

## Early Site Plan Review

Last week the public unveiling began. The Cohocton Planning Board hosted the first of several "Special Meetings" for the preliminary review of UPC Wind's **site plans for its proposed turbine towers**. UPC was there in force with its diagrams, legal counsel, public relations people, and **local supporters in green YES! shirts**. But neighbors whose property lines adjoin the 12 proposed tower sites being considered were there in large numbers also and had a lot to say.

### *What was the tenor and gist of the evening?*

- *There was some tension, but overall the atmosphere was almost buoyant as neighbors finally had a chance to express their heartfelt concerns about the negative impacts of this project.*
- *Every single adjoining neighbor who spoke was seriously troubled by the prospect of having huge turbines so close to their property.*
- *Planning Board members seemed somewhat taken aback by the consistency and intensity of the responses they heard. Over and over they were told, "These things are too close. They should be at least 1500 feet away from any non-leaseholder's property line."*
- *UPC's list of adjacent property owners was incomplete, and the placement of lot lines on their maps was seriously flawed.*

**Who decided that 500 feet** from a non-participating property owner's land would be enough of a buffer zone for 425-foot high towers? Ask the people **who passed Local Law #2** last year, a law that's rightly being challenged in court later this month. Are **our Town officials** really looking out for everyone in town, or just a select group?

**We at Cohocton Free** are not only convinced that wind development in the Finger Lakes is inappropriate, but that there just isn't room enough to site huge wind turbines properly on the residential hills of Cohocton. Visit us online at [www.cohoctonfree.com](http://www.cohoctonfree.com) and check out our new "Updates" section and Community Calendar. Then come out to some of the public meetings and **see for yourself what's happening**.

