

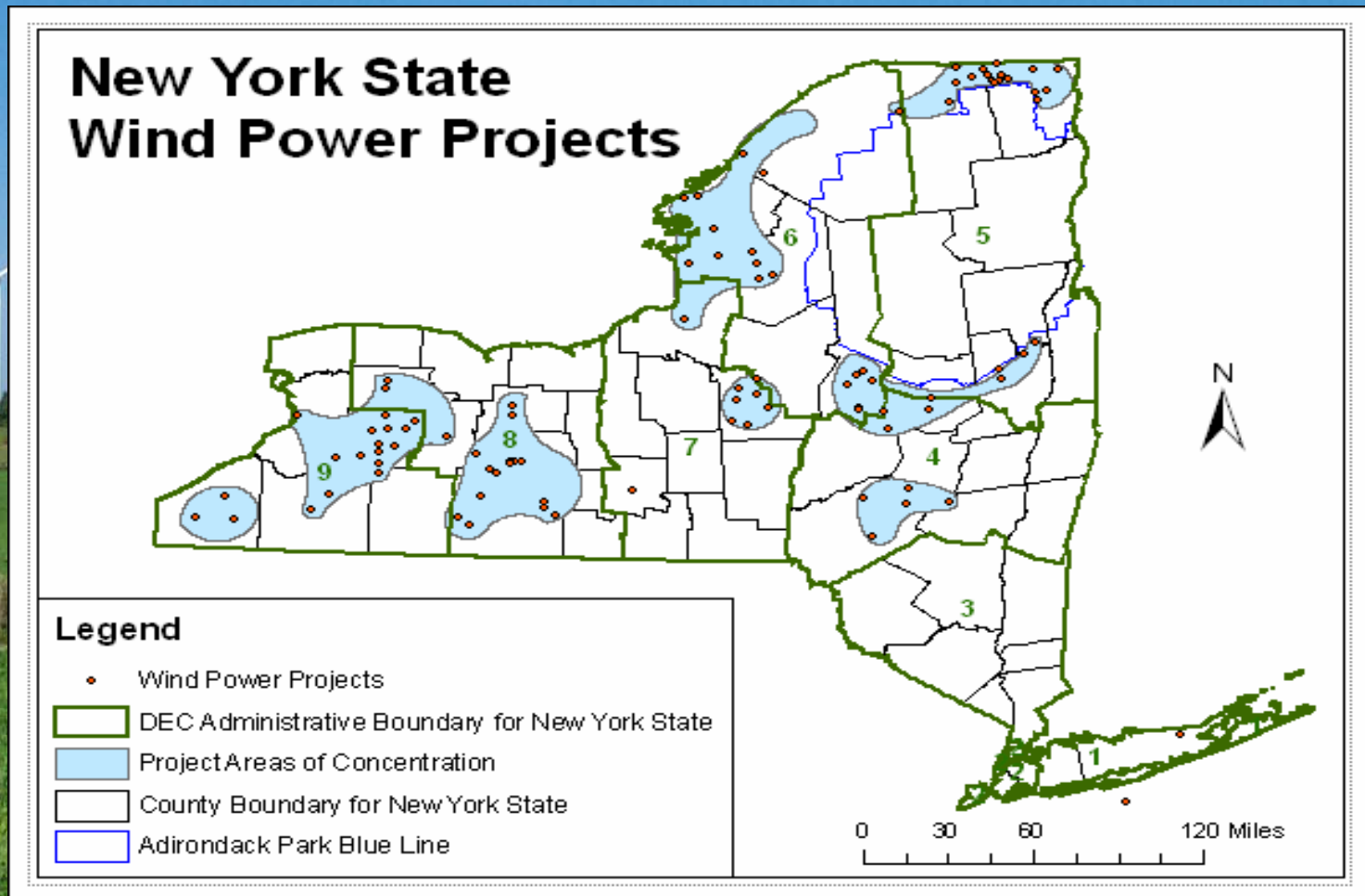
Wind Power Symposium State Perspective

A photograph of three white wind turbines standing on a rolling green field under a clear blue sky. The turbines are spaced out across the horizon. In the foreground, there is a field of tall green grass with some yellow wildflowers. A dirt road or path runs through the middle ground.

Jack Nasca
NYS DEC

Association of Towns – February 2007

Wind Sites under Consideration



SEQR

- Only game in town
- Review process not a permit
- Lead Agency – local vs. state
- SEQR does not change the jurisdiction between agencies
- Use SEQR fee to obtain a consultant
- Not an “all or nothing” decision but must be based on the record

Typical Issues

A photograph of a green field with three white wind turbines under a blue sky. The turbines are positioned in the background, and the foreground is a lush green field with some yellow wildflowers. A dirt road or path leads towards the turbines.

- Zoning/Land Use
- Setbacks
- Visual impact
- Traffic/roads
- Noise
- Lighting
- Historic resources
- Birds/Bats
- Fisheries
- Wetlands (state & federal)
- Stormwater
- Habitat loss & fragmentation

Developing a Record



- Pressure to “Fast Track”
- Use the involved agencies
- Seek public input through scoping
- Resist: I’ll gladly pay you Thursday for a...
- Allow for adequate public review/comment
- Respond to all substantive comments in final EIS
- Include performance standards/siting restrictions in the Findings

Tips for Success

- Avoid co-lead agencies
- Avoid breaking projects along political boundaries
- Find an experienced consultant/attorney
- Assemble a complete record
- “Gut Feeling” not sufficient
- Internet is not infallible
- Conduct an open process

For More Information

- DEC SEQR information

www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dcs/seqr/

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