

Summary of Craggy Ridge Wind Turbine Survey Results

In September of 2012, the board of the Craggy Ridge Homeowners Association administered an on-line survey of members to better understand individual homeowners opinions on the issues being addressed by the Wind Turbine Options Analysis Process. There were 81 participants invited to respond, each affiliated with a particular email address to prevent multiple or additional entries. Seventy one (71) participants completed the survey (though some skipped some of the questions). The following is a summary of findings.

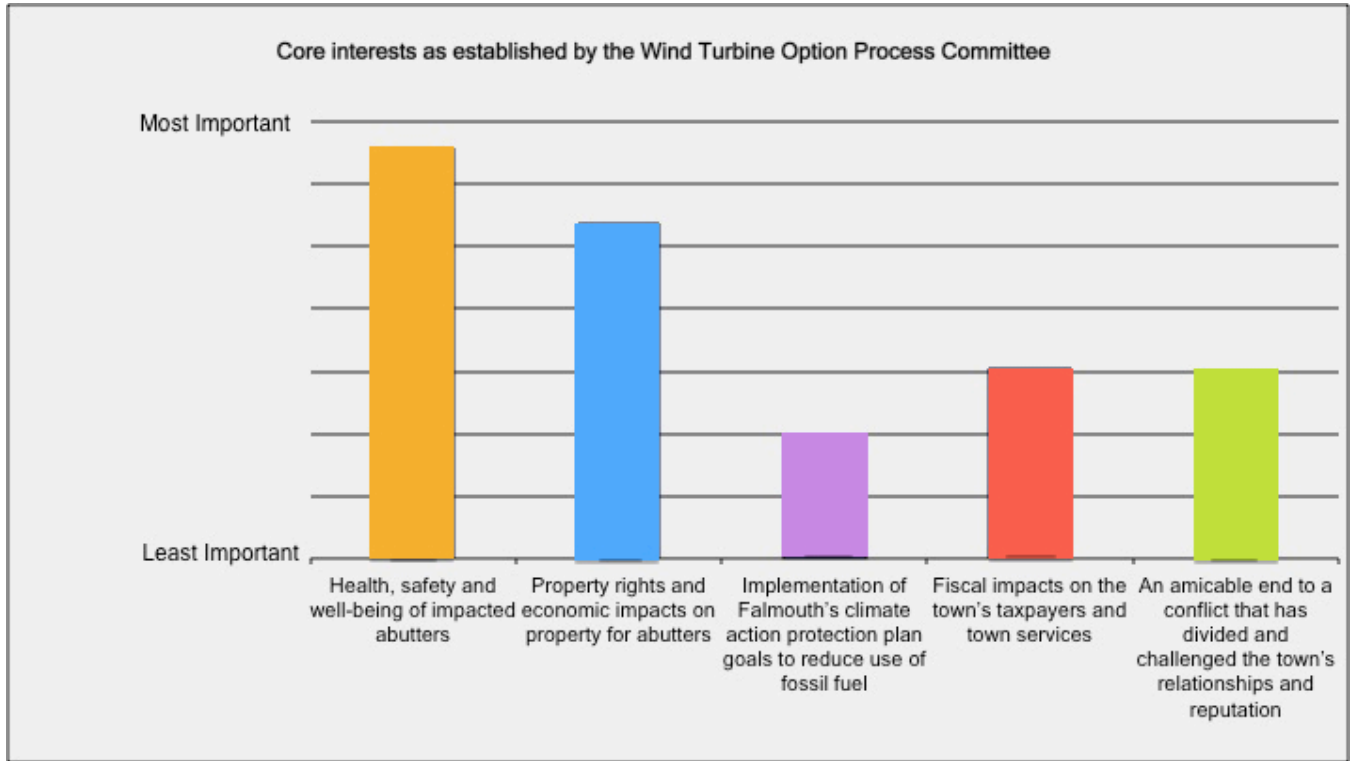
Please rank order the core interests you think the WTOP Committee should be focused on: 1 being that interest that interests you the most and 5 the least.

