# Status of Current and Future Wind Energy Development in New England



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# Early History of Wind Energy in New England





#### **Transportation: Sailing Ships**

Mechanical Power: Windmill (Orleans, MA)

# Where is New England Wind Resource?

Mountains

• Islands

Coast





# Typical Modern Wind Turbine



- Horizontal Axis Rotors
- Wind Turbine Size Related to Power
- Rated Power Up to 2,000+ kW
- 2-3 Blades, Up to 260 ft. Diameter
- Towers from 80 ft. to 200+ ft. (tubular or truss)

# Near Term Opportunities for Wind in New England

- Locations (where the wind is)
  - Inland mountains
  - Coastal/Islands
  - Offshore
- Types
  - Bulk power: large machines
  - Municipal utilities: medium to large
  - Customer owned generation: small to medium



# Early Electricity from Wind in New England



Grandpa's Knob, VT (1940's) Cuttyhunk, MA Wind/Diesel (1970's)

# Early Research and Commercialization in New England



WF-1 25 kW, UMass, 1975

World's 1<sup>st</sup> Wind Farm: U.S.Windpower (MA), Crotched Mtn, NH ~1978)

• Searsburg, VT (11 x 550 kW)



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- Mt. Tom, Holyoke, MA (250 kW)



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- Barrie, VT (100 kW)



Barre, VT Northern Power Systems

- Searsburg, VT (11 x 550 kW)
- Mt. Tom, Holyoke, MA (250 kW)
- Barrie, VT (100 kW)
- Orland, ME (50 kW)

Atlantic Orient Corp. 15/50



- Searsburg, VT (11 x 550 kW)
- Mt. Tom, Holyoke, MA (250 kW)
- Barrie, VT (100 kW)
- Orland, ME (50 kW)
- Princeton Municipal Light Co., MA
  7 x 40 kW; 1 x 50 kW being added
- Block Island, RI ( 4 x 10 kW + others)

### **Turbines Under Construction**

#### • Hull, MA

- Municipal Light Co. Project
- 660 kW turbine
- Replacement for 40 kW turbine



photosimulation

# Some Projects in Planning

- Nantucket Sound, MA offshore (425 MW)
- Brodie Mtn., MA (7 –11 MW)
- Reddington, ME (30 MW)
- Equinox Mtn, VT (2 MW)
- Cuttyhunk, MA (0.25 MW- wind/diesel)

# New England Commercial Wind Industry

- Turbine manufactures
  - Atlantic Orient Corp. (VT)
  - Northern Power Systems (VT)
- Developers
- Installers
- Utilities

# New England Public Entities Involved in Wind Activities

- U.S. DOE Region 1
- State Energy Offices
- State Energy Funds
- State Environmental Offices
- University Research and Education Programs

# The Future

- Small wind farms on inland ridges
- Customer owned "behind the meter" turbines
- Islands
- Offshore

# A New Turbine for Cuttyhunk?



photosimulation

# A Model for Coastal New England?: Copenhagen Harbor



Under construction

#### One turbine completed

# Conclusion

- Wind energy has important history in Massachusetts
- Inland mountains, coasts, and offshore offer significant opportunities
- Siting turbines involves many issues
- European offshore experience highly relevant to Massachusetts

# **EXTRAS FOLLOW!**

### Magnitude of NE Wind Resource

- Significant onshore resource difficult to quantify
  - For example, inland MA resource estimated at 12-70% of MA energy use in 2009
- Offshore resource is large: It could supply all of MA electricity

### Existing NE Projects

- Princeton, MA Wind Farm
  - Small farm, being expanded
  - Owned by municipal utility
- Mt. Tom Wind Turbine
  - Single research turbine
  - Local environmental issues
- Searsburg, VT
  - Utility
  - Largest so far
- Coastal: Hull
  - Municipal ownership
  - 660 kW turbine to be installed this fall