

## **Tax credits overlooked in debate**

Embarrassing, laughable, are but two words to describe how I feel as a Cape Vincent resident as I watch the windmills controversy unfold. I continue to be amazed that the Planning Board will likely not be able to raise a voting quorum on the issue due to some of its members' conflicts of interest and town board member Marty Mason says "it is inappropriate to ask the entire town what should be done with an individual's property."

Following that logic, Mr. Mason, then by what authority do you and other Cape board members derive the right to make that same decision for the rest of us without our input? No one is openly discussing the ownership and tax credit issues. These projects are only made feasible by the massive tax credits available to the developers. What happens when these credits expire or the developer has gotten all they want from them?

Is there a correlation between this and the fact that the Maple Ridge Wind Farm has already changed ownership? Once this occurs, what you have left is profitable windmills on the lands of the few to the detriment of many.

If you really think BP Energy or St. Lawrence Wind will still be here 20 years from today, then I have some land in the Cape I'd like to sell you. Be aware, however, that the wind companies tell me I can expect to still ask top dollar and get it. Since BP Energy, St. Lawrence Wind and the town's boards are the only ones who have thus far had a seat at the table, then it is only their work we can judge. So far the only thing these parties have to show for their work is a divided community. Thanks for that. Nice job.

**GARY BROWN**  
CAPE VINCENT