2. Core interests as established by the Wind Turbine Option Process Committee						Create Chart	Download
	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Health, safety and well-being of impacted abutters	63.9% (46)	15.3% (11)	11.1% (8)	5.6% (4)	4.2% (3)	1.71	72
Property rights and economic impacts on property for abutters	13.9% (10)	59.7% (43)	12.5% (9)	9.7% (7)	4.2% (3)	2.31	72
Implementation of Falmouth's climate action protection plan goals to reduce use of fossil fuel	4.2% (3)	8.3% (6)	18.1% (13)	22.2% (16)	47.2% (34)	4.00	72
Fiscal impacts on the town's taxpayers and town services	8.3% (6)	5.6% (4)	30.6% (22)	41.7% (30)	13.9% (10)	3.47	72
An amicable end to a conflict that has divided and challenged the town's relationships and reputation	9.7% (7)	11.1% (8)	27.8% (20)	20.8% (15)	30.6% (22)	3.51	72
answered question							72
skipped question							3

Note: Craggy Ridge is a subdivision to the west of the 2 town-owned turbines in Falmouth. A smaller proportion of this neighborhood has been strongly affected, as compared to the neighborhood south of the turbines, along Blacksmith Shop Road and side roads there.

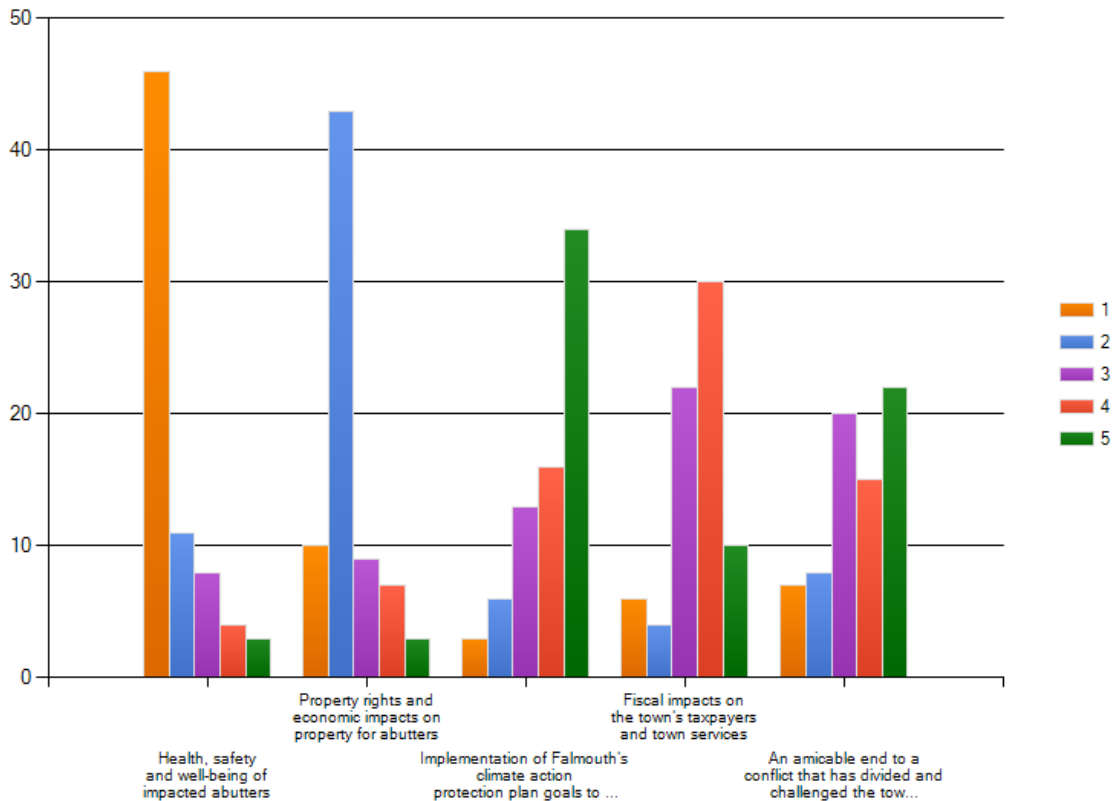
Note also that many survey questions are gathering neighborhood opinion about the options being considered by the town committee, rather than asking about their own experiences; some later questions do address the latter.

