SKYDELL: Thank you. My name is
23 Robert Skydell. I'd like to preface my remarks by
24 saying that I've been a year-round resident for 20

1 years and I own a business that is heavily
2 dependent on tourism for my livelihood.

3 Having said that, speaking intelligently
4 about this project is like packing for a trip
5 around the world in a suitcase the size of a lunch
6 box, so the challenge to say the most important
7 thing is great.

8 As I drove here tonight, I knew that I
9 would face a very divided audience of my friends
10 and neighbors, but I also knew there was one thing
11 we could all agree on. Everybody in this room
12 feels that they have the right to breathe clean
13 air and consume clean water, and I think that's
14 the most important thing here.

15 I was against this wind farm at first.
16 I was dismayed by it, in fact, but in the last
17 year, I've changed my mind because I've learned
18 things that astounded me.

19 I've learned that our air quality is
20 some of the worst in New England, that the air
21 quality on Martha's Vineyard is 50 percent worse
22 than Boston's air, and not because it comes from
23 pollution of the Midwest. Half of our pollution
24 comes from Somerset, where they burn coal, and

1 Sandwich, where they burn high sulphur crude oil,
2 and, of course, you all remember the oil spill of
3 last year of 98,000 gallons of No. 6 crude into
4 Buzzards Bay.

5 Now, 40,000,000 in Europe alone, derive
6 their power from wind today. I went over to
7 Sweden and Denmark. I don't know how many of the
8 people in this room who don't want to look at
9 windmills have ever even seen one, but I've seen
10 one. I've seen a lot of windmills, and I've seen
11 a group of people who depend on them for a clean
12 environment, and they are just way ahead of us.

13 We have a cache of domestic energy here
14 that is sustainable, inexhaustible and clean, but
15 this country is moving in the opposite direction.
16 It's moving towards burning more coal because it's
17 cheap and plentiful.

18 While we may live in one of the most
19 beautiful places in the world, our air quality is
20 terrible. In fact, I'm sorry to say that
21 Mr. Delahunt is gone, but he used the word
22 "absurd" when he talked earlier. I'll use the
23 word myself.

24 It's absurd that the Cape Cod National

1 Seashore has one of the worst air qualities in the
2 country. Check it out if you don't believe me.
3 That's what I call absurd.

4 Many of the people I've spoken to in the
5 last year don't even know where our power comes
6 from. They don't know how it's produced. That
7 makes it easy to decide that a wind farm is an
8 unnecessary eye sore.

9 My stake in the future gets smaller
10 every day, but I'd like to leave behind a place
11 that is richly abundant not only in natural
12 beauty, but clean air and clean water and less
13 mercury in our water, less toxic chemicals in our
14 water, and I'd just like to finish by underscoring
15 the words that were spoken earlier by a young high
16 school student because her stake in the future is
17 larger than most of ours, and I hope that her
18 words resinate in your ears in the months to come.

19 Thank you.

20 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

21 (Applause.)

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
23 Scott Elsasser followed by Lanny McDowell.

24 SCOTT ELSASSER: Good evening. My

1 name's Scott Elsasser, and I'm speaking for
2 myself. I wanted to address a couple of points
3 that I heard here tonight.

4 One is the visual impact of the
5 windmills, and I think anyone can hold their arm,
6 their hand out at arm's length and look at their
7 thumb, and the height of the windmills from the
8 closest point on land is the height of your
9 thumbnail, and it's about the width of a
10 toothpick. That's how big they are.

11 I haven't been to Denmark, but I did
12 hear the gentleman from Denmark speak who was the
13 head of the local tourism bureau, and he was
14 bitterly opposed to the windmills, as may people
15 here are, because he was worried about the same
16 issues of property values and of tourism.

17 And after the windmills came, he said,
18 it's funny, the issue just kind of went away, and
19 they had a lot of tourists coming to see the
20 windmills, and property values stayed the same
21 when we left.

22 And after a period of several years,
23 actually, they applied to the government. There
24 was a shallow area that was suitable for windmills

1 that was a great deal closer, and they were
2 applying for them to put windmills on that site
3 because the others were too far away, and the
4 tourists just kept coming and just seeing this
5 little tiny thing in the waters, and they said,
6 what's the big deal? There's no windmills.

7 So I think that we have an opportunity
8 here to make a change and to be an example in this
9 great place for the country that we can turn away
10 from burning more coal, which is on the dockets
11 right now, and importing more foreign oil.

12 I think, for me, it's a clear choice,
13 and I think that we should go forward with this
14 source of sustainable energy.

15 Thank you.

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

17 (Applause.)

18 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
19 Lanny McDowell, who will be followed by Morton
20 Fearey.

21 LANNY McDOWELL: Good evening. My name
22 is Lanny McDowell. I live in West Tisbury, and
23 I'm speaking for myself.

24 The impact of the 24 square mile wind

1 farm will be significant one way or the other.
2 Many people considering the issues involved
3 strongly favor harvesting the wind's energy, but
4 they view with caution no more on the claims of
5 power output and economic windfall, the visual
6 changes to Nantucket Sound and the many potential
7 environmental hazards.

8 With so much at stake, with so much
9 public outcry and concern and with so many
10 debatable issues on the table, what stands in the
11 way of the Army Corps of Engineers requiring of
12 the applicants a condition for approval which
13 describes a specific trial period to test a very
14 limited number of towers?

15 Why would any permitting agency with
16 this kind of responsibility treat this project as
17 an all or nothing proposition? Would it not make
18 sense to see what happens when three or five 417
19 foot high structures are actually put into
20 operation for two or three years before granting
21 the go-ahead for 130 of them?

22 I can speculate that the wind farm
23 proponents and those who oppose them, both, have
24 their reasons to avoid a limited trial, but an

1 actual working trial can refute or substantiate
2 claims and counterclaims much more eloquently than
3 all the theoretical jargon.

4 If the trial towers prove or imply an
5 unacceptable impact to the sound, then we should
6 find this out empirically with only a handful of
7 towers actually constructed. If the towers fail
8 to produce enough power or fail mechanically or
9 kill thousands of birds or ruin the seabed, then
10 only a few will need to be fixed or removed
11 instead of 130.

12 Thank you very much.

13 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

14 (Applause.)

15 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
16 Morton Fearey, who will be followed by Malcolm
17 Reed.

18 MORTON FEAREY: My name is Morton
19 Fearey, and I'm here on behalf of myself and my
20 wife in opposition to Cape Wind's proposal.

21 I've submitted a letter with questions,
22 and I understand that you will respond to them,
23 and I appreciate that, so let me just hit a couple
24 of general notes.

1 I don't agree with what the previous
2 speaker said that it's going to be a toothpick. I
3 have seen plenty of representations that say
4 that's not the case, and I was persuaded by David
5 McCullough's comments about the visual impact. I
6 saw him here. I hope he will speak, but I can
7 just say he's spot on.

8 European countries are frequently cited
9 as examples of supporting the wind energy.
10 Denmark is pulling off 80 of their stations
11 because they don't work and have to be refit, I'm
12 told, but more importantly, I was told the
13 European countries now require a minimum of 12
14 miles offshore and a Moray Firth project, in
15 Scotland, is being built in 130 feet of water,
16 point being distance and depth are not impediments
17 except perhaps to the owner's rate of return.

18 Relocation is a small price for a
19 private company who is despoiling public lands
20 with public monies and paying nothing for the
21 privilege. We can certainly find a better place
22 and I urge the Army Corps to help us to do.

23 The proposed benefits are murky. I am
24 told that the project will produce only 1 percent

1 of New England's needs and according to Cape
2 Wind's best estimates, save 10 cents per household
3 per month. The benefits to the residents of this
4 location is nothing compared to the damage that
5 will be caused.

6 Same with argument regarding our usage
7 of oil and reliance on the Middle East. According
8 to the Department of Energy, only 2 percent of our
9 total oil is used for the entire production of
10 electricity. The benefits that this will do in
11 reducing the demand on oil are also de minimis
12 compared to the damage it will cause our sound.

13 This is not going to save our boys from
14 going to the Middle East. This is not the answer.
15 Nobody can say, with certainty, that the
16 ecological or economic reports, whether from
17 either side, are correct. They represent best
18 guesses probably with same biases as to who is
19 paying their bill.

20 My last point is totally spot on with
21 the guy that just spoke. Let's start small. If
22 approval must be forthcoming, start with a permit
23 like for perhaps 20 windmills for a two or three
24 year period to ascertain exactly what the impact

1 is.

2 Thank you.

3 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

4 (Applause.)

5 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
6 Malcolm Reed, who will be followed by Robert
7 Douglas.

8 MALCOLM REED: Good evening. I
9 represent myself, my wife, my daughter and my
10 grandchildren who live here on the island, and I
11 am totally opposed to the wind farm.

12 Nantucket Sound belongs to everyone, and
13 we and the Army Corps of Engineers have an
14 obligation to protect it not only for today, but
15 for the benefit of our children and future
16 generations.

17 This privately owned project proposes an
18 untested, by that, I mean, it has never run less
19 than 20 years, and that's what the requirements
20 are for most power plants, to have, at least, a 20
21 year life, and potentially, an unsuccessful plan
22 which seizes 20 square miles of our sound.

23 This is establishing a policy that we
24 will allow any private group, or possibly allow

1 any private group, to develop Nantucket Sound into
2 some kind of an industrial park or, for that
3 matter, any other area of similar geology along
4 the East Coast of the United States.

5 Most of the people who vacation here or
6 live on the Cape and Islands of Massachusetts come
7 to escape the large buildings, overcrowding and
8 industrial build-up prevalent in much of the USA.
9 The building of 130 huge 400 feet plus towers on
10 our horizon is the last thing we or they wish to
11 see, as we would lose our pristine open space.

12 As a result, our job opportunities would
13 probably decrease. Tourism is the backbone of
14 this area, and without our tourism, we will be in
15 a very difficult situation economically.

16 Thank you.

17 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

18 (Applause.)

19 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
20 Robert Douglas, followed by Andy Palmer.

21 ROBERT DOUGLAS: I think we have more
22 adjoining items, more common ground, I'm trying to
23 say here, than we'd like to believe.

24 If people look back at to about 1970 to

1 the first problems we had with getting our cars
2 full of gasoline, the Department of Energy
3 happened to produce a list of proposed sites to
4 build more refineries. Would you believe that
5 Naushon Island came up on that list?

6 I've been hearing, this has been going
7 on now in the back of my head for, I guess, two
8 years, and it still amazes me to think that this
9 is an option. Nantucket Sound produces, for this
10 area, I think what John Muir once referred to as,
11 the spirit of a wilderness, and we've got to
12 remember that it's quite simple to figure how
13 visible these towers are going to be. This
14 business about a finger so far is something else.

15 If you remember that Nobska is three
16 miles from West Chop. The towers, the light
17 towers, on those points of land on top of their
18 small bluffs might produce, the tops of the
19 towers, maybe 70, 80, 90 feet, something like
20 that. They're three miles apart. We're talking
21 the hub of the wind generator is going to be 240
22 feet above the water line, and the closest one
23 will be, of course, five miles from Cape Poge.
24 The visual impact is going to be absolutely

1 unbelievable.

2 We talk about location, you know, and
3 real estate business, location, location. This is
4 the wrong location. Nobody is against clean
5 generation of electricity, obviously, but we're
6 talking about the wrong spot for many, many
7 reasons.

8 We might, if you look at a chart, you
9 might note that we have something called Nantucket
10 Shoals. This is a visibility problem or more of
11 an aesthetic character of the area that will be
12 wiped out in a single stroke of the brush, and of
13 course, you have a little bit different bottom
14 line because the cost.

