

## A Whole Lot of Nothing

Recently a farming UPC Wind leaseholder wrote an opinion piece in this paper in which he said, “except for Agriculture and a few stores in Cohocton, there is **nothing** in Cohocton.” Unfortunately, this seems to be the narrow **mindset of many local wind power supporters**, a view that leaves out a large majority of our Town’s citizens. We appreciate the heritage and contribution that agriculture makes in our community, but we beg to disagree that **there is nothing else here**.

**What (or should we say who) else is in the Town of Cohocton?**

- Well, we have builders, contractors, excavators, doctors, lawyers, real estate brokers, ministers, people in service industries delivering our mail, maintaining our roads, and keeping the peace as well all those who work outside the Town and have chosen to live here because it’s a peaceful and friendly place to be.
- Then there is the Wayland-Cohocton Central School system with all its teachers and supportive workers, a major industry.
- There are also increasing numbers of taxpaying citizens who’ve bought retirement or vacation property here for its scenic beauty.
- Have we left you out? Yes, there’s agriculture, but there are a lot of other folks out here too. A whole lot of **NOTHING** to some.

And, yes, we all support the Town with our taxes and wouldn’t mind some tax relief. However, UPC Wind’s lopsided plan would nearly triple the Town’s assessed property value but contribute less than 8% to our local tax base. Many of us would **prefer to look for other ways** our Town can grow than clutter our beautiful hills with dysfunctional industrial turbines. Can we spend a little more time looking this over?

At Cohocton Free we’re convinced that wind development in our Town is inappropriate, but we’re open to more discussion. Just don’t think we’re “**nothing**” when you try to push your plan on us. Visit us online at [www.cohoctonfree.com](http://www.cohoctonfree.com), check out our new “Updates” section, and then let us know what you think.

