

## HOW THE PSB IS DISMISSING NEIGHBORS

128. With adequate information about the benefits of sustainable wind-generated electrical energy over other energy alternatives, the average person should not find this proposed project shocking or offensive. **While some individuals who live close to the proposed project may find the proposed project offensive, they are not representative of the "average person" because of their personal interest in the area and their opposition to change.** These individuals generally do not oppose the concept of wind power, only the proposed location of this project. Many, most notably the Selectboards of the involved communities and representatives of the Appalachian Trail Conference and Green Mountain Club have not come forward in opposition to the proposed project. There is also evidence that the public as a whole is accepting of windpower installations given the positive value one associates with such developments. Finally, there has not been the substantial public outcry that has been evident regarding other sites or other projects. Boyle pf. at 5; GMP exh. TJB-1 at 17-18; Raphael pf. at 12-13.

*Petition of Green Mountain Power corporation*  
Docket 5823, Order of 5/16/96, finding 128 at p 2  
Co-authored by David Raphael and Boyle

## Independent advocate idea takes center stage at energy hearing

<http://vtdigger.org/2013/09/25/independent-advocate-idea-takes-center-stage-first-energy-generation-siting-hearing/>

*"Hartwell, who chairs the Senate committee, homed in on a prospect that the commission had not proposed — creating an office separate from the governor to represent members of the public in the Public Service Board's process.*

*"The way it stands politically and structurally right now, it doesn't work," Hartwell said about the board's process in an interview. "I'm still concerned the siting policy commission and the report skirts around the public advocate issue."*

*The Public Service Department is charged with representing the public before the board, but the department is run by the governor's administration and therefore toes the governor's line.*

*Hartwell told Commissioner of Public Service Chris Recchia, who runs the department, that he is concerned this political connection is inhibiting the public process.*

*"It's independent from the board," Recchia said at the hearing.*

*"It's not independent from the administration," Hartwell responded."*