15 It will be less efficient to transport
16 this energy for maybe 60 or 70 miles, but
17 Nantucket Shoals, if we're talking 25 miles of an
18 area being soaked up in the middle of Nantucket
19 Sound, we could say, okay, guys, go take Nantucket
20 Shoal. It's 75 miles long, neighborhood of 30 to
21 40 feet of water, maybe less than that, so if
22 you've got -- you're going to have what, 75, we're
23 talking five miles on the side of Horseshoe
24 Shoals. It's going to be 75 miles long by about

1 five miles wide. That'd be a better location to
2 have our wind generating plant, not in the middle
3 of Nantucket Sound.

4 Just the obvious dilemma. This is still
5 on the front burner. We're talking about it,
6 better to talk about it, I guess, than anything
7 else, but it still absolutely amazes me to throw
8 away perhaps the most pristine coastal protected
9 body of water on the whole eastern seaboard.

10 Everywhere else you go, you've got high
11 rise towers, bridges, oil refineries, high rise
12 buildings, you name it. Visibly, you've ruined
13 the area, like all the western end of Long Island
14 Sound, Coney Island and Staten Island. Take a
15 look at along Philadelphia and Camden, New Jersey
16 oil generating plants and I mean, fuel refineries.

17 You've finished off those areas. We
18 don't have to do it here on the Vineyard Sound for
19 a variety of reasons.

20 Thank you.

21 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

22 (Applause.)

23 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Andy
24 Palmer, who will be followed by Philip Forest.

1 ANDY PALMER: Thank you for letting me
2 speak. I think it's amazing that somebody like me
3 gets to be on the same page with politicians, and
4 even though my time is shorter, but it's a great
5 thing that we have this opportunity.

6 My name, as told to you, my name is Andy
7 Palmer. I have a comment and a suggestion, and
8 I'm here to represent myself and my immediate
9 family. I'm a seasonal resident with a Chilmark
10 water view. I don't know if that puts you in the
11 water or on the land, but in this case, it's on
12 the land, and it's the sight of the ocean that
13 sustains me. The sight and the sound of the ocean
14 sustains me. It is truly a remarkable view, but,
15 frankly, it is when the rare trawler or sailboat
16 or kayak passes that my pulse quickens, and I grab
17 for the binoculars.

18 I think the water's too deep where I am
19 and it probably won't get a wind farm, but I would
20 welcome the possibility in my front yard, and the
21 reason is, in my experience as a builder, I've
22 found that very few people, and I suspect,
23 particularly, in the United States, have an
24 accurate idea of where their water comes from,

1 where their sewage goes, how their houses are kept
2 warm or cool and, especially, what electrical
3 energy is and where it comes from.

4 For me, the visible symbol of clean
5 energy and the turning blades will not only give
6 me comfort knowing that there is a continuous cord
7 connecting them to my desk light, but more
8 importantly, it would help make residents and
9 visitors alike more aware of their own energy
10 consumption and get out, this is an apology to
11 Cervantes, I guess, get off their asses and start
12 jousting with the inevitable future.

13 My suggestion is, is it possible that
14 the Cape Wind would give Massachusetts or, at
15 least, this area first refusal on the power when
16 oil wells start to sputter?

17 Thank you.

18 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

19 (Applause.)

20 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker is
21 Philip Forest, and, sir, I was given the sign from
22 the stenographer, she'll need to take a break. If
23 I could recommend, we'll need to take a break
24 after this speaker. Thank you, sir.

1 Mr. Forest?

2 PHILIP FOREST: Yes. Philip Forest from
3 West Tisbury. I speak for myself.

4 I believe wind energy is part of the
5 solution to some of our local, national and global
6 problems. We need to make changes, and we need to
7 make the best choices from the options we have
8 available.

9 I support Cape Wind's proposed Nantucket
10 Sound wind farm because electricity produced from
11 wind energy is far better than electricity
12 produced from oil, natural gas, coal or nuclear
13 energy.

14 Unlike fossil fuel burning power plants,
15 these wind turbines won't poison our environment,
16 the air we breathe, the water we drink and the
17 food we eat. They won't contribute to global
18 warming and destroy our ecosystem. Unlike
19 petroleum, wind is renewable. We never have to
20 worry about running out, and it's right here. We
21 don't have to mine for it, import it, transport it
22 or store it.

23 Any visual impacts will be minor
24 compared with the great benefits that the wind

1 farm will provide. I think we should set an
2 example for the rest of the nation and the world.
3 I want to see Cape Wind's project happen here in
4 Nantucket Sound, in my backyard, in my front yard,
5 and I hope you'll issue a permit.

6 Thank you.

7 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

8 (Applause.)

9 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Ladies and
10 gentlemen, we will be taking about a 15 minute
11 break. We will recess now and reconvene at
12 approximately five after eight.

13 Thank you.

14 (Whereupon, a break was taken from 8:05
15 p.m. until 8:12 p.m.)

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Ladies and
17 gentlemen, welcome back.

18 The first speaker will be Peter Borie,
19 who will be followed by Paul, I believe it's,
20 V-L-Y-A-T-T.

21 PETER BORIE: Hi. My name is Pete
22 Borie. I don't often speak publicly. I have a
23 few words I want to say. I'm a civil structural
24 engineer just involving residential construction

1 on the island.

2 I think we can't be shortsighted with
3 this project. I just came back from Philadelphia
4 over the weekend. I saw a case of another oil
5 spill like you had here in Buzzards Bay years ago,
6 and we can't be shortsighted with this sort of
7 thing.

8 I've had many generations of family in
9 the Northeast for many years, and I currently have
10 family in Nantucket and here, and I'd like very
11 much to see this and other renewable energy
12 projects become a reality in this area, and I
13 would even like to be personally involved in their
14 construction, if at all possible.

15 Overall, I think that much in the same
16 way our ancestors fought to change the course of
17 the nation in revolutionary ways, we have the
18 opportunity here to effect the gradual change away
19 from the status quo and towards oil independence
20 through positive action. I think this is our
21 duty, and upon thorough review, I think the wind
22 farm project would benefit this area and by its
23 example, the nation.

24 Thank you.

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

2 (Applause.)

3 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Paul
4 Vlyatt; is that how it would be pronounced?
5 V-L-Y-A-T-T? Edgartown.

6 (No response.)

7 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Arthur Flathers?
8 He'll be followed by Audra Parker.

9 ARTHUR FLATHERS: Art Flathers, and I
10 speak on behalf of common sense.

11 Wind farms are basically, power
12 generation quite separate from power distribution.
13 What you receive power in your house from is
14 through the distribution system. Wind, as a
15 renewable energy source, has been around for over
16 a century. They had wind chargers that powered
17 batteries prior to rural electrification.

18 Wind turbines have been in the mountain
19 regions of this country for several decades.
20 There are newer, efficient, more efficient, wind
21 farms that have been recently erected on the
22 nation's plains, and they can exist in farms as
23 many as 100 turbines, but all energy generation
24 requires a distribution system to get to the user.

1 In an intermittent wind source, like
2 wind energy, is mandatory that it have a
3 distribution system because there will be periods
4 when the wind farm just simply can't produce any
5 power at all. Wind farms produce energy when the
6 winds are between 10 and 50 miles an hour, but
7 understand that the winds, the proposed Nantucket
8 Sound wind farm, at best, produces between 1 and 2
9 percent of the grid power that we rely on.

10 This means that whatever power is
11 generated by the Nantucket wind farm is going to
12 be averaged with all other power plants, and the
13 economic impact on the user is going to be
14 absolutely minimal.

15 Wind energy is attractive in Europe, but
16 I would also point out gasoline is \$10 a gallon.
17 We should inquire more from the Corps of
18 Engineers, I believe, about what the economics of
19 land-based wind farms have been in this country.
20 You don't necessarily have to go back to the wind
21 charger, but, certainly, what experience has been
22 economically in the mountain west and on the
23 plains ought to be made part of what is the
24 background for what's going on here.

1 It's clear that wind energy is a useful
2 renewable energy source for the future. One can
3 envision large scale wind energy being used to
4 generate hydrogen fuel and be a source of power
5 for much of our transportation.

6 The question before the house is: Is
7 the Nantucket wind farm worthwhile? Since it
8 could only be of minimum value to the region, why
9 do it? Don't be fooled into thinking the wind
10 farm benefits the Cape and Islands. It does not.

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: The next speaker
14 is Audra Parker, who will be followed by John
15 Abrams.

16 AUDRA PARKER: Thank you for the
17 opportunity to speak tonight. I'm Audra Parker,
18 Assistant Director of the Alliance to Protect
19 Nantucket Sound.

20 The Alliance believes that Cape Wind's
21 proposed industrial project would irreparably
22 damage the environment and economy of the region.
23 My comments focus on why the proposed wind plant
24 poses too high of a risk and is not in the

1 public's economic interest.

2 The negative economic impacts of the
3 proposed wind plant on the local community would
4 be extensive. The Beacon Hill Institute estimates
5 that we would lose thousands of jobs, hundreds of
6 millions of dollars of tourist spending and more
7 than a billion dollars in property values.

8 At the most basic level, the proposed
9 wind plant simply does not make good economic
10 sense. The Cape Wind project depends on federal
11 and state tax subsidies without which the project
12 would not be viable. These subsidies, an
13 estimated \$68,000,000 per year, come from all of
14 us, the taxpayers.

15 Cape Wind is a for-profit venture.
16 Without our money, Cape Wind would not build this
17 project because, without our money, there would be
18 no profits for Cape Wind to pocket.

19 Windenergy would not exist, were it not
20 for government support. The subsidies are needed
21 because offshore wind energy is expensive.
22 Without subsidies, the cost of electricity from
23 offshore wind is double that of gas fired
24 electricity, ten cents versus five and a half

1 cents per kilowatt hour.

2 Contrary to what was said earlier, we do
3 have choices. There are less expensive solutions
4 to meet our clean air needs that don't destroy
5 Nantucket Sound in the process. Those should be
6 compared to the proposed Cape Wind project.

7 Energy efficiency programs and fossil
8 fuel plant upgrades are more cost-effective. An
9 upgrade of the canal electric plant to cleaner
10 fuel and higher efficiency could achieve the same
11 environmental benefits as the Cape Wind project,
12 but at a fraction of the cost.

13 These solutions are better than building
14 new plants because we don't need additional power.
15 We need lower emissions. We have 31 percent
16 excess capacity in New England today. We don't
17 need additional power.

18 Deep water sites should also be
19 considered as an alternative, as they have far
20 fewer negative impacts and would be placed further
21 offshore. A project in Scotland, which somebody
22 previously mentioned, is currently being developed
23 in water depths of 130 feet and more than 12 miles
24 offshore. Deeper water wind is advancing so

1 rapidly that a project like Cape Wind does not
2 need to be built in Nantucket Sound.

3 Finally, Cape Wind is proposing an
4 immature and risky technology. Several people
5 referred to the project in Denmark. In Denmark,
6 the largest existing offshore wind plant,
7 Horns-Rev, is being dismantled and brought to
8 shore, as we speak, for costly and lengthy
9 repairs. All eighty 2 megawatt turbines are being
10 repaired.

11 In addition, Cape Wind's proposed 3.6
12 megawatt technology is unproven. It exists only
13 in a demonstration project of seven units in
14 Ireland.

15 Given the negative economic impacts of
16 this project to the region, the fact that we have
17 no immediate need for power and the existence of
18 alternative solutions like deeper water
19 technology, Nantucket Sound should not be turned
20 into an industrial experiment for the profit of a
21 private developer.

22 Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

1 (Applause.)

2 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, John
3 Abrams.

4 JOHN ABRAMS: I'm John Abrams. I'm from
5 West Tisbury. I'm glad my job here is not to
6 refute all those remarks. That would be a job.

7 But there are some things that can
8 effectively be argued. Aesthetics is one. The
9 painting that hangs on my wall may be appalling to
10 you. It's especially hard to argue the aesthetics
11 of something we can't even see yet, like Cape
12 Wind, but we can look at the history of similar
13 installations for indications of the effect the
14 aesthetics may have.

