

Support wind energy projects

Coastal areas of Massachusetts will be greatly affected by global warming and sea level rise. We can minimize this impact by supporting wind energy projects, such as the Cape Wind project proposed for Nantucket Sound.

Cape Wind is the foundation for our renewable energy future – an opportunity to put Massachusetts on the map as a clean energy leader. Cape Wind will provide the Cape and Islands with 75 percent of our energy needs. By opening the door to the potential of offshore wind, it will slow global warming impacts at the regional level. Wind power is a clean, renewable energy resource that does not pollute our air with dirty fossil fuel emissions that contribute to global warming.

By reducing greenhouse gas emissions, properly sited wind farms will also help prevent bird populations from becoming extinct. A recent study published in the journal *Nature* indicates that 15-37 percent of all bird species could face extinction due to global warming by the year 2050. Scientists have also discovered song-birds with high levels of mercury, which was not previously expected. Coal-fired power plants are a primary source of mercury and a major contributor to acid rain, which has been linked to declines in song-bird populations.

Cape Wind is the gateway to our renewable energy future. The project is now in its fifth year of a rigorous environmental review, and no significant drawbacks have been found. It is the right project, for the right place, at the right time.

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