

Exploiting Maine *to save* Rhode Island? Really?

Did you know that two-thirds of the wind power produced in Maine is sold to utilities in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut? In six years, Maine has become the largest exporter of wind power in New England. In 2008, our politicians, environmentalists and the wind developers made bold statements claiming Maine needed wind power to alleviate its dependence on foreign oil and lower its utility rates.

But today, nothing could be further from the truth. First of all, Maine produces more energy than it consumes with 50% coming from renewable sources even before the first wind turbine appeared on the horizon. In addition, Mainers now pay higher rates due to massive spending on transmission upgrades to make it possible for wind developers to export their power to southern New England.

Adding insult to injury, wind developers are destroying vast areas of our beautiful state. They're permanently scarring ridgeline after ridgeline to take advantage of Maine's overly generous renewable portfolio standard, while harvesting lucrative Federal energy subsidies funded by your tax dollars. Simply put, wind power is a lose-lose for your pocketbook and Maine's environment.

In truth, Maine is being exploited - being turned into an industrial wind plantation with no long-term benefits for Maine. Before it's too late, we must repeal the 2008 Wind Act and allow Mainers to decide their own energy future not some corporate utility in Providence, Boston, or Hartford.

To learn more about how Maine is being exploited by the wind industry go to: **www.SavingMaine.org** Saving Maine, Inc. , 13 Albert Meadows, Bar Harbor, ME 04609

