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The alternative energy plan for the State of New York should be based on energy use reduction. Energy reduction is cheaper, more effective, has a large economic benefit, and no negative environmental effects compared to all energy production plans. The least efficient and effective energy production option is industrial wind turbine development. This is repeatedly illustrated in the GE Energy Consulting report to NYSERDA on "System Performance Evaluation" dated March 4, 2005. The report states that inland New York wind turbines can expect to have a 10% effective efficiency, and practically none of that miniscule power production will occur during peak demand periods. In addition, since a hot backup is required by standard generators for 90% of wind turbine rated capacity, if the 15% of total demand is achieved through wind turbines - more standard generators will need to be built to backup the wind turbines. There will be NO reduction of standard generators through the use of wind turbines.

There are two areas of energy reduction to focus on: transportation and buildings. Both of these areas are very large consumers of oil, and none of that oil use will be reduced through industrial wind turbine development. Transportation infrastructure requires the development of high speed trains on the New York-Montreal route and the Albany-Buffalo corridor. Regular speed lines need enhancement or restoration on north-south corridors at western New York and through the center of the Adirondacks. An east-west line needs restoration across northern New York. Building codes need upgrading to produce new buildings that require less than 50% of the energy, both heat and electricity, of standard buildings. Renovation code requirements need to be upgraded to result in at least a 30% reduction in energy use both in heating and building systems. State investment will necessarily be very large in reality based infrastructure over at least the next 20 years.

We can not afford to throw money and other resources away on low productivity/high infrastructure cost energy producers. The worst of these is industrial wind turbine development. It is a politically based energy system on a par with the Star Wars anti-missile system - nice idea, pity it doesn't work. Investment in energy reduction devices such as roof top PV and small scale wind turbines should be supported. They reduce energy demand and reduce infrastructure needs.