

# Cape Wind modifies turbine height

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## Also reduces number of lights

Cape Wind Associates' proposal to build a wind farm on Nantucket Sound has been updated with slightly taller but more efficient wind turbines, the company said recently.

The tower height of the new turbines would be 258 feet, an increase from the previous height of 246 feet. The maximum height of a wind turbine blade tip would be 440 feet, up from an earlier proposal of 417 feet.

The lowest point of the blade tips is unchanged at 75 feet above the water's surface.

Cape Wind said the 5 percent increase in wind turbine height would not appreciably change the visual impact of the project from the land. The changes, it said, would boost annual production of wind energy by 7 percent through the use of a new GE wind turbine model. While the maximum output of the turbines is unchanged at 3.6 megawatts, the new model is more productive during light wind conditions, the company said.

Cape Wind also announced a reduction in the number of red aviation lights needed for the proposal from 260 to 57. This reduction, said Cape Wind, would reduce the project's visual impact from shore and is based upon new wind farm lighting guidelines being used by the FAA.