



# Narragansett

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## Rhode Island



Department of  
Environmental  
Management

Date

Name

Address

Narragansett, RI ZIP

Dear Name:

You have been selected to complete a survey. Within the next few days, you will be receiving it. We are mailing it to you in an effort to find out how residents of the Town of Narragansett feel about renewable energy and the possible installation of three to five wind turbines on state and/or Town properties in Narragansett.

This survey is being conducted to collect information from you and others to better inform state and local officials on concerns raised by the possible construction of these wind turbines.

We would appreciate your taking about ten to fifteen minutes to complete and return this survey.

We are thanking you in advance for your participation in this project.

Sincerely,

Jeffery Ceasrine  
Narragansett Town Manager

W. Michael Sullivan  
Director, DEM



# Narragansett

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## Rhode Island



Department of  
Environmental  
Management

Date

Name

Address

Narragansett, RI ZIP

Dear Name:

Preliminary studies have identified several land-based sites where wind turbines could be built that would generate cost-effective energy in Narragansett. This survey will help determine how you feel about building three to five wind turbines on state and/or Town property in Narragansett.

The Town of Narragansett and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management are conducting the survey to learn your views about clean energy and its impact on the Town. Your household was one of a limited number selected at random from a list of property owners in the town to receive this survey. It is very important that you participate.

You can be assured that your responses will remain completely confidential. The survey does have an identification number that will be used for mailing purposes. Your name will **not** be placed on the survey itself.

***Your response to the enclosed survey is extremely important to us. Please complete and return your survey*** in the enclosed postage-paid envelope addressed to Leanne DeCosta by July 20. Results of the survey will be important factors to consider when determining where best to locate the on-shore wind turbines. Results from the survey will be available in approximately three months on the DEM website: [www.dem.ri.gov](http://www.dem.ri.gov).

Should you have any questions regarding the survey please feel free to contact Leanne DeCosta at DEM at (401) 222-4700 extension 7218 or e-mail at [Leanne.DeCosta@DEM.ri.gov](mailto:Leanne.DeCosta@DEM.ri.gov)

The survey is a tool that will benefit all Narragansett residents. Take this opportunity to let your voice be heard!

Sincerely,

Jeffery Ceasrine  
Narragansett Town Manager

W. Michael Sullivan,  
Director, DEM

## Town of Narragansett Clean Energy Survey



Sponsored by:  
The Rhode Island Department of Environmental  
Management and the Town of Narragansett

Return survey to:  
Ms. Leanne DeCosta  
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908

401- 222-4700 Extension 7218

The Town of Narragansett and Rhode Island  
Department of Environmental Management would  
like your input on clean energy issues and your  
viewpoint on the possible siting of wind turbines in  
the Town. We greatly appreciate your time in filling  
out this survey.

At the back of the survey are some photo  
simulations of what the turbines may look like if  
they are built in the sites mentioned.

**Please look at these photos at the back of the  
survey before you respond to the survey.**

**Please check only one box for each question.**

Q1. Have you heard of the term clean or renewable energy?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

Q2. Clean or renewable energy is power that comes from non-polluting sources such as the sun, water, and wind.

How important do you think it is for Rhode Island to move away from fossil fuels like gas, oil and coal and use more clean energy?

- 1  Very important  
2  Important  
3  Neither important nor non-important  
4  Unimportant  
5  Very unimportant

Q3. Some people support clean energy technology. How important are the following reasons for using clean energy technology?

a. Good for the environment.

- 1  Very important  
2  Important  
3  Neither important nor non-important  
4  Unimportant  
5  Very unimportant

b. Reduce dependency on foreign oil

- 1  Very important  
2  Important  
3  Neither important nor non-important  
4  Unimportant  
5  Very unimportant

c. Lower electric bills

- 1  Very important  
2  Important  
3  Neither important nor non-important  
4  Unimportant  
5  Very unimportant

d. Good for Rhode Island's economy

- 1  Very important  
2  Important  
3  Neither important nor non-important  
4  Unimportant  
5  Very unimportant

Q4. Some people do not support clean energy technology.

How important are the following reasons for not supporting clean energy technology?

a. They are too expensive and not cost-effective.

- 1  Very important
- 2  Important
- 3  Neither important nor non-important
- 4  Unimportant
- 5  Very unimportant

b. They are too noisy

- 1  Very important
- 2  Important
- 3  Neither important nor non-important
- 4  Unimportant
- 5  Very unimportant

c. They are not esthetically pleasing

- 1  Very important
- 2  Important
- 3  Neither important nor non-important
- 4  Unimportant
- 5  Very unimportant

Q5. What is your opinion of the state's goal to generate 15% of its energy from clean, renewable sources?

- 1  It is too high.
- 2  It is about right.
- 3  It is too low.
- 4  Don't know

Q6. What is your general attitude concerning wind turbines used to generate electricity?