15 When an 80 turbine wind farm was
16 proposed many years ago just 2.4 miles off the
17 beautiful sand beaches of Blaavands Huk, Denmark,
18 a region that derives 90 percent of its income
19 from tourism, there was widespread protest.

20 Another proposed wind farm close by
21 brought 1,900 complaints. The protestors lost
22 both of these battles. Both projects were built.
23 Today, as somebody mentioned, 20 percent of
24 Denmark's energy comes from the wind and one of

1 the protestors was also mentioned. His name is
2 Jon Tofdal, the Director of Business and Tourism
3 in Blaavands Huk.

4 Today, he's not only neutral, he's a big
5 supporter. He sees no detrimental effects and
6 says they're getting many new tourists who are
7 attracted because of the wind farm, and his region
8 now differentiates itself from other destination
9 resorts by promoting the notion of clean energy in
10 a beautiful place, the synergy between turbines
11 offshore and beaches on shore.

12 Similar turn-arounds have happened over
13 and over worldwide for many years. Cape Wind and
14 the negative reactions to it are nothing new under
15 the sun. It's really just the usual worldwide.

16 I want to relate a personal experience
17 similar to those I've described that happened to
18 me right here on Martha's Vineyard in 1978. I
19 lived at the Allen farm in Chilmark. We installed
20 the first generation Intertek turbine in the open
21 terrain on the hill about South Road. The machine
22 was truly in your face in a way that Cape Wind
23 will never be.

24 There were objections; there was

1 grousing; there was grumbling. This machine,
2 unfortunately, was not built to last the way
3 turbines are today. Five years later, we took it
4 down, and there were far more objections when we
5 took it down than when we put it up. People had
6 grown to love it. Fishermen used it as a
7 landmark. All were mesmerized by its beauty.

8 Many people are beginning to see wind
9 turbines, as author Bill McKibben says, not as
10 industrial eye sores, but as part of a new
11 aesthetic, the wind made visible, the slow steady
12 turning that blows us into a future less hopeless
13 than the future we're steaming toward now. It's
14 tough to argue about aesthetics, but it's tough to
15 argue with history too, and even tougher to argue
16 with the vision and the courage it will take to
17 free ourselves from oil pollution and oil wars.

18 Cape Wind is one small step in that
19 direction and the most positive development
20 proposal I've seen in my lifetime.

21 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir--

22 JOHN ABRAMS: Thank you so much for
23 letting me speak.

24 (Applause.)

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

2 Next speaker, Manuel Silva, who will be
3 followed by Joy Lapsertitis.

4 MANUEL SILVA: I generally don't speak
5 in public either, and I'm speaking for myself.

6 But Horseshoe Shoals has a lot of shell
7 fishermen out there, conchers and stuff. When we
8 got No Mans Land out here, the United States
9 Government fires it up every time once in a while,
10 we get jets.

11 This is an opportune place to put a few
12 outdated, test it out, but to put your oil out
13 here and ruin fishing for all us guys, I think,
14 that's terrible. That's all I have to say.

15 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

16 (Applause.)

17 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Joy
18 -- could you pronounce your last name?

19 JOY LAPSERITIS: I certainly will. My
20 name is Joy Lapsertitis, and I'm a marine biologist
21 living in Falmouth.

22 Wind power is not the solution to 100
23 percent of our environmental and energy problems,
24 but we all know that every little bit helps, and

1 we need to start somewhere. How many of us
2 recycle, compost? Are we saving the world? No,
3 but we're doing our part.

4 Having a wind farm supply some of our
5 energy is putting the environment ahead of some of
6 our own personal preferences, yet, contributes to
7 the common good.

8 I am shocked and appalled at the
9 opposition to this project. I think, in fact, we
10 share many issues, but the opposition reveals
11 shortsightedness and greed.

12 I would like to address the
13 environmental concerns raised by the opposition
14 groups. I am a scientist and I study the local
15 endangered birds and marine mammals. I reserved
16 my judgment on this issue until the DEIS was
17 issued, and I found that the draft statement does
18 a good and an accurate job of representing the
19 biological and ecosystem profiles pertinent to
20 this issue.

21 There will indeed be some wildlife
22 casualties associated with the wind farm. There
23 are few human activities that don't affect
24 wildlife. It is important to realize that the

1 impacts on fish and wildlife and the ecosystem are
2 modest and minimal as outlined in the draft
3 statement and in some cases, support the
4 ecosystem's continued growth.

5 I urge everyone to read the actual
6 statement rather than just the executive summary
7 and to read objectively. Many of your concerns
8 are addressed in this document. I believe you
9 will find in it evidence that shows this project
10 will not threaten the health and well-being of the
11 shoal's ecosystem.

12 The potential impacts on marine mammals
13 and birds are acceptable from my point of view.
14 My point of view is that of a marine biologist who
15 has spent many hours in the coastal elements
16 trying to rescue stranded marine mammals, to
17 disentangle whales and seals wrapped in lines and
18 monitoring endangered sea bird populations.

19 I also spend time analyzing how
20 pollutants impact wildlife health, reproduction
21 and survival. If only the public and government
22 would take an active approach in dealing with the
23 existing environmental problems and take action to
24 change course.

1 Embracing this form of renewal energy
2 not only contributes to alleviating our energy
3 problem, but also helps the environment and marine
4 wildlife. This is a project to be proud of at so
5 many levels. It will attract tourists. It will
6 set a positive precedent, nationally and globally,
7 on environmental policy and action.

8 It seems to me that the opposition to
9 this project is spearheaded by individuals worried
10 about personal property losses. This is a selfish
11 point of view and does a disservice to the
12 residents of the Cape and Islands. We must take a
13 long-term perspective. Our children will benefit
14 so much more from alternative non-fossil fuel
15 energy sources.

16 We are community of educated people with
17 a privilege of living intimately with a beautiful
18 part of the world. We've all learned lessons for
19 interacting with nature here. This is an
20 opportunity to embrace an alternative way of life,
21 much as we have in other parts of our lives.

22 This is a chance to be leaders, to put
23 the greater good of the environment ahead of
24 superficial or selfish pursuits. It's a time to

1 adjust policies, to have a long-term focus that
2 accommodates new environmentally friendly
3 technologies. Massachusetts has the opportunity
4 to lead the nation, as Congressman Delahunt
5 stated, and we have a responsibility to take bold
6 steps, especially, at a time when national
7 policies are environmentally hostile.

8 I support the Cape wind farm, and I hope
9 that those of you who are against it will
10 reconsider this issue.

11 Thank you.

12 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

13 (Applause.)

14 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
15 Robert Woodruff, who will be followed by William
16 Vanderhoop.

17 ROBERT WOODRUFF: Good evening, and
18 thank you for the opportunity of speaking. I've
19 pared down my remarks to reflect not much of what
20 has gone before, so it might be a little out of
21 context.

22 What I wanted to say is that the
23 proponent has looked at several alternative sites
24 for the wind farm. The 25 square mile

1 Massachusetts Military Reservation in Sandwich,
2 which we call Otis Air Force Base still, was the
3 only land-based alternative that was looked at.
4 It was rejected by the proponent because of
5 "slower winds" and because it is "contaminated
6 with unexploded ordnance."

7 Question. How much slower are the winds
8 at Otis, and how much slower might they be if
9 Otis, the 25 square miles, or much of it, were
10 cleared, as advocates of sand plain restoration
11 included in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are
12 advocating that it be returned to a less woody
13 state, more of an open plain, which would enhance
14 the wind speed?

15 Surely, the ordnance unexploded can be
16 removed, as it has been on No Mans Land.
17 Land-based wind power is being sited on farms in
18 the Midwest providing much needed cash crops
19 income for struggling wheat and dairy farmers.

20 Several European countries, including
21 Germany, which is the biggest producer of wind
22 power in the world, which has very little coast
23 line, have land-based, largely, land-based wind
24 programs.

1 Let us not industrialize Nantucket Sound
2 when we have a suitable site owned by the
3 government within the region that will enable the
4 construction of a land-based wind farm at
5 something like half the cost of a marine location,
6 which can be maintained easily on a daily basis,
7 with no threat of problems at sea, and put the
8 wind farm at Otis and save the sound.

9 Thank you.

10 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

11 (Applause.)

12 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
13 William Vanderhoop, who will be followed by John
14 Nevin.

15 WILLIAM VANDERHOOP: Hi. I'm Captain
16 Buddy Vanderhoop. I'm a fisherman, and I'm
17 speaking for myself.

18 I think the wind farm project is a great
19 idea, and it would be fantastic to get it off the
20 ground, but not in the Nantucket Shoals.
21 Nantucket Shoals, where they want to put it, is
22 just inside of Pollack Rip and Great Round Shoal
23 channels, and that's a major flyway for migratory
24 fish who spawn in the area, which is one of the

1 richest fishing grounds in North America, and
2 there's absolutely no reason at all to put this
3 wind farm in this area.

4 It will be a total detriment to the
5 fishing industry. It will be a major hazard to
6 navigation, especially, recreational fisherman
7 that don't have extensive navigation equipment,
8 such as radar, GPS, and there's a lot of fog in
9 that area, especially, May and June and the spring
10 when the fish are first starting to come through
11 the area, and it's going to result in someone
12 getting hurt and/or dying.

13 It's just, also, I think it's going to
14 be a major navigational hazard to air traffic
15 between the Cape and the Islands, so I would want
16 to ask the Army Corps of Engineers to think of
17 alternative places, other than Nantucket Sound, to
18 place the wind farm. I have nothing against wind
19 energy. I think it's a great alternative, but
20 it's just going to be put in the wrong place.

21 Thank you very much.

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

23 (Applause.)

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, John

1 Nevin, who will be followed by Bill Eddy.

2 JOHN NEVIN: I'm actually known as Tony
3 Nevin, and I live in Tisbury, and I'm a lifelong
4 sailor, and I'm speaking on behalf of future
5 generations, I hope.

6 Last Saturday, I went out sailing by
7 myself to Horseshoe Shoal, and it was absolutely
8 beautiful, and I couldn't help thinking what will
9 it be like when those towers go up, if the towers
10 go up? You know, it's going to be beautiful, but
11 in a different way.

12 I've seen towers, land-based towers, and
13 I've seen offshore towers in Denmark, and I can
14 just imagine how glorious it would be to sail
15 among them. I'll leave aesthetics and personal
16 delight aside though because there are other
17 issues here that have been addressed by many
18 others before me, but I'll note a couple.

19 It's been asserted that Cape Wind needs
20 a \$68,000,000 subsidy, I believe, in order to be
21 able to operate. I'd like that to be considered
22 in the context of something on the order of
23 \$120,000,000,000 per year for the fossil fuel
24 industry, something on the order of

1 \$10,000,000,000 to \$20,000,000,000 of which was
2 spent for maintaining oil security in the Persian
3 Gulf even before the first or second Iraq wars.
4 It's a very expensive proposition. We could learn
5 to wean ourselves from that.

6 Also, some opponents of the project have
7 argued that the impact on oil conservation and
8 global warming is trivial if this project goes in,
9 far more can be accomplished by everybody buying
10 hybrid cars and trucks or retrofitting their homes
11 and insulating, and that's true, but that doesn't
12 mean we shouldn't do this because all those other
13 decisions about cars and insulation are
14 individual, and their cumulative, their individual
15 impact is really tiny.

16 This, however, is a regional project
17 that we can all get behind and we can all support,
18 and on behalf of my grandchildren, my great
19 grandchildren and maybe your great grandchildren,
20 too, I urge the Corps to proceed as expeditiously
21 as possible to approve this application.

22 Thank you.

23 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

24 (Applause.)

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Bill
2 Eddy. He will be followed by Philippe Jorbi.