Averaged Rankings:



Number of Participants Ranking each Interest 1-5

Core interests as established by the Wind Turbine Option Process Committee



Comments on the core interests (unedited):

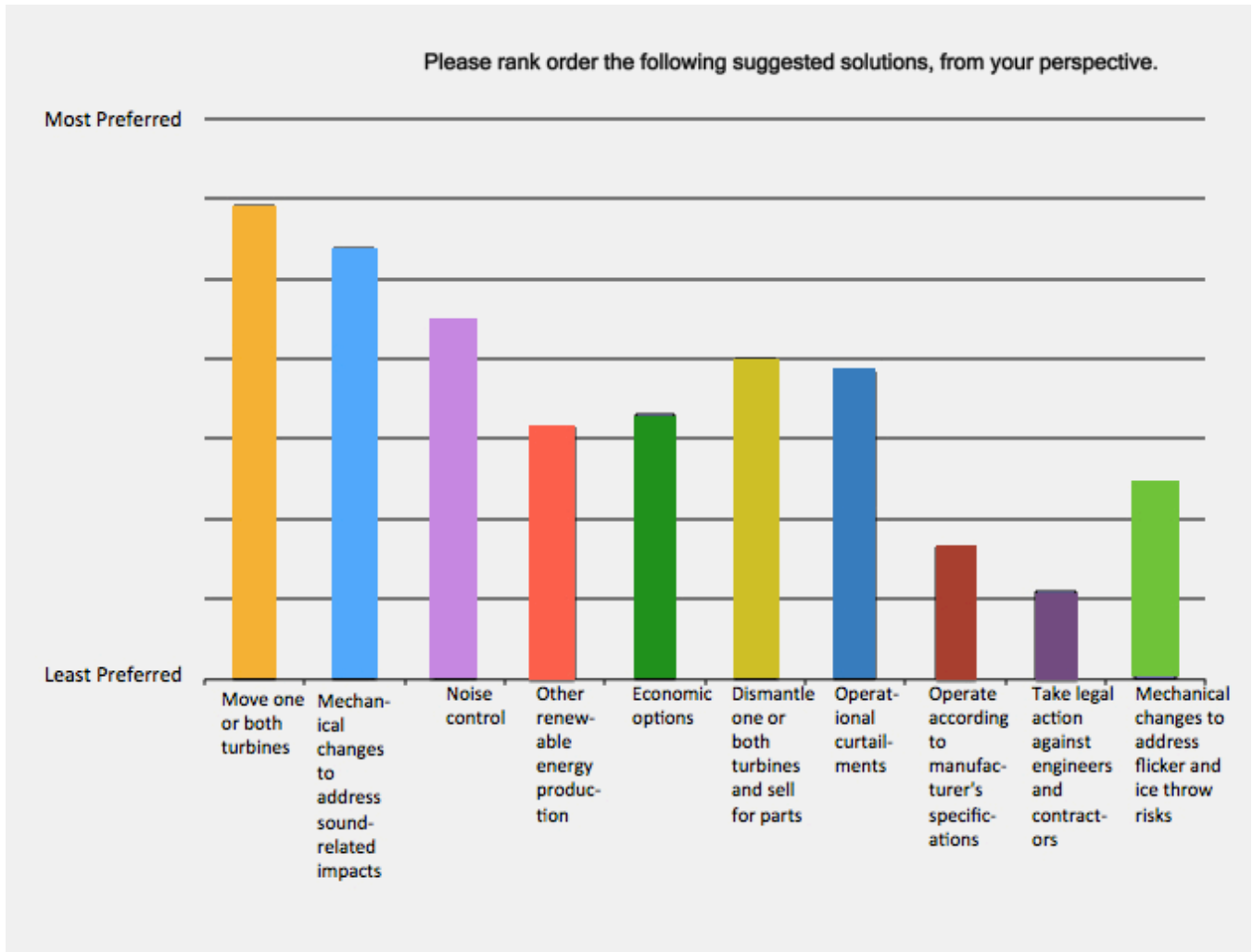
- Spend your live dreaming your cape dream and then you have to see the turbine every time you drive up the street
- removal of wind sites for health and economic reasons and some semi-firm dates when a final decision is to be forthcoming.
- Hey I tried to answer this survey honestly but the answers for question 2 are preprogrammed and impossible to change!! So much for a honest survey!!
- Let's focus on the big issue - a pressing need to replace fossil fuels with a cleaner source of energy.
- A small very vocal minority is creating the image that the turbines ruin peoples' lives and property values. The no compromise, no discussion attitude does more your harm to CR than do the turbines.
- List speaks for itself
- The turbines should never have been placed as close to housing as they were. They should be moved or shut down.
- Shame on the Board of Selectmen who have ignored this issue. Let's start a movement to clean house at town hall. Who has been sympathetic to our problem?
- The first two are almost equal in core interests to us.
- Clearly I agree with the above in the order listed.

