

October 31, 2016

To the Regional Planning Commission:

Under its statutory authority, the Richmond Conservation Commission (RCC) has responsibility for identifying and characterizing Richmond's natural resources. The purpose of this memorandum is to convey to you RCC concerns about potentially adverse impact of proposed locations of certain energy facilities in Richmond on those resources.

In coming to this view, RCC has undertaken a detailed study of natural areas in Richmond. RCC reviewed pertinent State Natural Resource documents; reviewed the recent Science to Action Report as it pertains to Richmond and surrounding communities; and considered the outcome of Town planning meetings that have taken place over the past year. RCC then placed that review in the context of careful review of the Regional Energy Plan as presented in September to the Richmond Planning Commission. The substance of its review is provided in the attached.

Based on that review, RCC believes that locating wind-energy generating facilities in the areas of Bryant Hill, Gillett Pond and the currently identified forest area north of Route-2, is inappropriate in terms of the priority those areas must be given as a Natural Resource, both by scientific evaluation that includes State criteria, and by priorities identified in the Town's planning process. Those areas, visualized on the GIS overlays in the attached, have been identified as of highest priority as natural areas

Please contact me about questions or concerns you may have concerning this matter.

Respectfully,

Judy Rosovsky  
Chair, RCC  
Judy.Rosovsky@jsc.edu

Cc: Richmond Selectboard  
Richmond Planning Commission

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