3 BILL EDDY: I'm Bill Eddy. I'm a parish
4 priest. I've served two parishes on this island
5 and twelve parishes from Boston all the way out to
6 Harwichport. It must be God's will that all my
7 parishes lie within Congressman Delahunt's
8 district.

9 (Laughter.)

10 BILL EDDY: Don't tell any of my
11 parishioners that I have less than three minutes
12 to speak either. I believe this project will
13 change the course of America's energy future. It
14 will be a working and visible symbol of all that
15 we stand for and our freedoms, and if we talk
16 about sacrificing a small portion of our front
17 yard, let us never forget that there are men and
18 women right now sacrificing their lives and their
19 front yards in Bagdad. Let us never forget that.

20 Let us suddenly be a people that are
21 independent. Let us understand that, as citizens,
22 not just as politicians, as citizens, we have to
23 stand up for what we know our future can mean to
24 us.

1 Let us remember that this is not an
2 industrial complex. This is a product of our
3 industry. Let us not look at this as a taking of
4 land. We're not asking for a deed. We're looking
5 for a permit. If we're talking about a modest
6 profit here, this is how I want to see an American
7 corporation make a profit. This would be a noble
8 way of making a profit.

9 And if we speak about the lack of public
10 policy, then what have we been doing for these
11 last two and a half years as citizens debating
12 this issue? We are creating the policy. That's
13 why we are citizens of this country.

14 Now, as to the important issue of the
15 economics of this project, let us never forget,
16 any of us, that while we may speak of savings
17 throughout New England of \$25,000,000 based on
18 figures drawn up some years ago, and while we may
19 talk about \$10,000,000 for the citizens of
20 Massachusetts.

21 Were the Cape Light Compact, our energy
22 aggregator that represents all 21 towns of
23 Martha's Vineyard and the Cape, with
24 representatives appointed by our selectmen, with

1 representatives from the County of Dukes County
2 and Barnstable County, were this agency that
3 supplies us our electricity to be licensed by the
4 Massachusetts Department of Telecommunication and
5 Energy to become a wholesale distributor of power,
6 Cape Wind and the Cape Light Compact could sign a
7 10 to 12 year contract, and three-quarters of our
8 power here on the Cape and Martha's Vineyard could
9 be at a fixed price.

10 It would be like having a fixed
11 mortgage. I am one of these people who believe
12 that the local generation of power should have
13 direct local benefits. It's not for Cape Wind to
14 offer. It's for our politicians to make happen
15 for us.

16 Finally, just a last little remark, an
17 image that perhaps I can offer as a priest who
18 spent not a little time at the National Cemetery.

19 I would rather see 130 turbines in our
20 treasure of Nantucket Sound than another
21 1,000 crosses, crescents and Stars of David in
22 cemeteries all across this country. It's our
23 choice; it's our future. Let's do the right
24 thing, shall we, and get on with our future.

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

2 (Applause.)

3 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
4 Philippe Jorbi. He'll be followed by Rachel
5 Schubert.

6 PHILIPPE JORBI: My name is Philippe
7 Jorbi. I'm a resident of West Tisbury. I'm
8 speaking for myself.

9 I'm balanced on support of the Cape Wind
10 proposal. I'm a believer in good models and feel
11 strongly that our communities, our region and our
12 country are in dire need of good renewable energy
13 models to lessen our dependency on fossil fuels.

14 I, however, see this proposal as not
15 just an energy issue, but, also, a health and
16 clean air issue. Less air pollution means less
17 childhood asthma. Clean water and species issue,
18 cleaning up the environment and habitats from many
19 commercial and endangered species that our
20 community depends upon.

21 A global warning issue, a need for our
22 country to take a leadership role internationally
23 in lowering greenhouse gases. A foreign policy
24 issue, a need to lessen our dependency on Middle

1 East oil and on military spending to secure these
2 interests.

3 A third world development issue because
4 every country, no matter how undeveloped, can make
5 its own energy if it has the appropriate
6 alternative technologies.

7 Much of tonight's discussions involve
8 whether this proposal will degrade the aesthetics
9 of Nantucket Sound. Although I have not seen
10 similar wind farms found in coastal European
11 countries, I do live next to a wind turbine that
12 was recently employed by a local design build
13 company and currently supplies 75 percent of their
14 office building and wood shop energy needs and
15 find the wind turbine to have no negative
16 environmental effects and, personally, find the
17 rotation of the blades to be mesmerizing and a
18 constant reminder of the good models for renewable
19 energy.

20 Thank you very much for the opportunity
21 to speak.

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

23 (Applause.)

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,

1 Rachel Schubert, followed by Alden Besse.

2 RACHEL SCHUBERT: Good evening to the
3 members of the Board and the fossil-fuel
4 dependent. My name is Rachel Schubert. I'm a
5 freshman at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High
6 School and a member of the generation that will
7 benefit from your successes and clean up after
8 your mistakes.

9 I fully support the wind farm, the
10 proposal for a wind farm in Nantucket Sound simply
11 because I, as well as everyone in the generations
12 to come, should not be left with a polluted
13 environment with no action being taken towards
14 improving it.

15 With this type of advanced technology
16 becoming available to us, the question has arrived
17 as to whether or not we should move forward and
18 try something new, an alternative energy source in
19 the middle of the water.

20 However, as with anything new, there
21 are, both, positives and negatives. One named
22 negative preventing a lot of people from
23 supporting the wind farm is the idea that
24 windmills on the horizon will not be nice to look

1 at.

2 In terms of the view, I believe that
3 beauty is truly in the eye of the beholder, and to
4 the environmentally conscious, there is nothing
5 more beautiful than the clean and renewable power
6 of wind and the amazing objects that allow us to
7 harness it.

8 I have met many uninformed young people
9 who tell me that they are against the wind farm
10 because they think it will be ugly, but it has
11 taken no more than a minute of polite persuasion
12 to convince them otherwise.

13 When your children have come to terms
14 with the environmental problems that they are
15 going to have to face in the future, it should be
16 a wake-up call to all the adults that they need to
17 begin finding solutions as well.

18 The proposal for a wind farm in
19 Nantucket Sound is a solution for some of our
20 energy needs and not taking advantage of it would
21 be a mistake. Please, don't be selfish. Leave us
22 the cleanest environment you can.

23 Thank you.

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

1 (Applause.)

2 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
3 Alden Besse, who will be followed by Chris Fried.

4 ALDEN BESSE: I'm Alden Besse. Good
5 evening. I speak for myself and my family.

6 I think that Nantucket Sound is
7 beautiful and unique. Five generations of my
8 family have enjoyed it, and I'd like to see its
9 beauty increased and its usefulness enhanced.

10 Now, I think of the people of the
11 Vineyard, Nantucket and the Cape as an
12 adventuresome lot who've gone forth from these
13 shores in ships, nearby and half and all the way
14 around the world.

15 I'm sure that when someone saw, at
16 least, one of these ships leave, they said, hum,
17 look at that, for a commercial venture, they're
18 taking up the harbor and the sound and obstructing
19 the view, and I also think that there's, at least,
20 one Dutchman, when a windmill went up, who said, I
21 can't see any more, but later, with joy, showed it
22 off to his visitors.

23 Now, I believe the Dutch are no smarter
24 than we are. I believe we can learn to like and

1 admire and appreciate new things. I also think of
2 this area as an area which stresses community. To
3 me, community means not only care for the neighbor
4 next door, the village next door, but the village
5 and town and city anywhere in the world because
6 those places are also very unique and very loved,
7 tens of thousands around the world.

8 Now, I think that we are called to a new
9 adventure today to be on the cutting edge of doing
10 something creative and beautiful about the
11 environment, a wonderful opportunity.

12 Someone has got to lead the way, and I
13 like to think of these wonderful glacial aberrans
14 here not only as a place for beautiful history and
15 quaintness, but to be on the cutting edge of
16 progress doing something which will benefit the
17 whole world.

18 I'd like to see Nantucket Sound, the
19 beauty increased, the usefulness enhanced by
20 having a wind farm. Of course, we can do nothing.
21 Continue polluting. The temperature goes up, the
22 sea rises and the islands wash away, and there's
23 no Nantucket Sound. That would be a solution, but
24 not one that any of us would like.

1 Thank you.

2 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

3 (Applause.)

4 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: The next speaker
5 is Chris Fried followed by Brendan O'Neill.

6 CHRIS FRIED: Good evening. My name is
7 Chris Fried. I'm a mechanical engineer, and I'm
8 here speaking on my behalf and on behalf of my
9 children.

10 What would you do if someone informed
11 you, or maybe your eyes informed you, that your
12 house was on fire? So, you rush to the phone, you
13 call 911, and someone answers something a lot like
14 a politician, and he starts giving a lot of lip
15 service about he's going to come and take care of
16 you, put out the fire? But he doesn't really show
17 up.

18 And then what would you do if maybe a
19 neighbor comes along and says, hey, I've got some
20 long hoses, and I can run hoses from my house, and
21 I can spray some water on the part of your house
22 that hasn't yet caught on fire and maybe keep it
23 under control until maybe the big fire department
24 does come?

1 Would you tell your neighbor, no, I
2 don't like the idea of you running your hoses
3 across my lawn or maybe I don't like you because I
4 don't really know who you are, and I don't know
5 your motives, I don't trust you?

6 So what would you do? Well, we have a
7 big house that's on fire. It's called the Planet
8 Earth. It's been on fire since humans came along,
9 and it's getting worse every day, and I'm
10 wondering, are we going to put it out in time or
11 are we going to make excuses? Are we going to
12 give energy conservation and renewable energy
13 sources lip service? Are we actually going to do
14 something?

15 When I say it's on fire, I'm referring
16 to our polluted air, you know, the carcinogenic
17 particles, the sulphur dioxide, the mercury, the
18 mercury that's contaminating our fish, you know,
19 half of the fish in our area are now, we're
20 getting advised from advisories not to eat it
21 because the mercury levels are getting so high.

22 There, I could go on, and I don't think
23 I need to because you are aware, maybe a little
24 bit in denial, of how bad the problem's coming,

1 how rapidly our earth is deteriorating and how
2 dark it's getting for our children.

3 So someone has come along, a friendly
4 helpful neighbor type, had to believe that a
5 developer could be such a person, but I think he
6 really is, and he's offered to run a hose over to
7 our house. He may not be able to put it entirely
8 out, but, at least, he can slow down the fire so
9 our big fire department in Boston and Washington
10 might be able to get their act together and come
11 along and really put out the fire.

12 I hope we have the sense to do that for
13 myself and for my children and for your children.

14 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

15 (Applause.)

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
17 Brendan O'Neill, who will be followed by Christine
18 Doyle-Burke.

19 BRENDAN O'NEILL: I'm Brendan O'Neill.
20 VCS is a local nonprofit environmental
21 organization in the working to promote land and
22 resource protection on the Vineyard.

23 For some 40 years now, we've worked to
24 promote the broadest possible definition of

1 conservation, including conservation of habitat
2 and resources and community character and energy.

3 We're very grateful to the Army Corps
4 for extending the testimony deadline for this
5 development. We intend to submit complete
6 technical comments on the Draft EIS before the end
7 of February, but for now, just two brief
8 observations.

9 Firstly, we feel strongly that, if the
10 public interest is really to be served here, we
11 need to raise, for the record, the big issue about
12 process. How can this review process be made to
13 best respond to the question of what uses should
14 be authorized in public waters?

15 If there are, in fact, to be more of
16 these offshore wind developments slated for the
17 eastern seaboard in the future, does it make sense
18 to address them in isolation or within some kind
19 of guiding regulatory principles or framework?

20 We need to try to elevate the level of
21 dialogue and the quality of the dialogue that's
22 taking place to date on this important issue.
23 We're concerned that, on the project applicant
24 side, we see a strategy which has had the effect

1 of dividing the environmental community, and
2 that's regrettable, and it seems to not serve the
3 larger good.

