



**Testimony against H-8083 (Town of New Shoreham Wind Project)  
House Environment & Natural Resources Committee  
May 11, 2010**

While Operation Clean Government is not opposed to the development of renewable energy, we strongly oppose H-8083. This is not honest, responsible government to change the law to circumvent a regulatory agency, when you don't agree with a decision they have rendered.

This is bad government for the following reasons:

1. This proposed legislation will override the decision of the Public Utilities Commission, a regulatory agency that went through exhaustive public hearings with testimony from expert witnesses and then issued an 85 page report explaining why they were rejecting the agreement between Deepwater Wind and National Grid. The decision was based on the added cost to ratepayers, including state and municipal government and businesses to the tune of \$390 million above market costs over 20 years. And there would be only 6 permanent jobs, the other jobs would be temporary.
2. This proposed legislation violates the spirit of the Open Meetings Law, since all decisions can be made behind closed doors. Public hearings and public testimony are not required.
3. This proposed legislation creates a new panel of four department heads to review the proposed "Purchase Power Agreement." These department heads serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
4. The decision of this new panel will not be subject to appeal.
5. There was no competitive bidding for this demonstration project.
6. This proposed legislation is written exclusively for one company, Deepwater Wind.

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