

Joan Simmons
Citizen Power Alliance

My comment is in regards to financial advantages via tax breaks, production tax credits, renewable energy credit trading and other incentives for industrial wind development in New York State. A majority of the companies involved in developing industrial wind have parent companies that already make sufficient profits to continue their expansion without draining money from our tax base, which is already severely overextended. Industrial wind has not proven to be a meaningful contributor to solving our energy issues, due to its intermittent and variable nature and poor performance record. There is no evidence that industrial wind makes any meaningful contribution to reducing CO2 emissions, due to its need for substantial conventional backup. Rather than giving more advantages to already wealthy corporations to develop questionably effective wind energy, I would much prefer to see government expenditures in support of energy efficient practices for corporations and private individuals. Insulating buildings, using energy efficient appliances, developing efficient public transportation, and private and corporate use of solar, etc. to reduce electricity consumption should be rewarded, such as through measures already in place in NYS, at even greater levels. Alternative energies must be explored, but must also prove themselves as a reliable supplier of electricity before being funded at a utility scale. The current direction of supporting industrial wind at taxpayer and ratepayer expense is a gross misuse of public funds.