

BIRA

Block Island Residents Association

March 26, 2010

Luly E. Massaro, Commissioner Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888

RECEIVED
2010 MAR 29 PM 1:07
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Subject: Deepwater Wind Power Purchase Agreement

Dear Commissioner:

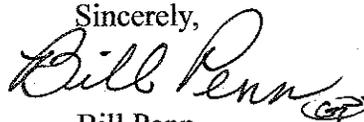
The Board of Directors of the Block Island Residents Association (BIRA) recently reaffirmed its resolution in favor of the Deepwater Wind off shore wind project. The Resolution states: "BIRA's Board of Directors strongly endorses the concept of alternative energy as an important goal for Block Island and specifically endorses the plan for an offshore wind farm while reserving the right to take issue with certain specifics of that plan as it develops; such as the allocation of the cable costs." Obviously, the allocation of the cable costs to Block Island rate payer/residents is of major concern to BIRA but the approval of the Purchase Power Agreement currently under your consideration is an important step in moving forward with this essential alternative energy project benefiting Block Island.

BIRA is a long standing community organization with 857 active members representing a broad spectrum of year around and seasonal residents. Over the years, we have taken advocacy positions on numerous issues effecting the Block Island community in addition to the off shore wind farm. We have supported community activities such as the Mary D Fund, the Helping Hand, the Prevention Task Force, the Double Ender Committee Fourth of July celebrations, sponsorship of a "Blues on the Beach" concert, residential energy audits, on Island sailing programs and the startup of Soup and Song Coffeehouse at the Harbor Church.

We would strongly urge you to consider the on Island support for the off shore wind project in your deliberation of Purchase Power Agreement. We are well aware of the negative views towards this project but we feel the silent majorities support must be taken into consideration.

Thank you for taking the time to come to Block Island and listening to our views on this very important subject.

Sincerely,



Bill Penn
President

Cc: New Shoreham Town Council
Block Island Times

P.O. Box 456, Block Island, RI 02807