

In Harwich, MA, USA, the 'Harwich Neighborhood Alliance' opposed an agreement between their selectmen and the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative to install two 400' turbines on town-owned land and within 3000' of 500 homes. The Harwich Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2010, voted to halt the project, reportedly due in large part to a growing appreciation of the health impacts of nearby large turbines. The selectmen summarized that since no location in town is sufficiently away from residential neighborhoods, Harwich would no longer be looking to build wind turbines "ever."

Some may wonder what's the truth about this "Wind Turbine Syndrome." Could low frequency sound waves emitted by the turbines really be the cause of 'sleep disturbance, headache, tinnitus (ringing in ears), dizziness, vertigo (spinning dizziness), nausea, visual blurring, tachycardia (fast heart rate), irritability, problems with concentration and memory, and panic episodes associated with sensations of movement or quivering inside the body that arise while awake or asleep....'?

Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD and author of the highly acclaimed [Wind Turbine Syndrome](#), explains that 'the symptom complex resembles syndromes caused by vestibular (inner ear balance organ) dysfunction. The proposed mechanism is disturbance to balance and position sense by noise and/or vibration, including the resonance of sound or vibration within body cavities (chest, skull, eyes, throat and ears).'

Read first person accounts of people living within 2 km of the turbine whose lives have been upended, whose homes have been made unlivable, unrentable, unsaleable. What to do if you don't want to move away, or can't move away? Here's a solution offered in upstate NY, USA, as reported May 16, 2010, by the Watertown Daily Times: "Hospital shows off balance center"
HEALTH AWARENESS DAY: Lewis County General introduces new \$100,000 facility

LOWVILLE — Kicking off Community Health Awareness Day on Saturday, Lewis County General Hospital introduced the first balance center north of Syracuse.

The \$100,000 center has equipment to diagnose issues stemming from vertigo, imbalance and traumatic brain injury. The new equipment can perform comprehensive patient evaluations by checking inner ear functions to test balance. It also can test patients' abilities to walk on stairs or step off a curb correctly....

"We expect to be busy fairly quickly," said Eric R. Burch, chief executive officer of the hospital.

Mr. Burch said the idea of a balance center came about when various ear, nose and throat specialists in the Syracuse and Utica areas mentioned they were getting a lot of patients from the north country. He said specialists in Utica plan to refer up to seven patients a week to the new center.....

Randy L. Lehman, director of rehabilitation services, said he expects the equipment to improve the quality of life for those in the north country who may suffer from balance problems.

Why open a clinical center to diagnose vertigo, dizziness, and related inner ear (vestibular) disorders in Lowville, pop. 3500, some 90 miles NE of Syracuse, as rural an area as you'll find in the northeastern USA? Maybe because Lowville is some five miles from the outskirts of the [Maple Ridge Wind Farm](#) whose 140 - 1.65MW turbines make up the largest wind farm east of the Mississippi. Maybe there's another altogether different explanation for the vestibular (balance) problems - aka Wind Turbine Syndrome. Maybe it's just a coincidence.

Senators should be intelligent, thoughtful persons who care about their constituents. What do you make of Lowville's new Balance Center?

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