- The health and quality of life of the folks being impacted should be foremost in folks minds. The very vocal nay sayers would be the first to complain if it impacted them. It disturbs me that money is an overriding factor to the human condition.
- question could be better stated for more accurate responses (+ "that interest that interests")!
- The town needs a better plan/policy for placement. Smaller turbines should have been placed near homeowners.
- Our health and quality of life should be #1!
- I'm afraid that this survey forces respondents to weigh each option over another when in fact the respondent feels that an option is equally beneficial or equally detrimental as another. The survey does not allow for this opinion to be expressed and will skew final results. At minimum, the survey should allow the respondent to weigh core interests (allowing for duplicate weights) instead of ranking.
- all of these are very important; easy to see why different people order them differently!
- I am not against the implementation of wind turbines.
- Health, and economic impact of abutters
- SHUTDOWN OF THE THREE 1.65MWATT WTS. A RETURN OF OUR ENVIRONMENT TO PRE-TURBINE CONDITIONS.

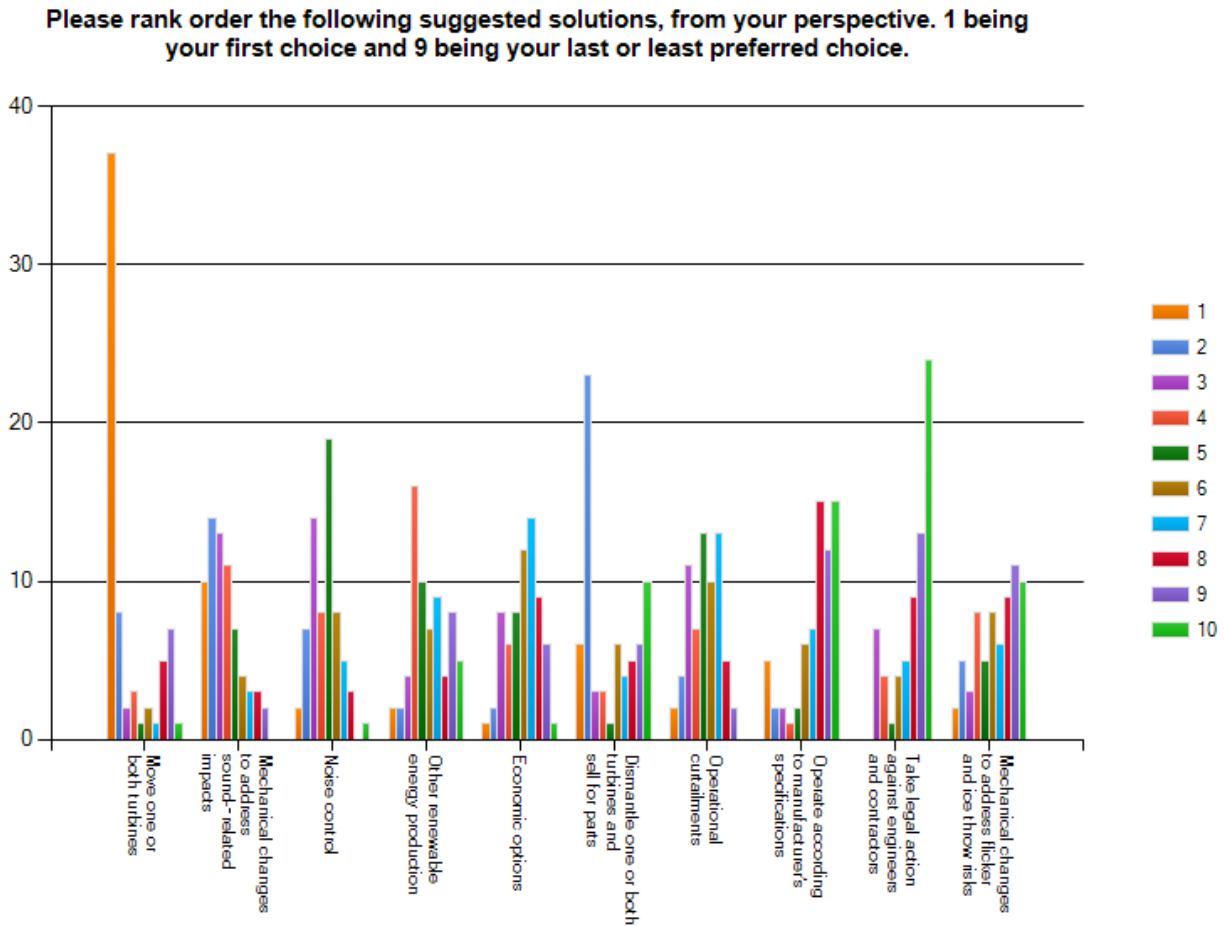
Please rank order the following suggested solutions, from your perspective. 1 being your first choice and 9 being your last or least preferred choice:

