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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

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Committees:
Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Municipalities and Regional Government

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Mr. Kenneth Swartz, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
59 Town Hall Square
Falmouth, MA 02540

Dear Mr. Swartz,

I want to go on record in favor of Dan Webb's wind turbine proposed for Falmouth Technology Park.

Some of you may have noticed in the newspapers that Senator O'Leary and I have been pursuing the Independent Service Operator of New England (ISO-NE) because they have ordered the Canal Power Plant to run "out of economic merit" which means it is not running cost effectively. It is only run at about 17% capacity to provide for a more reliable distribution system, not for our consumption. One of the reasons is that we don't have enough electric generation on Cape Cod to balance out our system. We don't use the electricity from the Canal Power Plant unless we are in a peak demand period.

This costs the ratepayers of NStar's Southeastern Massachusetts Area (SEMA) an extra \$0.015 per kiloWatt-hour. That totals about \$18 million a month. So, all together we are paying over \$200 million each year for the privilege of breathing pollutants from the Canal Power Plant even though we don't need the power from the Canal Power Plant.

ISO-NE is telling us that the only way they could turn the Canal Power Plant off is if we had enough generation on Cape Cod or if more transmission wires are extended to the Cape. Mr. Webb's wind turbine is a step in the right direction. Of course we need many more turbines but that fact should not prevent us from letting Mr. Webb install the first large commercial turbine on the Cape side of the Canal.

The benefits of wind generation are many. Wind generation is the fastest growing form of electric generation in the world. By the year 2030, thirty percent of the world's electricity will come from wind turbines according to Shell Oil. It is cost effective and will be more so into the future. It provides great jobs for the youth of Cape Cod where good paying high tech jobs are few and far between.



There will come a time in the not to distant future when we can't put up wind turbines fast enough to meet our needs. Every turbine that goes up now makes it easier to site new ones in the future because more people will see that they are not loud, they rarely if ever kill birds and they don't look so bad after all.

Many believe we have entered the time of "Peak Oil." Peak Oil is said to occur when the demand for oil surpasses the world's capacity to produce new oil to meet ever growing demand. Following the law of supply and demand the price of oil will continue to rise. This is self evident to anyone paying an oil heat bill or filling up a gas tank. The only way to safe guard ourselves from the hazards of starving our energy hungry life style is to use it much more efficiently than we do now and produce more of it for ourselves. Wind, sun and water energy are the only forms of indigenous energy we have here on Cape Cod.

For all of these reasons, I urge you to grant this project permission to be built. We need clean renewable power now and we need permitting boards that have the courage to say so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew C. Patrick".

Matthew C. Patrick