



7/19/2011

Kenneth L. Kimmell
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

John Auerbach
Commissioner, Department of Public Health
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Submission of materials to be entered into evidence regarding the review of public health and safety standards near wind turbines

Dear Commissioners Kimmell and Auerbach:

A group of health professionals and representatives of citizen groups last year wrote a letter to Commissioner Auerbach and subsequently attended a meeting with the Commissioner along with two State Representatives. We formally requested a review of public health and safety standards near wind turbines. We expected to be contacted concerning a study and expected to have a seat at the table when the study was convened. We recently met with Suzanne Condon, Associate Commissioner/Director and Daniel Delaney, Legislative Director at the Department of Public Health.

As health professionals, citizens, representatives of citizen groups and members of a state-wide organization *Wind Wise ~ Massachusetts*, we submit this request for your immediate action.

Commissioners of the DEP and DPH are entrusted with the responsibility to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Massachusetts. We are therefore confident that you will enter into evidence the information we have collected, for review by the expert panel.

The additional information found attached to this email includes:

- A catalogue listing of over 200 documents containing studies, journal articles, scientific papers, reports, presentations, news articles, personal stories and a listing of videotapes available on the web to watch.
- Additional supporting information which contains an overview and background information

You will also receive in the mail the above items as well as the following, of which we formally request you make copies available to all members of your expert panel:

- A CD-ROM with all of the materials submitted via email as well as the source documents that have been catalogued
- Several DVDs with videotaped footage of those living with wind turbines
- The book: *Wind Turbine Syndrome: A Report on a Natural Experiment* written by Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD.

We were assured by highly regarded administrators of DPH that the experts chosen for the panel will be totally independent and unbiased, and that no member of the expert panel has ever been paid, or is



currently being paid, by the wind energy industry, pro-wind advocacy organizations, wind developers, or any related industries.

We also respectfully request that:

- The meetings of the expert panel are public meetings and that public hearings be held so the public is able to speak to the panel and to appropriately express concerns in a timely manner but without a three minute time limit.
- At least one seat at the table of this expert panel be from the unfortunate group of over 50 physically ill citizens in the town of Falmouth, MA who are living with wind turbines that are sited too close to their homes.
- The DEP set up a citizens' advisory committee.

It is imperative that your agencies undertake an **independent and comprehensive** review of all health aspects of wind turbine siting, particularly in those communities where wind projects have resulted in significant numbers of residents becoming ill, including Falmouth. Such affected communities should be the focus of a standard epidemiological study in an attempt to learn from them and improve future wind turbine siting. Furthermore, your agencies have the obligation to immediately help the people throughout Massachusetts who are now suffering due to health impacts from operating wind turbines.

The public health and risks posed by industrial wind turbines represent unacceptable threats to the citizens of Massachusetts and require your personal and immediate intervention and action.

In an effort to promote transparency in government, we respectfully request that the DEP post online all submitted materials and comments so that any citizen may view the submissions and further that the link to such site be prominently advertised.

It is very important to note that according to our information, the experts, engineers, health care professionals, and authors who are sourced throughout the documents we are submitting, do not have financial interests in energy companies or related industries, nor have they received funding from industry for the research and published work they have completed.

By the same token, a note of extreme caution, please ensure that the information and research that you review for your final report and recommendations comes from independent experts, engineers, and health care professionals and is not produced by individuals or organizations that have a financial interest in the wind energy industry.

As health care professionals and concerned citizens of Massachusetts we expect that you will communicate with us to confirm that our submission of materials has been accepted and the panel will have full access to the materials we have submitted. We further expect to hear from you personally to let us know the extent of public participation that will take place concerning the review you are conducting.

We maintain the most responsible outcome of a truly independent study of the siting of wind turbines is to invoke the precautionary principle and a moratorium on building all wind turbines in Massachusetts until more research is completed.



Respectfully submitted,

407 people in 106 MA towns (names on file)

CC: Suzanne Condon, Associate Commissioner/Director, Department of Public Health
Daniel Delaney, Legislative Director, Department of Public Health
Paul Reville, Secretary, Executive Office of Education
Luis S. Spencer, Acting Commissioner, Department of Correction
Alice A. Tolbert Coombs, M.D., President, Massachusetts Medical Society
Massachusetts Public Health Association
Massachusetts Health Officers Association
Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses
Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Massachusetts Environmental Health Association
Massachusetts Municipal Association
Massachusetts Regional Planning Boards
Massachusetts State Senators
Massachusetts State Representatives
351 Massachusetts town Boards of Selectmen
351 Massachusetts town Boards of Health
351 Massachusetts town Planning Boards