4 Advertising proclaiming, for example,
5 our wind farm, our future, goes to the very root
6 of the problem many people here have with this
7 project, I think. The feeling is that the, that,
8 in fact, it is not our wind farm, it's their wind
9 farm which entrepreneurs seek to site in our
10 Nantucket Sound, and we simply need to be clear on
11 that as we, as we move forward.

12 In April of last year, Soren Hermanssn,
13 who's the Director of the Samsø Island Energy
14 office, in Denmark, spoke on this island at an
15 event organized by the Vineyard Energy Project and
16 co-sponsored by our Vineyard Conservation Society,
17 and he said something interesting:

18 "With local ownership of wind power, we
19 made the citizens owners. Local ownership is the
20 essential thing in wind development. You can't
21 let others take the profits away. Why should the
22 local citizens look at them when they can't
23 benefit from them?" And then he says something
24 funny. "Our own child's piano lessons are less

1 irritating than the neighbor's child."

2 The second quick observation I'd like
3 to make is that the central importance of energy
4 conservation cannot be lost in the heat of this
5 legitimate debate. Our concern is that the whole
6 swirl of information that's being circulated about
7 the project tends to under-emphasize and
8 underreport the critical importance of energy
9 conservation and the power that the average
10 citizen has to do something about that.

11 We want this passion generated around
12 the wind farm issue to be mirrored in an equally
13 passionate commitment to energy conservation and
14 energy efficiency in our daily lives.

15 So, as it's been said, I have no doubt
16 that everyone in this room wants wind to succeed.
17 As a society, we need renewable energy sources to
18 succeed. They must succeed.

19 It's fundamental to the protection of
20 the public interest and a healthy sustainable
21 future we all hope for, but we strongly disagree
22 with the position that in this current vacuum
23 caused by the absence of a coherent energy policy,
24 the absence of a regulatory framework addressing

1 these offshore facilities and the absence of a
2 commitment to really permanently promoting energy
3 conservation, that it's somehow okay or
4 appropriate for entrepreneurs to operate
5 indiscriminantly. So we look forward to your
6 role.

7 Thank you.

8 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

9 (Applause.)

10 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Our next speaker,
11 Christine Doyle-Burke, will be followed by Brian
12 Smith.

13 CHRISTINE DOYLE-BURKE: My name's
14 Christine Doyle-Burke, of Edgartown, and I'd like
15 to share with you some of the questions I have
16 after trying to objectively read the mammoth
17 document on the Internet and I'll state up front
18 that before I began this process, I was against
19 the project at an emotional gut level. I just
20 felt it wasn't right.

21 But the first question I have, and I'll
22 write these up later, is about the criteria used
23 for the selection of alternative sites. One of
24 them says that they considered commercial land and

1 offshore water sheet areas sufficient to
2 accommodate 200 to 1,500 megawatt wind energy
3 project. Why so much when we're considering 170
4 to 454? Were viable alternatives ignored or is
5 the 170 to 454 just the beginning?

6 My second question has to do with the
7 measurement on the economics, economic
8 measurements on the benefits side of the jobs.

9 First of all, the gain has been stated
10 as being fifty with a multiplier of three and that
11 to me, seems like what I think a reasonable
12 standard's is a very high multiplier.

13 And I'm wondering, also, if you've taken
14 into account the jobs that will be lost in the
15 other power plants, which is part of the goal of
16 this and I'm wondering, also, if anybody's aware
17 of the research that's been done that says that --
18 and there's a lot of economic empirical research
19 that shows for sure that most of the jobs in a
20 regional economic development project like this,
21 the workers come from outside the region. So
22 we'll have jobs lost with new people coming in to
23 take the new jobs. This is what happens, and
24 there is empirical research on that.

1 My third question has to do with the
2 measurement of the costs that have been used and
3 there have been four specific costs that I'm
4 wondering if they're being ignored or assumed
5 away.

6 One of them is the assumption about the
7 securing a long term contract with Cape Wind. Has
8 that been included in there or if they don't do
9 it, will that become a negative for the project?

10 Also, if the government should impose
11 lease fees. Cape Wind has publicly stated that
12 they are paying such fees. Are these included in
13 the cost?

14 Also, as a condition of building the
15 wind farm, Cape Wind will post a decommissioning
16 bond to remove it, et cetera, which I'm sure
17 you're aware of. Is this interest being included
18 in the cost?

19 And last but not least, there's several
20 sections that talk about significant mitigation
21 costs that will arise. Are these mitigation costs
22 -- have there been any assumptions made about how
23 to calculate the mitigation costs if they're
24 included, and will the profitability of the

1 project be affected by them?

2 Also, much of the analysis assumes that
3 the price of electricity will drop. What is being
4 assumed about the impact of the lowered price on
5 the quantity of electricity demanded? I'm sure
6 you're aware of the basic law of economics that,
7 as the price goes down, the quantity demand goes
8 up and I'm just wondering what the economic
9 assumptions are about the elasticity of demand.

10 Price goes down, people will use more
11 energy. That is just a fact. Has that been
12 incorporated in the proposal?

13 The toughest one for me to talk about is
14 the measurement of the visual impacts, and I don't
15 know that I can talk about it because when I saw
16 the pictures in there today, I was brought nearly
17 to tears when I looked at it from Cape Poge, from
18 Edgartown Light, from -- and it says that it's
19 going to impact the historic nature, the visual
20 impact.

21 I'm just brought to tears. I can't even
22 talk about this last part. Because if you look at
23 the picture of Oak Bluffs back there, it's just --
24 it's not benign. And forgive me if I'm considered

1 selfish for feeling this way, but it's not benign
2 impact on me. It affects me deep in my soul to
3 see those pictures, and it affects me deep in my
4 soul to hold my thumb up, I brought toothpicks
5 with me. That may sound trivial, but if you hold
6 your thumb up at the horizon, it's phenomenal the
7 impact that has and I'm sure they're
8 underestimating that.

9 There's one stick on South Beach that
10 upsets me and that's half of my thumb, if you're
11 familiar with that on South Beach -- I'm shaking,
12 and I just don't want the impact on me emotionally
13 to be considered benign.

14 The only thing that has made me feel as
15 sick as I felt today when I saw those pictures was
16 chemotherapy and that's anything but benign and I
17 really resent people thinking that I would
18 jeopardize the life of my 20 year old son when
19 this has absolutely nothing to do with that.

20 Thank you very much.

21 (Applause.)

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

23 (Applause.)

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,

1 Brian--

2 (Applause.)

3 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
4 Brian Smith, who will be followed by Barbara Day.
5 Brian Smith?

6 (No response.)

7 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
8 Barbara Day, who will be followed by Thomas
9 Turner.

10 BARBARA DAY: I'm Barbara Day, and I'm
11 speaking on behalf of myself.

12 When the automobile first was developed,
13 there were an awful lot of people who were
14 frightened of it, who thought it was ugly. I
15 believe it was San Francisco that actually banned
16 them for a while and that also said that you had
17 to get out of your car if you came within a mile
18 of a horse and honk your horn so that the horse
19 would not be frightened when you approached him.

20 But now we all have licenses and we all
21 drive and it seems to me that we have a lot of
22 fears to face all the time and we have to make a
23 choice about which fears we're going to let rule
24 us at this particular point with the wind farm.

1 Is it the fear that birds will be
2 killed; is it the fear that the horizon will be
3 somewhat altered; or is it the fear that more and
4 more young people will have asthma, there will be
5 more lung cancer, that pollution falls into our
6 drinking water?

7 We have to make a choice, and I would
8 hope that you will pass the wind farm as a very
9 fine opportunity for us to move forward.

10 Thank you.

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

12 Next speaker, Thomas Turner, who will be
13 followed by Isaac Russell.

14 THOMAS TURNER: I'm Tom Turner. I'm a
15 commercial fisherman here on Martha's Vineyard.
16 I've fished in the 10 mile radius of the proposed
17 site for seven months a year for the last 14
18 years.

19 There's a dozen boats that fish from
20 Martha's Vineyard in this area, another dozen from
21 the Cape, several from Nantucket. We'd all be
22 impacted by the physical presence of the wind farm
23 and each tower would conservatively remove ten
24 locations of setting gear each year for me and

1 cumulatively, for the fleet, this would represent
2 a large amount of fishing effort that would have
3 to go somewhere else.

4 Gear loss is part of my business, and
5 the visual distraction of these windmills will
6 directly affect the amount of gear loss to ship
7 strikes.

8 Electronic navigation aids, including
9 LORAN signals and auto pilots, would be affected
10 by these towers, I believe, and contribute to
11 marine problems, and standing at the edge of the
12 ocean in moving water makes me wonder whether a
13 reef type habitat would be created by these towers
14 or it would lead to marine erosion.

15 I believe everybody in this room wants
16 to move forward to tomorrow's energy and that wind
17 is a great way to achieve this, but if another
18 site could be found that would have less impact on
19 me, personally, I think it would be great.

20 Thank you.

21 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

22 (Applause.)

23 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
24 Isaac Russell, who will be followed by William

1 Alwardt.

2 ISAAC RUSSELL: I'm Isaac Russell from
3 West Tisbury. I'm thinking of the Corps of
4 Engineers and the people in this room as trustees
5 with the responsibility toward Ms. Lindsey and the
6 other high school person who spoke and our own
7 grandchildren about renewable energy.

8 And in a strange way, I feel you're a
9 trustee for my parents, that generation who has
10 died, who would have given their eye teeth to have
11 a chance like this to do something for the planet
12 or for this part of the United States, if the
13 technology had been there. They didn't have it,
14 and -- but I think you are representing them in a
15 funny way, too.

16 Secondly, Roger Wey and Bob Woodruff,
17 both, spoke of land-based wind farms and wind
18 generation systems, and I think Otis field would
19 be great, if it can be made available, and someone
20 spoke about No Mans Land. I have no idea whether
21 No Mans Land is big enough for a wind farm, and I
22 know it sounds flippant or sarcastic, but if it
23 were there, that would be land-based. It would be
24 easy to serve the Vineyard, less easy to serve the

1 Cape, so that would be another suggestion,
2 although Chilmark wouldn't like it.

3 Thank you.

4 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

5 Next speaker, William Alwardt, followed
6 by Kerry Scott.

7 WILLIAM ALWARDT: I'm William Alwardt, a
8 commercial fisherman, third generation for
9 Martha's Vineyard.

10 I just think that an alternative site
11 would be better for this. I'd rather not see it
12 on water. To me, I think we're going to lose down
13 the road. if this, if this project goes through,
14 and it's hooked to grid, I believe that Homeland
15 Security could get involved down the road and put
16 more stipulations on us fishing that area.

17 I would like to see some kind of
18 guarantee that we would be able to fish in that
19 area if it does go through. You know? To me, an
20 alternative site would be Otis. I mean,
21 land-based, to me, is a lot easier to maintain.
22 You know? I mean, you got to lubricate these
23 things. I haven't seen anything mechanical that
24 you don't need to lubricate and that don't leak

1 eventually, and I would like to see somebody, I'd
2 like to know who's going to oversee this project
3 down the road to make sure there is no impact on
4 the water, on the ecosystem, you know, on the
5 fisheries, on the bottom.

6 You're talking about a 40,000 gallon
7 reservoir of oil sitting over the water. If
8 something should happen and all that spilled into
9 Nantucket Sound, it's going to put us out of
10 business for I don't know how long, until it's
11 cleaned up. You know? And I'd like to know who's
12 going to pay us for our loss of income. You know?
13 Is Cape Wind going to do it?

14 To me, I think, I'd like to know who,
15 down the road, when and if this thing fails, are
16 we going to have to pick up the bill, as the
17 American public, pick up the bill to clean it up
18 or tear it down? You know? There's no
19 forethought of that. You know?

