



**Bill Morehouse**  
P.O. Box 122, Beechner Road  
Cohocton, New York 14826

[www.cohoctonfree.com](http://www.cohoctonfree.com)

June 30, 2007

Wayne Hunt, Town Councilman  
Raymond Schrader, Chair, Town Planning Board  
Paul Wolcott, Lead Landowner and Leaseholder  
Jack Zigenfus, Town Supervisor

Dear Gentlemen,

This letter is to give you a “heads up” that each one of you is mentioned by name in the article (copy enclosed) we are running in this week’s *Valley News*. I want you to know that I honor each of you as men and that my comments are confined to your public behavior, particularly as it relates to the wind power controversy unfolding in Cohocton.

Representative government only works if those in positions of public trust are actively seeking the advice and consent of the electorate they are representing, both before and after their election. The oppressions that precipitated our Revolutionary War and the system of government our country developed as its outcome reflect two contrasting ways of approaching civil authority: one comes from a king above and the other from the informed consent of the governed below.

A subtle but pervasive corruption has befallen our local government: instead of the imperial authority of a king, we find ourselves becoming similarly subject to the power of a wealthy and seemingly benevolent corporation that promises to look out for our general welfare. In a process that has been slowly developing for several years, our Town leaders are deferring to the wishes and demands of this source of power, rather than openly seeking and abiding by the voice of the local electorate. Plans for UPC’s massive wind power project were well underway and known to council members and leaseholders a year prior to their public unveiling in April 2006. However, a large majority of the Town’s electorate was not informed prior to exercising its will in the voting booth in 2005 and has been denied flexible and open-minded leadership since then: members of our current Town Board had their minds made up before they even took office.

I’ve studied the subject carefully, since some of my forebears were Tories who fled to Nova Scotia after the War of Independence, and this is the way the Tories behaved. They believed they had the mind and mandate of the King, and they trusted more in his power and reputed benevolence than they did in the opinions of their fellow townsmen. They were wrong then in the same way you gentlemen are now. Please search your souls, reconsider, and allow your fellow citizens the opportunity to express their will in this fall’s elections before you forge ahead any further.

Sincerely yours,