

To The Edenton Chowan Partnership

As a NC coastal resident, and as a person actively involved with promoting North Carolina, and longtime Edenton enthusiast, I am fully supportive of the Edenton Chowan Partnership's [stated objectives](#): to support the Economic Well-Being and Quality of Life of Chowan County citizens and businesses.

Every day I'm working with citizens and organizations across the US, so I have somewhat of a unique standpoint. What I've seen in some other communities is that enthusiasm for a business "opportunity" can sometimes result in losing focus on the Big Picture. For example, I know that the economies in your part of the state are weak – but does that mean desperation, and an "any port in the storm" perspective?

It seems to me that every large proposed business venture should be **thoroughly** and **objectively** evaluated. In particular, self-serving sales spiels should be looked at with great skepticism. It would seem that the EC Partnership would **only** support proposals that have *proven* **NET** benefits.

Let's look at industrial wind energy as an example. Consider the following:

1 - numerous studies by independent financial experts have concluded that wind energy is a **NET jobs loser**. *Why would the EC Partnership support a business venture that will result in a net jobs loss to the community?*

As an example, over 40 of those reports are listed on [this page](#).

Additionally, as a more local example, the NC Department of Commerce did a [study](#) of the proposed *Desert Wind* project (Pasquotank & Perquimans Counties), and concluded that "Nearly all of the upfront investment will be with firms located **outside NC**" and

"The employment impacts for a project with this much initial investment is **small**."

2 - Likewise numerous studies done by independent experts have concluded that wind energy is a **NET economics loser**. *Why would the EC Partnership support a business venture that will result in the community having a net financial loss?*

For example, four PhD world-class bat experts have written about the substantial [agriculture losses](#) due to bat deaths from wind turbines. Additionally they calculated the actual annual costs of these losses for each [North Carolina county](#). **The average annual loss in Chowan County is projected at \$3.8 million!**

As another example, your website rightly promotes Chowan County travel & tourism. Numerous studies have concluded that nearby industrial wind energy will **reduce tourism**. Here is a [sample](#) of these analyses.

3 - [Dozens of studies](#) by independent experts have concluded that property values will decline in the vicinity of industrial wind developments. *Why would the EC Partnership support a business that devalues the main investment of some local citizens – and will result in a decreased tax base to the County?*

4 - Your website commendably says “*The mission of the Edenton Chowan Partnership is to improve the quality of life for all of those living in Chowan County.*” Over a hundred studies by independent health professionals have concluded that industrial wind energy can have serious adverse health effects to citizens living near such projects. (Here are [samples](#) of numerous peer-reviewed studies.) *Why would the EC Partnership support a business that undermines the health of some Chowan County citizens?*

5 - Farming is also important to your Chowan County. In some other areas where farmers have leased land to industrial wind turbines, it has turned out to be an economic and legal nightmare. Here is an outline for [farmers](#), with a special focus on [40 Concerns](#) that they should be aware of. *Why would the EC Partnership support a business that undermines property rights, and will likely cause legal hardships to local farmers?*

6 - The negative environmental impact of industrial wind energy to host communities has also been well documented. Thousands of [bird](#) and [bat](#) kills, plus substantial ecosystem damage ([wetlands disturbance](#), [forest denuding](#), and [habitat destruction](#)) are just the tip of the iceberg. [Note: there are no government agencies with regulations that meaningfully protect the environment from wind development.] *Why would the EC Partnership support a business venture that has large environmental liabilities?*

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It seems that the EC Partnership has to make a fundamental decision here:

- 1) is it their goal to promote any and all economic opportunities, irrespective of their net consequences to the County? **OR**
- 2) is it their mission to **only** promote economic opportunities that have independent proof that they will be a NET benefit to the County?

I'm sincerely hoping that the answer is #2, but please advise. For science based information on wind energy, from unpaid independent experts, see [WiseEnergy.org](#). Please pay special attention to the page put up specifically for [your community](#).

Let me know any questions.

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