

Give residents a say on wind towers

I was dismayed reading the article that appeared in the Watertown Times on Oct. 12 regarding the Cape Vincent town board meeting. I was especially concerned about a couple of items in the article.

It was reported that one of the councilmen scoffed at the idea of surveying taxpayers about wind turbines. He likened it to rules regarding painting of houses. (There are historic places that do have those rules by the way). Certainly a major industrial wind power plant with wind turbines upwards of 160 feet to 400-plus-feet tall strewn about our town would have a little more impact on our coastal community and its inhabitants than a purple house.

Is it too much to ask the voters to have a say in probably the most important decision that this area has ever had to make? I found that remark as written to be somewhat arrogant to say the least.

Also, two of the members purportedly cannot vote on the project because of conflict of interest issues, and another is deciding whether he will vote on the issue, even though it was reported that he will gain financially by having a turbine located on his property.

All of the rest of us will have to live with whatever this town board decides. The multinational companies don't care, as long as they get their project built. It also appears our town board does not feel that the citizens who will be most adversely affected should have any say in this debacle.

Do you think it might be a time for change in our government? Do we really want what appears to be a dysfunctional government deciding on this most important issue? Their accomplishment to date on this is to show the surrounding towns how not to deal with a major industrial impact on their areas.

We need fresh ideas. I implore Cape Vincent residents to vote for change, before it is too late for all of us.

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