- 1  Very positive
- 2  Positive
- 3  Neutral
- 4  Negative
- 5  Very negative

Q7. Have you ever seen a modern wind turbine in operation?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

Q8. If you could see a wind turbine from the beach would it make you more or less likely to visit the beach?

- 1  More likely to visit the beach
- 2  Less likely to visit the beach
- 3  Would not make a difference

Q9. How many times a year do you go to the beach in Narragansett?

- 1  Never go to the beach
- 2  Less than five times a year
- 3  More than five times but less than ten times a year
- 4  More than ten times but less than twenty times a year
- 5  More than twenty times a year

Q10. How would you describe the visual appearance of wind turbines on a landscape?

- 1  Very attractive
- 2  Attractive
- 3  Neither attractive nor non-attractive
- 4  Unattractive
- 5  Very unattractive
- 6  Have never seen a real wind turbine.

Q11. If you have seen a wind turbine, how would you describe the visual appearance of wind turbines on a landscape?

- 1  Very positive
- 2  Positive
- 3  Neither attractive nor non-attractive
- 4  Negative
- 5  Very negative

Q12. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of wind turbines at sites that are not located in the Town of Narragansett?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q13. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of multiple wind turbines in a wind farm on appropriately zoned land in Narragansett?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q14. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of wind turbines if they were limited to one or two structures on a parcel of land?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q15. Generally speaking, how do you feel about a limited number (perhaps 3-5) of wind turbines located in the Town of Narragansett?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q16. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of wind turbines in Narragansett if you **can not** see them from your house?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q17. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of wind turbines in Narragansett if you **can** see them from your house?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q18. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of wind turbines in Narragansett if you **can hear** them from your house?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q19. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the placement of wind turbines in Narragansett if you **can not hear** them from your house?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q20. The state owns a number of parcels of land in Narragansett. Three possible locations of the wind turbines would include (1) the Camp Cronin Fisherman's Access area; (2) near the Port of Galilee, on the south west side of the Galilee Escape Road and (3) the southern portion of Black Point. (Refer to simulations at the back of the survey.)

a. Would you be supportive of a wind turbine being located on the Camp Cronin Fisherman's Access (**Figure 1**) parcel of land?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

b. Would you be supportive of a wind turbine being located near the Port of Galilee on the south west side of the Galilee Escape Road (**Figure 2**) ?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

c. Would you be supportive of a wind turbine being located on the southern portion of Black Point (**Figure 3**) ?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don't know

Q21. The Town is considering two possible locations of wind turbines, (1) at the Scarborough Treatment Plant on Ocean Rd, adjacent to the State’s Scarborough Beach, and (2) at the Regional Treatment Plant located on Westmoreland St., approximately ½ mile east of Mariner Square. (Refer to simulations at the back of the survey.)

a. Would you be supportive of a wind turbine being located at the Scarborough Treatment Plant (**Figure 4**) ?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don’t know

b. Would you be supportive of a wind turbine being located at the Regional Treatment Plant (**Figure 5**) located on Westmoreland St.?

- 1  Strongly support
- 2  Support
- 3  Neither support nor object
- 4  Do not support
- 5  Strongly do not support
- 6  Don’t know

Q22. Do you think a wind turbine project in Narragansett would have a positive, negative or have no impact on the issues below? (**Circle the one impact that reflects your view on the question.**)

Issues	1	2	3	4
1. Tourism and related businesses	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
2. Creation of new jobs	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
3. Property values	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
4. Electricity rates	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
5. Will turbines affect the landscape	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
6. Air Pollution	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
7. Noise Levels	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
8. Bird/Bat life	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
9. Fishing Activities	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
10. Public Safety	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
11. Use of Public Beaches	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
12. Enjoyment of use of your property	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
13. Traffic at turbine sites	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
14. Taxes	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
15. General environmental considerations	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure
16. What is your overall view of the project?	Positive Impact	No Impact	Negative Impact	Not Sure

Q23. Based on your response in number 22 above, rank the three issues you think have the most **positive** impact on Narragansett if the turbines were built.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

Q24. Based on your response in question number 22, rank the three issues you think have the most **negative** impact on Narragansett if the turbines were built.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

Q25. If a wind power project was owned by the state and provided an economic benefit to the state, would that make you more or less likely to support it?

- 1  More likely to support.
- 2  Less likely to support.
- 3  No impact on my decision.

Q26. If a wind power project was owned by a developer and provided an economic benefit to the town, would that make you more or less likely to support it?

- 1  More likely to support.
- 2  Less likely to support.
- 3  No impact on my decision.

Q27. If a wind power project was owned by the town and provided an economic benefit to the town, would that make you more or less likely to support it?

- 1  More likely to support.
- 2  Less likely to support.
- 3  No impact on my decision.

This next section contains personal questions about you. The information is being collected for statistical purposes. Completion of this section would help in the analysis of this survey. Your assistance in completing this section would be appreciated.

