

OCCA Position Statement

Global Winds Harvest, Inc. Wind Park Proposal

The Otsego County Conservation Association supports clean, renewable sources of energy and therefore, in principle, does not oppose the wind park project proposed by Global Winds Harvest, Inc. in the Town of Cherry Valley. However, in regard to the project, OCCA, as with all major proposals submitted to local planning boards, advocates proper and thorough observance of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR), which includes:

- consideration of the physical setting (both developed and undeveloped areas) of the site in questing;
- a detailed project description (including the total number of phases of the completed project);
- acknowledgement of state, local, and federal government or agency approvals required;
- consideration of the project's impact on land, water, air, plants, wildlife, agricultural resources, aesthetic resources, historical and archeological resources, open space and recreation, transportation, energy, noise and odor, public health, growth and character of the community;
- consideration of visual impacts

We all benefit from the meticulous pursuit of an open public discovery, which incorporates the procedural requirements of SEQR. We also suggest that, should the Town of Cherry Valley ever form a municipal power company, the possibility of buying power generated from wind turbines located within the town be explored.