20 And as far as shoaling, I fished that
21 area for 30 years, and I've seen islands form, and
22 two months later, they're gone. You know? I
23 mean, I don't think there's been enough study done
24 on the impact of this area or bird life, marine

1 life. I think it would take two, three years of
2 having windmills in that area, a small amount, to
3 see what the impact would be.

4 And as far as navigation, it's a
5 navigational hazard. There's no doubt in my mind
6 it's an accident waiting to happen because you're
7 talking about looking on a radar screen and seeing
8 150 targets, and then add another 150 boats on top
9 of that. You know? I mean, to me, that's a
10 hazard to navigation.

11 And if you push everybody out of that
12 area into other navigable channels, you're just
13 congesting everything, and it's going to be a
14 nightmare. I mean, I have people stop and ask me
15 where they are all the time. They don't have a
16 clue. You know? You put people in the middle of
17 that field in heavy fog, you're going to have a
18 lot of accidents.

19 Thank you.

20 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

21 (Applause.)

22 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
23 Kerry Scott, who's followed by Jim Powell.

24 KERRY SCOTT: Good evening. My name is

1 Kerry Scott. I serve the town of Oak Bluffs as a
2 selectman. I was elected in April, but I'd like
3 to make it clear that I'm here tonight to speak
4 for myself. Our Board will, at some point, I'm
5 sure, take a position, but we haven't done that
6 yet, so -- but I would like to speak a little bit
7 about public policy. It's certainly been on my
8 mind since April and my election.

9 We often talk, at the Oak Bluffs
10 Selectmen's meetings about land use. Those are
11 the hottest issues, I think, that come before us,
12 and I think always about the impacts of what we do
13 as selectmen, the decisions that we make, the
14 impacts on people, where they live, how they, how
15 their quality of life is affected by the land use
16 decisions that we make, and I guess I wish, after
17 listening this evening, that this wasn't about
18 land use. If it wasn't about where it was, how
19 many of us could really dispute the value or the
20 merit of having a wind farm?

21 But it really has come down to where it
22 is, not what it is. You know, so often it's not
23 what we do as how we do it, and I think now it's
24 where we're doing it, and, you know, I certainly

1 came tonight feeling that I needed to learn, and I
2 needed to listen carefully because that is my job
3 now, as a selectman, not to just think about what
4 I like, but to think about what's important to the
5 people that I service, as an elected official, so
6 I don't envy you.

7 I don't envy you for one minute. This
8 will be a tough decision, but I think that if
9 there were a way to take the "where" out of this
10 issue, it would be a lot easier for me, as a, you
11 know, public official now, to evaluate it, and
12 perhaps the most important thing that you will do
13 is look at alternative sites and maybe diminish
14 the importance of "where."

15 Certainly, we've heard about No Mans
16 Land. We've heard about the Cape Cod reservation,
17 which I have to say, there's a certain irony in
18 using that toxic waste dump as a sustainable
19 renewable source of energy. I would like that a
20 lot.

21 To just highlight what Congressman
22 Delahunt said, in the absence of a coherent
23 national ocean policy, we do, of course, a
24 decision makers, worry about what the precedents

1 will be. I also worry about the return to the
2 people of Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and the
3 Cape.

4 And then the last thing that I would
5 like to say is that I'm concerned about the 40,000
6 gallon oil depository, and I'm wondering if that
7 defines this as an oil dependent use, and then
8 "where" becomes even more important in my
9 estimation.

10 So, thank you for your considerations,
11 and good luck with your decision.

12 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

13 (Applause.)

14 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker, Jim
15 Powell, followed by Emmett Carroll.

16 JIM POWELL: I'm Jim Powell. Thank you.
17 I'm a twelfth generation native of Martha's
18 Vineyard and a teacher here at MVIHS. I
19 appreciate this opportunity to speak to the
20 record.

21 The Army Corps of Engineers does an
22 outstanding job in the quality of their work.
23 Please, consider my comments.

24 I've seen hundreds of windmill towers in

1 the United States and in Europe, and I support
2 wind power. It's ironic that many of us here
3 tonight have been forced to decide between
4 allowing the wind farm project to go forward in
5 its proposed location to produce clean alternative
6 energy while forever altering the pristine nature
7 of our Nantucket Sound.

8 I'm opposed to the location of the Cape
9 wind farm project. Here are some of my reasons.
10 The legal loophole which created the opportunity
11 for Cape Wind to capitalize on the federal
12 subsidies needs to be rectified. The cost of the
13 \$68,000,000 in federal tax subsidies needs to be
14 added to the lost revenue from how navigation and
15 tourism would be negatively impacted.

16 This wind farm proposal is in the bull's
17 eye of our sound. Don't forget the millions of
18 dollars in federal subsidies that could be pulled
19 out of our pockets if we mistakenly place the
20 windmills in Nantucket Sound.

21 Congressman Hunter, Chairman of the 61
22 member House Armed Services Committee, understands
23 the importance of precedent, jurisprudence and the
24 National Rivers and Harbor Act. Surely,

1 legislation can be adapted to fit the requirements
2 of NEPA with common sense and suggest a nearby
3 site alternative outside of Nantucket Sound.

4 Congressman Delahunt's suggestion of
5 wind zones should be considered. The
6 well-established legal precedent of federal
7 leasing of public land for mineral exploration and
8 energy production should be obeyed.

9 This process de facto, or federal land
10 leasing of Nantucket Sound, should be a win/win
11 rather than carry so many unfortunate
12 consequences. Placing the windmill towers outside
13 of Nantucket Sound should be taken into
14 consideration for economics, safety, conservation,
15 recreation, tourism, which is our life blood,
16 welfare of the people of Nantucket Sound.

17 Please, reconsider locating the project
18 at the Massachusetts Military Reservation or
19 another site. I am sure that the Army Corps of
20 Engineers will recommend that the permit by Cape
21 Wind be modified to exclude construction of the
22 wind towers from Nantucket Sound.

23 Thank you.

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

1 (Applause.)

2 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
3 Emmett Carroll, followed by Sam Warkiner. Emmett
4 Carroll?

5 (No response.)

6 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Sam Warkiner?

7 (No response.)

8 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Meghan
9 Ottens-Sargent?

10 (No response.)

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Robin Bray?
12 She'll be followed by Elizabeth Cambelli --
13 Campbell. I'm sorry.

14 ROBIN BRAY: Good evening. My name is
15 Robin Bray, and I'm a resident of Edgartown, and
16 I'm here representing myself.

17 I'd like to thank the Army Corps of
18 Engineers for this opportunity to comment on the
19 wind farm project. Having worked in a state
20 coastal permitting program for a number of years,
21 and having worked with the Corps, I certainly
22 appreciate the difficult decision that's before
23 you.

24 I support the development of alternate

1 energy sources, but I oppose the approval of this
2 project as currently proposed and sited because of
3 the lack of sufficient data on impacts to birds,
4 specifically and more generally, because of the
5 lack of federal planning and guidance on the
6 development of alternative energy sources.

7 The organization Safe Wind reports that
8 there is little to no data available to predict
9 the numbers of birds that will be killed from
10 actual collisions with near-shore turbines. While
11 such collisions are inevitable, there is little
12 data to confirm the applicant's claim of a loss of
13 one bird per day.

14 Even if verified by field study, is one
15 bird per day the standard, and is this standard
16 acceptable? And of course, this is only one
17 project. If you multiply one bird per day by the
18 number of sites planned for development within
19 Cape Cod Islands' waters, let alone those
20 potential sites in near-shore waters along the
21 East and West Coasts, one bird become perhaps
22 hundreds or thousands of birds lost per day
23 nationwide.

24 Before this type of technology is

1 permitted on a larger scale, I believe there needs
2 to be clear federal planning initiative for the
3 development of alternative energy sources, one
4 that assesses all the alternatives and weighs
5 benefits against environmental impacts.

6 Safe Wind also reports that, in addition
7 to expected collisions, turbine lighting may
8 impact birds, especially, migratory songbirds.
9 They report that lighting, in combination with
10 fog, may disorient night migrating songbirds so
11 that they've flown off course. Birds pushed off
12 course use up essential calories in trying to
13 reorient themselves and, when exhausted, may drown
14 before finding land again.

15 Turbine weight also may disorient birds,
16 again, causing them to use unlimited energy
17 storage to recover and reorient themselves.

18 The Vineyard and Nantucket are important
19 resting areas for migratory songbirds, and in
20 stormy weather are often the first land masses
21 songbirds attempt to reach after finding
22 themselves blown off course over water during
23 migration periods.

24 To intentionally place a man-made

1 obstacle to flight of this magnitude in this
2 important migratory region without first study of
3 avian impacts would be grossly negligent.

4 At a time when habitat destruction and
5 fragmentation by human activities has been
6 identified by the scientific community as the
7 primary cause of the rapid decline in majority of
8 bird species, the Corps would be ill-advised to
9 approve construction of a wind farm of this
10 magnitude without first collecting data on the
11 numbers, species and activities of birds that use
12 the Horseshoe Shoals region.

13 The Mass. Division of Fisheries and
14 Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have
15 both commented to the Corps on the need for a
16 thorough collection and review of data on bird
17 biology in this area. They have apparently
18 suggested that three years of avian field study be
19 conducted using a variety of sensing technologies,
20 as well as visual observations by boat, barge and
21 aircraft.

22 My position with Connecticut's,
23 Connecticut DEP's coastal permitting program, I
24 was responsible for the review of many projects

1 impacting coastal waters, and I was directly
2 responsible for review of the cross-sound cable
3 permit application for installation of an
4 under-seabed utility cable from New Haven to Long
5 Island and in that process, saw firsthand the need
6 to verify through independent preapproval and
7 post-construction study the applicant's assertions
8 as to the magnitude of environmental impacts to be
9 expected from the project.

10 I believe the bottom line is that we
11 simply don't have enough information on bird
12 biology in this area to allow federal and state
13 agencies to make a well-informed permit decision,
14 and I would urge the Army Corps of Engineers to
15 delay action on this application until such time
16 as a thorough evaluation can be conducted.

17 And I would recommend that the Corps
18 utilize the expertise of official wildlife staff
19 and other biologists in the field to gather that
20 information necessary to make an informed
21 decision, and I would also recommend that
22 alternate sites further offshore be considered
23 more seriously where bird impacts wouldn't be
24 expected to be as high.

1 And if I can just finish up, I just
2 wanted to share a personal experience that I had,
3 one that I think probably many of you in the room
4 have experienced.

5 I remember coming to the Vineyard for
6 the first time in 1990 and standing out at Wasque
7 during the derby in late September. Since I don't
8 fish much, I did some birding while I was out
9 there, and I remember looking out at the eastern
10 horizon towards Nantucket and saw a fine black
11 line that ran in both directions without
12 interruption, as far as I could see.

13 I picked up the binoculars and, with a
14 clearer picture, realized that this line was
15 actually hundreds, perhaps hundred of thousands,
16 of ducks moving in a great wave. I'd never seen
17 that many birds migrating together at one time,
18 and I was truly amazed and humbled.

19 What was more amazing was the fact that
20 this line of birds continued moving by for the
21 three hours that we were there and I'm sure,
22 continued on long after we left. It became very
23 clear to me that these island waters are a unique
24 and precious resource that belongs to them. It is

1 their home, their weigh station and their life
2 line, and we have a responsibility to carefully
3 weigh those decisions that would alter it.

4 Thank you again.

5 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

6 (Applause.)

7 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
8 Elizabeth Campbell?

9 (No response.)

10 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Ann Margetson, who
11 will be followed by James Curtis.

12 ANN MARGETSON: I'm speaking just as a
13 citizen, and I've lived on the Vineyard year-round
14 since 1980 and before that, summers starting in
15 1955.