Please check off the box that applies to you.

Q28. Are you?

- 1  Male
- 2  Female

Q29. What is your current employment status?

- 1  Self-employed
- 2  Employed by others
- 3  Retired
- 4  Unemployed
- 5  Homemaker
- 6  Student

Q30. Do you live close enough to one of the sites depicted in the figures at the end of the survey to see one of the turbines from your property?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  Not Sure

Q31. What is your age?

- 1  Under 20 years
- 2  20 to 24 years
- 3  25 to 34 years
- 4  35 to 44 years
- 5  45 to 54 years
- 6  55 to 59 years
- 7  60 to 64 years
- 8  65 to 74 years
- 9  75 to 84 years
- 10  85 years and over

Q32. What is your approximate household income in 2008?

- 1  Less than \$10,000
- 2  \$10,000 to \$14,999
- 3  \$15,000 to \$24,999
- 4  \$25,000 to \$34,999
- 5  \$35,000 to \$49,999
- 6  \$50,000 to \$74,999
- 7  \$75,000 to \$99,999
- 8  \$100,000 to \$149,999
- 9  \$150,000 to \$199,999
- 10  \$200,000 or more
- 11  Prefer not to answer

Q33. How would you describe your educational background?

- 1  Less than 9th grade
- 2  9th to 12th grade, no diploma
- 3  High school graduate (includes equivalency)
- 4  Some college, no degree
- 5  Associate's degree
- 6  Bachelor's degree
- 7  Graduate or professional degree

Q34. How would you describe the current use of the property where the survey was sent?

- 1  I own the house
- 2  I live in a rented house
- 3  I own the house, but rent it on a yearly basis
- 4  I live in the house part of the year and rent it the other part of the year
- 5  I live in the house part of the year and it is vacant the other part of the year

Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Photo Simulations of Potential Wind Turbine Sites**

Photo simulations were produced to give the reader an approximate idea of how a wind turbine would look at each location. If the turbines are to be built, actual heights will be based on the request for proposal to build the turbines. All locations except Galilee used turbines having an 85 meter (279 feet) post and a 77 meter rotor diameter (253 feet). The Galilee photo used a 65 meter (213 feet) post. The heights chosen are typical of commercial applications of wind turbines.

**Figure 1 - Camp Cronin Fisherman’s Access (From Shore Rd looking south east)**



**Figure 2 - Galilee Escape Road (From Basin Rd. looking south west)**



**Figure 3 - Black Point (From Sakonnet Blvd. looking northeast)**



**Figure 4 - Scarborough Treatment Plant (From the DEM Pavilion looking south)**



**Figure 5 - Regional Treatment Plant (From Thayer St. looking south)**



Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. This survey is a joint effort of the Rhode Island DEM and the Narragansett Town Council. The survey results are important in determining the Town of Narragansett viewpoints on clean renewable energy.

**Please return the survey in the stamped envelope and return it to:**

**Ms. Leanne DeCosta  
RI DEM  
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908**

Your comments would be appreciated either on this page, or you can send them in a separate envelope.

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Send Comments to:

Ms. Leanne DeCosta  
RI DEM  
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908

Date

Name

Address

Narragansett, RI ZIP

Dear Name:

Last week, a survey was sent to you seeking your opinion regarding the installation of wind turbines in Narragansett. Your household was one of a limited number selected at random from a list of property owners in Narragansett.

If you have already completed and returned the survey, please accept our sincere thanks for taking the time and effort to complete it.

If you did not receive the survey or possibly misplaced it, please call me at (401) 222-4700 extension 7218 and I will mail you another one today.

Your response and comments are very important to us. Be assured that your survey is completely confidential.

Sincerely

Leanne DeCosta  
DEM Office of Customer  
& Technical Service



# Narragansett

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## Rhode Island



**Department of  
Environmental  
Management**

Date

Name

Address

Narragansett, RI, ZIP

Dear Name:

About three weeks ago, we wrote you seeking your opinions about installing wind turbines and their impact on the Town of Narragansett. As of today we have not received your completed survey. We realize that your time is valuable and you may not have had enough time to complete the survey. However, we would genuinely appreciate hearing from you.

This survey is being conducted so that citizens like you can be heard about viewpoints on renewable energy and the possible construction of three to five wind turbines on state and town properties in Narragansett. We are writing to you today because the survey's usefulness depends on our receiving your response. Your name was drawn through an approved sampling process in which every property owner had an equal chance of being selected. In order for the information from the survey to be truly representative, it is essential that we receive your survey completed and returned. Be assured that your survey is completely confidential

In the event your survey was misplaced, we have enclosed another one. If you have any questions about the survey, please feel free to contact me at DEM at g (401) 222-4700 extension 7218.

Thank you for your cooperation in completing this survey.

Sincerely,

Leanne DeCosta  
DEM Office of Customer  
& Technical Service