



It's not the view, it's

The Vision

The Newsletter of Clean Power Now

March 2004
Issue 1, Volume 2

SPECIAL EDITION

"The Prevailing Winds in Denmark"

!! Video Premiere !!

In January, Clean Power Now sponsored a trip in which over two dozen people spent a week in Denmark to get a very close and personal look at that nation's extensive windfarms. Denmark currently gets 20% of its electricity from wind, and has the world's largest off-shore windfarm, although projects in Arklow, Ireland, and the Cape Wind proposal in Nantucket Sound plan to take that distinction away. However, no other nation can boast of having so much of its power produced by the wind, or any renewable energy source, and few are anywhere near close.

The video of that trip will have its debut at The Cape Museum of Fine Arts on Friday, February 27th, from 6:30pm - 8:00pm. This exciting event will be a fundraiser to help Clean Power Now continue its important work in offering unbiased facts about the proposed Horseshoe Shoals Wind Farm to every resident of Cape Cod.

"The Prevailing Winds in

Denmark" was produced by Liz Argo, one of the directors of Clean Power Now and proprietor of Argo Video Productions, as part of her own efforts to promote clean local energy, hoping that someday the asthma she and her family suffer from can be abated. Argo Video is well known across the Cape for videos produced for the Visiting Nurse Association, The Hallmark Channel, and the PBS mini-feature, "Full Sails". Argo Video Productions won the important Telly award both in 2002 and 2003.

In making "Prevailing Winds in Denmark", Liz noted, "It was critically important to me that the honest feelings of the residents of Blavand, Denmark be recorded for the people of Cape Cod to hear, as well as for people to see for themselves what the windmill park (as they call it in Denmark) looks like from the closest beach. I have included any negative comments and been a faithful reporter in my desire to help my neighbors become more comfortable with the realities around the wind farm for Cape Cod."

The event will include a wine bar and appetizers to precede the screening, and question and answer time with the videographer and trip members after the screening.

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For the complete details and sources of the facts mentioned in this newsletter, please see <http://www.cleanpowernow.org>

Clean Power Now

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The Heat is On

The windfarm proposed by Cape Wind will create jobs, provide a source of clean, unlimited electricity, reduce our dependence upon foreign oil, eliminate thousands of tons of pollutants and enhance tourism and property values.

All it will take to reap these benefits is a change in the view, but there are those who still cannot get past that.

Frustrated by local support for the project (from Clean Power Now and others), opponents of the Cape Wind proposal have been taking their campaign to government officials. Specifically, they have launched a very intense campaign against Senator Kennedy and the Army Corps of Engineers.

- Senator Kennedy has been targeted because of his strong local ties - his family owns a home in Hyannis Port - and his seniority in the United States Senate.
- The Army Corps of Engineers has been targeted because it is they who will ultimately issue or deny the permit for Cape Wind.

Please, take a moment to contact Senator Kennedy and the Army Corps of Engineers, and remind them why you support the Cape Wind proposal and why this windfarm is so important to Cape Cod, to Massachusetts, and to our nation.

Senator Edward Kennedy

2400 JFK Building
Boston, MA 02203
Phone: 617-565-3170
Fax: 617-565-3183
Senator@kennedy.senate.gov

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Colonel Thomas L. Koning
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Donations will be requested at the door for this fundraising event (\$20-\$100 suggested).

Please call Clean Power Now at 508-534-5506 to secure your space or e-mail your reservation to windfarm@cleanpowernow.org.

Copies of the video (VHS and DVD formats) will be available for purchase at the premiere and future screenings for the general public are currently being scheduled.

Clean Power Now is tremendously grateful for your support and we look forward to seeing you on this exciting night! ☺

Why I Support the Proposed Nantucket Sound Windfarm

by Bill Eddy

Along with 25 other people I have just returned from a fact-finding trip to Denmark. Seven miles off the west coast of Denmark, near Blavand and the port city of Esbjerg, lies the world's largest offshore wind farm, Horns Rev. Eighty turbines are able to generate 160 megawatts of electricity. In comparison, Cape Wind's proposal calls for 130 turbines able to generate 420 megawatts.

The North Sea lies before me. I turn through 180 degrees, searching out the waters from north to south. Between the shore and Horns Rev is a thin line of a sand bar that reminds me of the view from the Chatham light. Beyond the waters breaking over the bar thousands and thousands of birds dot the surface of the sea, and long flights of birds move through the air. Horns Rev is located within one of great migratory routes of Europe.

What surprises me, of course, is the actual view of Horns Rev. It seems like a flotilla of tall ships on the distant horizon, and I realize that Horns Rev occupies only a small portion of the horizon, perhaps 20 degrees. I hold my hands before me, thumb to thumb, fingers outstretched. The wind farm is framed within my fingertips. But what I see in total exceeds the full spread of my arms. Horns Rev is smaller than I had thought. Up till then I had imagined that Horns Rev would encompass most of my entire vista. Now I come to understand that the problem with postcards and digital visualizations is that they don't give you the whole picture. It occurs to me that the Cape Wind project has just overcome a major hurdle. Having spent a year and a half studying the proposal, wrestling with its implications, I come to believe that the Nantucket Sound project is absolutely right.