16 I have to say I resent the concept that
17 those of us who might oppose the siting of this
18 project are selfish. I have no water views from
19 my house and it isn't the aesthetics that disturbs
20 me. It's the concept that this is the only place
21 that it can be and I would support the Danish idea
22 that if something belongs to the citizens, it's
23 sometimes more palatable, but it's also because
24 then the citizens get to make some of the

1 decisions about what happens.

2 I think that our oceans are in peril,
3 terrible peril, from a variety of things,
4 including dumped nuclear waste all over the place,
5 and to further endanger them just to make wind
6 power, which is a wonderful idea and a beautiful
7 idea, to make it liable to endanger even the
8 tiniest piece of ocean or water or coast, one fish
9 or one bird, I think it's just not worth it.

10 Please, vote to, please, think to site
11 this someplace else and not in the water.

12 Thank you.

13 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, ma'am.

14 (Applause.)

15 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
16 James Curtis, who will be followed by Jeffrey
17 Parker.

18 JAMES CURTIS: Hello. Thank you. I
19 want to thank the Army Corps of Engineers for
20 allowing us to speak on this important topic.

21 I think this evening I was going to say
22 something earlier, and in being reflective about
23 some of the thoughts, I realized it comes up to
24 something about appropriateness. We all know you

1 don't yell "fire" in a crowded theater.

2 And we all know, you know, in early
3 1999, everyone was going crazy for Internet stocks
4 and a year and a half later, we realized that
5 maybe the frenzy might have -- a little bit of
6 contemplation and thoughtfulness would have been
7 in order.

8 I think we're all for the environment.
9 We probably wouldn't be on this island if we
10 didn't really believe in the environment.
11 However, I think that we don't know what the
12 technology is going to be bringing as far as wind
13 power goes.

14 There are some wind power plants in
15 Europe, I know, and I think that, I've heard that
16 there is a new technology coming up where they
17 have turbines that holds onto on the water similar
18 to a jet engine where you can stack many on top of
19 each other like Necco wafers creating incredible
20 amounts of energy at a far lower height.

21 I'm very concerned about making this
22 really beautiful pristine body of land and water,
23 Nantucket Sound, the guinea pig for North America.
24 I don't think that we should act quickly in making

1 any kind of decision on this land. I think it's
2 important to check out all the new technologies.

3 Our country's fantastic about developing
4 technologies. We developed, basically, every
5 modern technology known to man starting in the
6 United States so we shouldn't be following other
7 countries as far as what new technology is. We
8 have a beautiful body of water and we're
9 responsible to take care of the land and once it's
10 gone, there's no turning back from it.

11 Also, I want to make a point of the
12 visual pollution that's going to be coming from
13 these proposed wind towers if they do, in fact,
14 come to be.

15 It's essentially, like building 130
16 40-story buildings off of the coast of Cape Cod,
17 Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, essentially, like
18 building a city the size of Cincinnati out in the
19 middle of Nantucket Sound.

20 During the daytime, perhaps it might
21 just be a thumb size or a toothpick, but at night,
22 one little flashlight can create a tremendous
23 amount of light. Beacons on top of these things
24 flashing throughout the entire night is going to

1 turn Nantucket Sound into something like Logan
2 Airport.

3 And I think that is, we should not act
4 rashly, we should not move quickly and think very
5 carefully before we give something to our children
6 that they're going to be really upset about 30, 40
7 years from now, especially when new technology
8 might mean it could be smaller, more efficient and
9 far less intrusive.

10 Thank you.

11 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
14 Jeffrey Parker?

15 (No response.)

16 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
17 Tristin Israel, who will be followed by Susan
18 Whiting.

19 TRISTIN ISRAEL: Thank you, and thank
20 you for getting my name right. I want to thank
21 the Army Corps of Engineers for taking their time
22 to listen to the public. This has been a very
23 tough issue for me. I'm speaking as an
24 individual. I'm also a selectman in the Town of

1 Tisbury and have followed this issue closely.

2 I too, am dismayed at some of the
3 portrayals of people who may have some
4 reservations about this project as not thinking of
5 the future in a positive way, of not thinking of
6 our children, et cetera, et cetera.

7 I happen to think it's a great idea in
8 the wrong location, as you've heard from other
9 people. I heard a marine biologist speak earlier
10 about, she felt that there wouldn't be that great
11 an impact on mammals and some species of marine
12 life.

13 These pads that these wind turbines are
14 going to be put on are quite extensive. There
15 are, I believe, 130 of them. They occupy a great
16 space. It is certainly going to change the
17 ecology, you know, of the shoals, and I've also
18 heard, well, it can actually promote marine life,
19 but it's a different marine life than what is
20 there now and whether that's a positive or a
21 negative thing, I don't think we know.

22 When we think of our kids in the future,
23 if we're going to use those emotional terms, I
24 just want to add that, you know, that for our kids

1 to be able to go fish and enjoy wildlife and have
2 respect for life is also an important thing for
3 the future.

4 I am in favor of using wind power,
5 whether on land or deeper in the ocean. There are
6 other sites that this applicant looked at, but
7 felt were not profitable. Perhaps if this was
8 more of a public venture with more of a direct
9 benefit to the public, the public would be willing
10 to subsidize something further out where there'd
11 be less ecological, you know, ramifications, so
12 these are issues that I hope you will consider.

13 Lastly, you know, maybe the scope of
14 this thing could be smaller, and I don't know that
15 quantifying, whether it's 20 or 40 or 50, but
16 maybe we could start out a little bit smaller and
17 learn and then grow.

18 By the way, the Town of Tisbury is
19 pursuing putting a wind power somewhere in town to
20 try and offset some of the energy costs in the
21 town and on this island, and again, I'm in favor
22 of wind power, but I think we need to look at the
23 scope and the location of this proposal.

24 Thanks.

1 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

2 (Applause.)

3 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Next speaker,
4 Susan Whiting. Susan Whiting?

5 (No response.)

6 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Jeffrey Agnoli?
7 How'd I do?

8 JEFFREY AGNOLI: Not too good.

9 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: I didn't think so.

10 JEFFREY AGNOLI: It's a hard one though.
11 My name is Jeff Agnoli. I'm a resident of
12 Edgartown, and I am here to represent myself;
13 however, I'm an educator here at the high school,
14 and the well-being of young people here and
15 elsewhere is my daily concern.

16 I believe there are powerful arguments
17 against this industrial project. I don't think I
18 need to reiterate them, but it has to do with its
19 size, its location, its riskiness, its impact, and
20 the most important one is that it appropriates a
21 public resource for private gain.

22 Those who stand to profit are using the
23 cloak of mobility offered by renewable clean
24 energy, but in effect, they are arguing they will

1 save the environment by adding to its debasement.

2 If people were truly concerned about
3 wars for oil, they should join serious efforts at
4 conservation and perhaps, to be realistic about
5 it, they should perhaps vote a little bit more
6 progressively.

7 A national effort to conserve and to
8 adopt new energy, renewable energy projects is
9 what is needed, not a novelty project. Unlike
10 some here, I salute the politicians who have
11 accurately articulated the views, the majority of
12 the views, of their constituents.

13 Wind farm proponents are quite quick to
14 demean the motives of their opponents in this.
15 Not all of us, in fact, the vast majority of us do
16 not have homes with water views. We who care
17 about the environment are not elitists. The true
18 elitists are corporations who use money and access
19 to policy makers to privatize public resources for
20 individual gain.

21 The argument that this one wind factor
22 will clear up our air and water is naive. The
23 project will only be a drop in the ocean of the
24 fundamental change in energy policies we really

1 need, but it will drop the quality of our oceans
2 forever.

3 The flowery language used to elevate
4 this project actually trivializes the true need we
5 have for real energy policies. Additionally, as
6 much as I appreciate your role in this issue, I
7 question the Army Corps of Engineers to be the one
8 and only arbiter of this extremely important
9 project. Your domain is engineering what can be
10 done, feasible engineering, but not policy, what
11 should be done for the common good.

12 I urge you to listen to those tonight
13 who make their living on the ocean and know the
14 best. Virtually, every one of them was against
15 this proposal.

16 By the way, if this proposal were sited
17 differently and was part of a comprehensive
18 national plan for converting to clean and
19 sustainable energy that included true conservation
20 and was done by the public, for the public, I and
21 many others who've spoken against it tonight would
22 be for it.

23 Thank you.

24 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

1 (Applause.)

2 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

3 (Applause.)

4 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

5 Next speaker, William Lidgerwood,

6 L-I-D-G-E-R-W-O-O-D.

7 (No response.)

8 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: James Tilton?

9 (No response.)

10 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Lieutenant Colonel

11 David Cunha.

12 LT. COL. CUNHA: Good evening. Good
13 evening, everyone. I'm Lieutenant Colonel Dave
14 Cunha from Massachusetts National Guard. I work
15 at the Environmental Readiness Center on the
16 Massachusetts Military Reservation.

17 I'm here tonight representing the
18 Massachusetts National Guard, and although we're
19 not going to take a position on the proposed site
20 off Nantucket Sound on Horseshoe Shoal, I do want
21 to talk about our constitutional responsibility to
22 provide the best training for our soldiers and
23 airmen and that's what we do at the Massachusetts
24 Military Reservation.

1 Our objections are clearly stated in the
2 Draft EIS, in Appendix 3L, and in the Draft
3 Environmental Impact Statement, and they're also
4 validated by the preliminary assessment. It's not
5 only just the lack of wind or the UXOs. It's
6 many, many other things, approximately 17 pages of
7 information that I'd ask you to look at.

8 The Massachusetts National Guard is
9 responsible for providing training for soldiers
10 and airmen of national guards within the area of
11 New England. We're actively involved today in
12 many of the activations going around worldwide and
13 the Massachusetts Military Reservation is the only
14 place in New England of comparable size that we
15 can do this training.

16 The proposal to put 132 towers on
17 Massachusetts Military Reservation will shut down
18 training. The Military Reservation also houses
19 not only the Massachusetts Army and Air National
20 Guard, but also the United States Coast Guard.
21 All of us would be affected by this.

22 The other important thing that you need
23 to know about the Massachusetts Military
24 Reservation is that it sits on top of the upper

1 Cape's water supply reserve. Because of that, in
2 2002, the Massachusetts Military Reservation, in
3 partnership with the State of Massachusetts, and
4 the Department of Army and Air Force, incidents in
5 MOU and then had Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002
6 public law provided that would enable us to
7 continue training, yet provide protection for that
8 Upper Cape water supply which is so very important
9 to the Upper Cape. It is their only source of
10 drinking water.

11 The balance is accomplished through the
12 Massachusetts National Guard's programs, but also
13 through independent oversight by the state to make
14 sure that we do what we say we're going to do.

15 The amount of disruption to build a site
16 such as this would totally disrupt the surface
17 ecology of the reserve, globally threaten habitat
18 that's there, over 36 stated listed species of
19 wildlife and plant life.

20 The wind farm on the Massachusetts
21 Military Reservation would not allow the
22 Massachusetts National Guard to properly train its
23 soldiers, conduct its missions to serve and
24 protect or fulfill its commitment to protect the

1 environment of the reservation.

2 This is why we strongly state that the
3 Massachusetts Military Reservation is not an
4 appropriate land-based alternative for this
5 project, but before we close, I've got a few more
6 minutes -- oh, I guess I don't.

7 But what I did want to say was that I've
8 served in the military for many years, and I
9 served for the purpose of defending the nation so
10 that people can get up and say what they want to
11 say.

12 Corps of Engineers, you've got a lot of
13 accolades tonight for doing what you do. We do
14 the same thing and even more. We get out there
15 and we talk to people. But you people who are
16 sitting here in the audience, you deserve a lot of
17 credit, also. You came out tonight. You stood
18 here until ten o'clock, and that's what we serve.
19 We serve so that you'll have this right to do
20 this.

