

November 6, 2005

Meeting notes from small group brainstorm session

The following issues were identified by the small groups as being important to the community:

Issues

- Project finance (c_bed.org)
Examples of “Community Wind
- Revenue/cost
- Noise
- Aesthetics (visual impact)
 - turbines/towers
 - transmission
- Landuse
 - agriculture
 - hunting
 - snowmobiling, etc
 - Forests – compatible?
- Migratory birds
- Potential revenue
 - Risk to individuals, Towns
- Siting w/rt comm. Towers - + ve/- ve
- Legislative needs/obstacles
 - NYSERDA?
- Ownership issues
 - Taxes
 - State Bond?
 - County vs. Town
- Location- Where will project be?
 - NIMBY factor
- Community acceptance
- Local ownership/local control

The following ideas were suggested for the process of conducting the community focus group and fostering communication:

Process

- Regular articles in Altamont Enterprise
 - every six weeks(?)
 - include website and email
 - 1st article lists issues... these are the questions
- Mailings
- E-mail addresses
 - www.helderbergwind.org

- Minutes of Planning Boards, Towns from Madison County

There was some further discussion regarding the focus group composition and function:

Focus Group

- When? Sunday, December 4th 7 pm
- Who?
 - Towns represented (1 person from each Town Board)
 - Fraternal organizations, clubs
 - Not “yes” people - need some neutral parties
 - computer literate?
- How big?
- Specific topics may draw different people
- Letterhead
- Media coverage