Later, in my talks with the mayor of Blavandshuk and some of the shopkeepers whom I meet, I am startled to hear that they really don't notice the wind farm anymore. What they do notice, as we do on the Cape in winter, is the arrival of tourists like us - the promise of things to come.

* * * * *

Horns Rev represents the end product of the efforts of thousands of people. Vestas, the manufacturer of the turbines, is headquartered in Denmark. It is the world's largest producer of wind turbines. We visit two of their plants, one assembling the transmissions and generators that, housed in nacelles, sit atop the towers, the other producing the blades. Vestas employs more than 8000 people. The factories work round the clock. And for every Vestas employee, five other Danes

are employed in the support industries. The wind industry in Denmark is the third largest contributor to the Danish economy, behind pharmaceuticals and LEGOs. Wind energy is a growth industry around the world, and Vestas is growing by 25% each year. At the present time, Germany is planning on generating more than 27,000 megawatts from the wind, Ireland more than 9000, Sweden 5000, the UK 2000. In the US, just 680. For now.

For the people of southeastern Massachusetts, there are a variety of benefits from wind energy. Consider the benefits to a port city like New Bedford should a company like Vestas or General Electric (GE) locate its wind operations there. Imagine the jobs that will be created for our young people here on the Cape, trained and hired to service and maintain the wind farm.

Clean energy from the wind displaces other sources of energy,

especially oil and coal. We know that New England suffers from the output of midwestern power plants. But on Cape Cod and on Martha's Vineyard we have the dirtiest air in Massachusetts, suggesting that our problem is a little closer to home. During the day, the plumes from the Brayton Point and Sandwich power plants are literally sucked into the air rising from the Vineyard and the Cape. Our beautiful national seashore has some of the worst air of any national park in the nation. The wind farm will help to alleviate this situation.

Finally, let us think about the economic benefits to all of us if an entity like the Cape Light Compact were to enter into a long-term contract with Cape Wind to purchase the power. In that instance, not only would we be the recipients of clean energy by virtue of the laws of physics, but we would also be the direct beneficiaries of a renewable energy source, generated at a fixed rate over the life of the project, a rate spread among the 200,000 people

living on the Cape and Martha's Vineyard, not spread among the many millions of people living all over New England. The wind farm could contribute 75% of our electrical needs and have a noticeable and positive impact on our electricity costs for the life of the project.

As a parish priest, I work and I pray for the just and proper use of God's creation. Over the last year, in my parish, we have talked about the war in Iraq and its underlying causes. There are members who have children or relatives serving in Iraq. Together, we pray for their safety and we grieve for the more than five hundred who have sacrificed their lives and for the more than ten thousand who have been wounded. For me, and perhaps for you, the sacrifice of a portion of a view of what some refer to as a national treasure simply pales in comparison to the sacrifice of the treasure of human life that we are witnessing in Iraq. We must take steps to embrace a

We need your support!

Membership in Clean Power Now is free, but your contribution will help us spread the word about renewable energy.

Yes, I would like to make a donation!

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

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SPECIAL EDITION

future different from the one that we have embarked upon thus far.

On the beaches of Blavandshuk stand the remnants of World War II, cement bunkers and military command posts unchanged by the years, just closer to disappearing, finally, into the sea. It is twilight, and the lighthouse behind us casts shafts of light through the evening mist. Our group stands together and watches the lights of a few ships at sea and the lights of Horns Rev. What I see are the faint tracings of a future that hints at the coming of a more lasting peace. Momentarily, all seems beautiful to me, so far from home, so hopeful even in the midst of a war that is long past and a war that is so very present.

To me, a wind farm in Nantucket Sound represents a compelling vision for our future. In the book of Proverbs, King Solomon reminds

us that "where there is no vision, the people perish." I appeal to the civic and elected leaders of the Cape and the islands - indeed, I appeal to all of us - to act wisely.

William Eddy, an Episcopal priest, lives in Falmouth and works in Weymouth. He is the president of Cape & Islands Self-Reliance and a founding member of Clean Power Now. He built his first wind generator in 1976 to celebrate the bicentennial of the nation. U

"We can master change not through force or fear, but only through the free work of an understanding mind, through an openness to new knowledge and fresh outlooks, which can only strengthen the most fragile and the most powerful of human gifts: the gift of reason."

- Robert F. Kennedy

NOW AVAILABLE

If you missed the trip to Denmark, don't miss the video, "The Prevailing Winds of Denmark."

Produced by Argo Video Productions, this video documents the January 2004 trip to Denmark sponsored by Clean Power Now.

The cost of the video is \$20 plus \$5 shipping & handling. To get a copy, make your check or money order payable to Clean Power Now and mail it, with your shipping address, to:

Prevailing Winds of Denmark
c/o Clean Power Now
P.O. Box 549
West Barnstable, MA 02668

Questions? Call us at 508-534-5505 or email us at windfarm@cleanpowernow.org

Contact us for shipping rates on multiple tapes. Allow 2-4 weeks for delivery