

THE FARMER'S WIFE

First, I would like to thank each and every member of the boards along with the Town Supervisor of Cohocton. You have tried to plan ahead and look for ways to help Cohocton and its residents. Any industry has pros and cons but they need to be weighed. You have taken a lot of abuse, as has Sandy Riely, while just trying to do your jobs.

Cohocton has an opportunity to go forward as a pioneer in wind producing energy. A small group of people keep talking about the farmers, land owners and/or lease holders who should be good to their neighbors, and consider their feelings. WE ARE THE ONES THAT HAVE PAID TAXES ON THE LAND THAT YOU CALL "YOUR VIEW," that you hold so dear. We have provided the means to your pleasure including land to hunt on, driving ATV's and four-wheelers, horseback riding, etc. Why do your posted signs mean so much more than ours?? You feel it's ok to go through the fields (our crops which we need to harvest to pay taxes) without a care. It is just a field who cares! If stopped, "Oh, I didn't know," is supposed to make it ok. Try that on Mr. Hall's land! You would be sued! Litigation is how he makes his living, so he says!

You expect permission, when you do take the time to ask, to hunt, trap, hike, snowmobile, etc., but say we are mean, selfish and not accepting of you into our community if told no. *NOW YOU WANT TO TELL US WE CAN'T HARVEST ANOTHER CROP WHICH COMES AT A CRUCIAL TIME FOR MANY OF OUR LOCAL FARMERS. WE HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY FOR MANY GENERATIONS AND DO NOT MAKE DECISIONS CONCERNING OUR LAND HASTILY OR BECAUSE A FEW \$\$\$ HAVE BEEN OFFERED TO US.*

FARMING IS A WAY OF LIFE, NOT JUST A JOB THAT YOU CHANGE BECAUSE IT ISN'T MAKING YOU ENOUGH MONEY. THE LAND IS IN YOUR BLOOD AND YOU TAKE CARE OF IT.

We pay taxes every year - the 1% of us that are being threatened and harassed pay approximately 10% of the taxes collected in this township - so that you can enjoy the scenery on OUR LAND: We would like to put windmills on our land. What other business has come knocking on our door?? EVERYONE DOES BENEFIT FROM MONEY THAT IS PUT INTO TOWN, COUNTY, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS. Contributing dollars locally is good for all of us. This project isn't without hassles and traffic during construction, but that also brings \$\$ to businesses. Remember construction of Rt. 390 - can you imagine the congestion if we didn't have that road now? How about when Rt. 15 was changed at the top of Maple and North Dansville St. - telephone lines have been run, as well as electric lines, **IT IS PROGRESS HELPING TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF OUR GRANDCHILDREN - WITH WIND POWER THERE ISN'T ANY HAZARDOUS WASTE TO TRANSPORT OR STORE ANYWHERE** Let's be the first 5% of the future as the project is developed.

Mr. Hall's website, featuring the American Flag displayed upside down, with the silhouette of a man with some sort of rifle across is offensive but that is his choice. He built his home like a fortress and then planted many trees purposely blocking a view across the valley that had been visible to his neighbors for many years and then

put a copper topped roof on it. **I'M SURE HE DIDN'T ASK TO HAVE HIS BLUEPRINTS VOTED ON BY THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF COHOCTON.** Does it reflect blinding light from the sun? WHO CARES?! It is his right to do what he wants with his land because he owns it and pays taxes - **NOT HIS FAIR SHARE, AS HE SUED THE TOWN TO GET A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION** but he does pay taxes. He is **NOT** paying the taxes on the land he views from his home.

Let's all try to support the positives of this project. **COHOCTON NEEDS HELP...** do we want to generate some \$\$\$ here or wait for the government to say we need clean safe energy and take the necessary measures to put a project in. It could be your land they decide to use, without any setback restrictions.

I'M ASKING THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS COMMUNITY, COHOCTON, not Naples, Prattsburgh, or anywhere else to support the landowners, lease holders and farmers. Let's look at the positives of this project and not the distorted picture that the anti-wind group is trying to show. They even put a **DISCLAIMER** at the bottom of Mr. Strasburg's questions presented to The Planning Board stating: **ALL THE FACTS WINDWATCH PRINTED MAY NOT BE TRUE.** I guess you were supposed to check that out for yourself. Did you read the small print at the end of Mr. Strasburg's paper?

One last thing, another bus trip is being planned to go to Fenner, please take the time to go and see a Wind Project for yourself. Why Fenner and not Tug Hill? Fenner has a similar placing of wind turbines that will be constructed in Cohocton. The Tug Hill project does not have the same set backs and placement as the Cohocton Wind Project.

Cohocton Wind Watch, bully away just remember we will all be neighbors no matter what decision is made. Just like the school merger, we may disagree, but in the end we all have to live together.

Respectfully,

Pat Drum (farmer's wife)