

# Washington Post

## The Real Hazards of Wind Farms

Tuesday, April 4, 2006; Page A22

The characterization of opponents of Cape Wind, a wind farm in Nantucket Sound, as not-in-my-back-yard types using political connections to block the project obfuscates the issue of public safety ["Bending With the Wind," editorial, March 26]. This matter is appropriately addressed by Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) in his amendment to the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2005. A mile and a half separating wind energy plants from shipping lanes and ferry routes makes sense.

The Barnstable Municipal, Martha's Vineyard (West Tisbury) and Nantucket Memorial airports oppose the project. The Barnstable airport calls it "lethal." The Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority has stated its strong opposition, too, and says that the proposal poses a "significant hazard to navigation."

The Interior Department's evaluation of the Cape Wind application should take into account a recent British Defense Ministry finding that some types of jets will disappear from radar when flying over a wind farm. The airspace in Nantucket Sound is traversed by about 400,000 flights annually.

BARBARA DURKIN

Northboro, Mass.

*The writer is a volunteer with the Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound and with Windstop, organizations opposed to the wind farm.*

***Support the Stevens amendment as a measure that provides the Coast Guard commandant and the Governor of Massachusetts the authority to provide for the safety of the public.***

### Contact telephone numbers:

Senator Harry Reid (NV) (202) 224-3542  
Senator Ted Stevens (AK) (202) 224-3004  
Senator Olympia Snow (ME) (202) 224-5344  
Senator Trent Lott (MS) (202) 224-6244  
Senator Gordon Smith (OR) (202) 224-3753  
Senator Daniel Inouye (HI) (202) 224-3934  
Senator Maria Cantwell (WA) (202) 224-3441  
Senator Frank Lautenberg (NJ) (202) 224-3224