21 And I'd ask you tonight, when you go
22 home, know that what you did tonight was very
23 important. Whether you're for or against, it was
24 very important, but also remember, just before you

1 go to bed, remember some of my friends who are
2 serving overseas tonight allowing us to do that
3 and allowing maybe others to have the opportunity
4 that they don't have now to do something that
5 we're doing today, so we want to thank you.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you, sir.

9 That is the end of the cards for those
10 individuals that have signed up to speak. Is
11 there anybody in the audience that signed up to
12 speak, but I did not call their name?

13 (No response.)

14 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Is there anybody
15 in the audience who wishes to speak, although they
16 did not fill out a card to speak this evening?

17 (No response.)

18 MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Ladies and
19 gentlemen, our hearing officer, Colonel Thomas
20 Koning.

21 COL. KONING: We've heard a great many
22 thoughtful statements this evening. Careful
23 analysis will be required before a determination
24 can be made and a decision rendered.

1 I would remind you that written
2 statements can be submitted to the Corps of
3 Engineers until the 24th of February 2005, and
4 they will receive equal consideration with those
5 statements presented this evening.

6 Each question or issue raised will be
7 addressed in the final Environmental Impact
8 Statement. We, of the Corps of Engineers, extend
9 our appreciation to all that took the time to
10 involve themselves in this public review process
11 this evening, and finally, I'd like to extend my
12 appreciation to the Town of Oak Bluffs for the use
13 of this facility this evening, to the Oak Bluffs
14 Police Department for their support, and I'd like
15 to thank you for taking the time to advise your
16 thoughts, your comments and your concerns.

17 Goodnight.

18 (Applause.)

19 (Whereupon, at 9:36 p.m., December 6,
20 2004, the above public hearing was concluded.)

WRITTEN COMMENTS

1
2 Nora M. Nevin

3 I appreciate the opportunity to provide
4 these comments on the larger policy issues of
5 ocean governance and management that the Cape Wind
6 project illustrates. I want to thank you and the
7 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for holding this
8 important public hearing. I also want to thank,
9 both, the Army Corps and the Cape Cod Commission
10 for their cooperating in working with my MEPA
11 office for the coordinated review of this project.

12 I would be remiss if I did not
13 acknowledge Jim Hunt, the Director of MEPA, and
14 his staff for their considerable efforts to
15 conduct a comprehensive review of this project.
16 My comments are not directed to the MEPA review of
17 this project. EOEPA will conduct a fair and
18 thorough MEPA review of this project as we would
19 for any project.

20 As the majority of the Cape Wind energy
21 project is located in the federal waters of
22 Nantucket Sound, and as such is subject to Army
23 Corps permitting and federal NEPA review, I wish
24 to address my comments to the Army Corps of

1 Engineers and NEPA review of this project. My
2 comments address the larger policy issue of the
3 urgent need for a new type of proactive management
4 of our ocean resources.

5 Cape Wind is a precedent-setting project
6 that has highlighted current gaps in the laws and
7 ability of, both, the state and federal government
8 to proactively manage our important ocean
9 resources. State and federal ocean waters are
10 held in trust for the public, yet we have
11 historically done no planning for the ocean.
12 Governance of ocean resources has been handled on
13 a first come, first serve basis. As a result of
14 the new technologies becoming available and also
15 the reduced opportunities for land-based
16 development, Massachusetts has seen an increasing
17 number of offshore development proposals in recent
18 years. Proposals in recent years off the
19 Statement on the wind power project submitted on
20 December 6, 2004.

21 Of all the alternative sources of energy
22 available to us now, wind power is by far the most
23 earth-friendly. The initial manufacture of the
24 turbines will require raw materials (metal for

1 machinery, plastic for blades), electric power
2 from fuel-burning generators, which contribute to
3 air pollution and the global warming, and the
4 disruption of the ocean floor during installation.
5 Electricity will be needed to start the turbines
6 and to turn them off should the system become
7 overloaded.

8 After that, the mills remove no more
9 resources and leave no residue. There is no
10 smoke. There are no chemicals or heat. The only
11 sound is a slow, gentle, steady `whuh, whuh,
12 whuh.' As for ugly, these are those of us who
13 find them elegant in their simplicity. I was
14 reminded, in Denmark last winter, of a sober
15 procession of royals or bishops, crowned and
16 mitred and noble.

17
18 * * * * *

19
20 Barbara Israel

21 To The Army Corps of Engineers, as
22 homeowners in Martha's Vineyard, we are horrified
23 by Cape Wind's proposal to build a wind farm in
24 Nantucket Sound. Wind energy is an excellent

1 source, but only in the right place. The impact
2 of the largest wind farm ever in a highly
3 populated tourist area would be devastating in a
4 multitude of ways:

5 Oil spill risk, boating dangers, risks
6 to airplanes (radar and proximity), noise and
7 light and visual pollution, use of unregulated
8 waters, property value decline, marine and bird
9 risks, risky technology, excessive subsidies and
10 all at no benefit to the local area.

11 We are aware that your extensive DEIS
12 finds this industrial development a positive
13 proposal. Listen to the experts that were not
14 provided by Cape Wind.

15 We do not want Nantucket Sound destroyed
16 by commercial development!

17
18 * * * * *

19
20 Bruce D. Scott

21 No to the Wind Farm. Why should a
22 private developer be able to use government waters
23 for his own benefit? This property does not
24 belong to him. It belongs to U.S. citizens.

1 Aesthetically, it is a horror.
2 Environmentally, in my opinion, it is a disaster.

3
4 * * * * *

5
6 Constance P. Scott

7 No, absolutely no, to the Wind Farm. I
8 do not believe a developer from the private sector
9 has any right to use government waters for his own
10 financial gain. It is not his property.

11 Cape Cod depends on tourism for
12 survival. Beaches are its big attraction. Why
13 put an ugly blight on the landscape?

14 I cannot believe a local farm would not
15 be detrimental to the environment. What about the
16 birds, the fishermen, boaters, airplanes?

17
18 * * * * *

19
20 Scott Stephens

21 I must stand opposed to the wind farm.
22 It's a great idea in a lousy place. Navigation
23 hazard, wildlife hazard, scenic hazard and lost
24 fishing ground to an already struggling segment of

1 our community. Thanks.

2

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* * * * *

4

5 Edith Trapp

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9

I say a big no to a wind farm. Why should we let someone who evidently has no idea what he is doing to our ocean except how to put money into his bank.

10

11

12

13

14

15

My sister lives in Arizona and has been to a wind farm in California. She has told me how noisy they are and the vibration is so bad. Please, don't let them do this to our whales, birds and other animals. They have enough problems now without more.

16

17

18

19

Make sure we all get to vote on this, not just a few who are thinking about their own pocket. Thank you.

20

* * * * *

21

22 Jay Guest

23

24

To the Army Corps of Engineers. I am writing to oppose the Cape Wind Energy EIS

1 Project. Anyone attempting to hoodwink the
2 citizens of the U.S. with such a scheme should be
3 stopped.

4 Besides the obvious fallout from this
5 project, including threats to navigation, visual
6 nuisances, light pollution and unknown
7 environmental threats to the fisheries, the
8 reasons given to the public such as global
9 warming, oil production crisis and local air
10 quality benefits are bunk.

11 From an engineering standpoint, the
12 ability to keep 80 percent of these turbines
13 running after just seven years is doubtful. These
14 turbines are going to break down. The high cost
15 of maintenance for relatively little return in
16 energy, coupled with initial construction costs,
17 makes this an impractical idea.

18 What is the maintenance schedule for
19 these turbines and the costs associated with it?
20 Is there any sort of guarantee that, throughout
21 this project, a certain percentage of these towers
22 will be operational backed with fines and
23 penalties for failure to do so?

24 Thank you for your attention to these

1 comments and questions.

2

3

* * * * *

4

5 Mary M. Sullivan

6

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9

My family is very opposed to the wind farm on the sound. The sound should be (protected) from overwhelming commercial ventures such as this.

10

11

12

13

14

15

Once ruined, the sound cannot be restored. If anyone had known this outrage on the environment were possible, we would have put in a Cape and Island conservation district. Please, no!

16

* * * * *

17

18

Sandra Atwood

19

20

21

Could wind turbines be located in the medians of all interstate highways in the U.S.? Lots of truck traffic to produce some wind.

22

23

24

Noise, no problem; access, no problem; visual, no problem.

* * * * *

1
2
3 Town of Edgartown, Board of Selectmen

4 Margaret E. Serpa, Arthur Smadbeck and Michael J.
5 Donaroma

6 This letter is to apprise you that the
7 Board of Selectmen of the Town of Edgartown
8 officially opposes the Cape Wind Proposal to
9 construct 130 wind turbine generators on Horseshoe
10 Shoal. It is the unanimous opinion of this Board,
11 as the local government entity responsible for the
12 interests of residents and property owners of
13 Edgartown and Martha's Vineyard, as a whole, that
14 the Cape Wind proposal would be detrimental to the
15 safety and well-being of this region and the
16 environment upon which it depends for economic
17 survival.

18 Our specific concerns are as follows:

19 1. Public land giveaway. The Board
20 objects in principle to the Army Corps of
21 Engineers' forfeiture of 24 square miles of public
22 property to a private developer with no
23 authorization by Congress. Further, the total
24 lack of public involvement in the siting,

1 operation and management of such a sizable
2 development jeopardizes the interests of our
3 citizens.

4 2. Industrialization. The Board is
5 concerned that the Cape Wind project would
6 transform a vital economic resource into an
7 industrial complex, potentially damaging our
8 tourism, fishing, retirement and second home
9 industries. The visual impacts of the turbine
10 array, both by day and night, would significantly
11 degrade the experience of residents and visitors
12 to our Island, and the environmental threat posed
13 to our waters and beaches by the 40,000 gallons of
14 transformer oil to be stored on the central
15 platform is unacceptable.

16 3. Navigation. The Board takes its
17 responsibility to ensure safe passage to the
18 Islands very seriously. The major carrier serving
19 Martha's Vineyard, the Steamship Authority, is on
20 record opposing the project because of the risk it
21 poses to navigation and public safety. Hyline
22 Cruises also opposes this project for similar
23 reasons. We cannot in good conscience entertain a
24 proposal that threatens the ability for people and

1 goods to move safely to and from Martha's
2 Vineyard.

3 4. Bird kill. Nantucket Sound is known
4 as one of the richest areas of avian activity on
5 the eastern seaboard. The threat that the Cape
6 Wind project poses to birds, both, in terms of
7 collisions with turbines and disrupting their
8 habitat, appears to us to be an unreasonable
9 tradeoff for the minuscule gain offered by the
10 Cape Wind project.

11 5. Economic impacts. It is the
12 understanding of the Board that \$241,000,000 of
13 public funds would underwrite the Cape Wind
14 project. At the same time, an economic study done
15 on the project predicts serious consequences for
16 the Cape Cod economy in terms of job loss and
17 property value declines. It is the responsibility
18 of this Board to foster the economic success of
19 our town and island.

20 We do not see the Cape Wind project
21 would in any way help our economy, and it is
22 likely to hurt it.

23 In conclusion, we appeal to the Army
24 Corps with the utmost urgency to deny this project

1 as it is counter to the interests of the citizens
2 of Edgartown and Martha's Vineyard.

3 Thank you for your consideration.

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER AND TRANSCRIBER

This is to certify that the attached proceedings

in the Matter of:

RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
CAPE WIND ENERGY PROJECT
NANTUCKET SOUND, MASSACHUSETTS

Place: Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts

Date: December 6, 2004

were held as herein appears, and that this is the true, accurate and complete transcript prepared from the notes and/or recordings taken of the above entitled proceeding.

Marilyn Franklin
Reporter

December 6, 2004
Date

Susan Hayes
Transcriber

December 30, 2004
Date