

# Prattsburgh update

Dear Folks,

I've been trying to compose a concise summary of what's going on with the wind projects, but it's really hard. So please bear with me and please read to the end. And please take the time to write to Tom Congdon and Jaclyn Brillling and Governor Spitzer. I can't tell you how important this is. And let Harold McConnell know how upset you are about these projects.

First of all: UPC is going all out to make it sound like they are completely ready to go ahead. They even went so far as to "accidentally" release a "private" e-mail. While anything is possible, we know for a fact that they are claiming to have leases that they don't have. Al Wordingham is OUTRAGED because on the most recently released maps they show overhead transmission lines crossing his property after he absolutely told them that he would NEVER sign with them. And he is not the only one. We also know of leaseholders who have changed their minds in the past weeks.

Please, please, please, if you know someone who has been told by UPC that they might as well sign because "everyone else is" please encourage these people to not be bullied into signing anything.

Now the update:

1. Please contact Tom Congdon with your concerns about the wind projects. He is working with the governor to push through legislation that would "expedite" the review process for wind farms at the same time that it would overrule local zoning. Of course Prattsburgh doesn't have zoning, but Italy does. And of the state does finally assume responsibility for wind projects, no way do we want "expedited" reviews. Please send him facts about noise, environmental effects, etc., at [Thomas.Congdon@chamber.state.ny.us](mailto:Thomas.Congdon@chamber.state.ny.us)

2. Cohocton Wind Watch and AFP have asked the PSC whether it has jurisdiction over these projects. If it does, then there will be public hearings before they can continue – even though the FEIS has been approved by SCIDA.

I would urge you to contact Jaclyn A. Brillling's office (she is the Secretary to the Public Service Commission) and tell her that you want the PSC to hold public hearings on the wind projects. Refer to 07-E-0301 and tell her that you support. Phone: 518-474-6530 or Email: [secretary@dps.state.ny.us](mailto:secretary@dps.state.ny.us)

3. AFP is appealing the Article 78 against SCIDA for capriciously and arbitrarily approving the Ecogen project.

4. Windfarm Prattsburgh's EIS was approved by SCIDA last week and in less than 30 days SCIDA will come out with the Findings Statement which lists what must be done before they can start. Not one SCIDA Board member raised a question or comment before voting yes.

An Article 78 proceeding will probably be filed against SCIDA for arbitrarily and capriciously approving the EIS for Windfarm Prattsburgh. It won't necessarily be AFP that files – there are a lot of upset people around now since they've seen the new wind maps.

5. Windfarm Prattsburgh has evidently offered the town less money than it expected for the PILOT agreement. They are still negotiating about this. Lete Harold McConnell know what you think.

6. People have been told that the wind companies will be able to take over private property through eminent domain. This is not true. UPC has absolutely no power of eminent domain!

7. An 18-month moratorium on wind construction is being proposed in the state legislature.

8. Two other bills are also being proposed that are similar. We don't know if they will pass in time for us, but it shows that the legislature is finally starting to notice what is going on.

9. There's a statewide group called the Rural Coalition for Environmental Justice that is starting to work together to get someone in government to listen to us when we talk about the wind projects.

It's not over until it's over.  
Ruthe