

Wind Farms Don't Reduce Taxes

The issue of tax reduction is a big one. Taxes are the threat ever present on our doorstep, looming, waiting to take over our homesteads. The numbers from Lempster speak for themselves. The windmills online at the end of the 2008 year reduced taxes one year 2009. By 2010 residents were already paying more in taxes than they had before the wind project came to their town.

LEMPSTER, NH TAX RATES:

LEMPSTER, NH	2007	2008*	2009	2010	2011	2012
Town	3.52	3.97	4.69	5.16	5.45	4.98
School	8.60	9.26	6.59	7.94	9.09	9.52
State School	1.92	2.04	2.03	2.29	2.42	2.36
County	2.06	2.42	1.89	3.06	3.00	2.99
Total	16.10	17.69	15.20	18.45	19.96	19.85

* Lempster Wind Farm went online Nov. 17, 2008.

To make these numbers make more sense the property taxes on my home are currently \$3,112.00. If I calculate the same differences year to year as Lempster had here is what my taxes would look like:

2012 \$3112.00

2013 decrease 2.49/\$1000 = \$2732.00 (\$380.00 dollar savings over 2012)

2014 increase 3.20/\$1000= \$3234.00 (I would pay \$122.00 more in taxes than I paid in 2012)

2015 increase 1.51/\$1000= \$3464.00 (I would pay \$352.00 more in taxes than I paid in 2012)

In three years time I would have paid \$94.00 more than my taxes are today and I would live with a wind farm in my backyard. Not to mention the many costs fringe costs of installing a wind farm or costs associated with decommissioning a wind farm.

You can check these tax rates out for yourself at www.revenue.nh.gov