4. Please rank order the following suggested solutions, from your perspective. 1 being your first choice and 9 being your last or least preferred choice.											Create Chart	Download
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Rating Average	Response Count
Move one or both turbines	55.2% (37)	11.9% (8)	3.0% (2)	4.5% (3)	1.5% (1)	3.0% (2)	1.5% (1)	7.5% (5)	10.4% (7)	1.5% (1)	3.10	67
Mechanical changes to address sound-related impacts	14.9% (10)	20.9% (14)	19.4% (13)	16.4% (11)	10.4% (7)	6.0% (4)	4.5% (3)	4.5% (3)	3.0% (2)	0.0% (0)	3.63	67
Noise control	3.0% (2)	10.4% (7)	20.9% (14)	11.9% (8)	28.4% (19)	11.9% (8)	7.5% (5)	4.5% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.5% (1)	4.51	67
Other renewable energy production	3.0% (2)	3.0% (2)	6.0% (4)	23.9% (16)	14.9% (10)	10.4% (7)	13.4% (9)	6.0% (4)	11.9% (8)	7.5% (5)	5.84	67
Economic options	1.5% (1)	3.0% (2)	11.9% (8)	9.0% (6)	11.9% (8)	17.9% (12)	20.9% (14)	13.4% (9)	9.0% (6)	1.5% (1)	5.96	67
Dismantle one or both turbines and sell for parts	9.0% (6)	34.3% (23)	4.5% (3)	4.5% (3)	1.5% (1)	9.0% (6)	6.0% (4)	7.5% (5)	9.0% (6)	14.9% (10)	5.01	67
Operational curtailments	3.0% (2)	6.0% (4)	16.4% (11)	10.4% (7)	19.4% (13)	14.9% (10)	19.4% (13)	7.5% (5)	3.0% (2)	0.0% (0)	5.15	67
Operate according to manufacturer's specifications	7.5% (5)	3.0% (2)	3.0% (2)	1.5% (1)	3.0% (2)	9.0% (6)	10.4% (7)	22.4% (15)	17.9% (12)	22.4% (15)	7.34	67
Take legal action against engineers and contractors	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	10.4% (7)	6.0% (4)	1.5% (1)	6.0% (4)	7.5% (5)	13.4% (9)	19.4% (13)	35.8% (24)	7.91	67
Mechanical changes to address flicker and ice throw risks	3.0% (2)	7.5% (5)	4.5% (3)	11.9% (8)	7.5% (5)	11.9% (8)	9.0% (6)	13.4% (9)	16.4% (11)	14.9% (10)	6.55	67
answered question											67	
skipped question											8	

Averaged Rankings:



Number of Participants Rankings each Option 1-10:



Comments on the suggested solutions (unedited):

- Disassemble and sell.
- Understand the need for additional electricity. These solve problems in many places and progress is needed for the future needs.
- after the top 4, the other options are all unacceptable!
- I put "operate according to manufacturer's specs" first because I don't know if the town is already doing that. If they're not doing that, that would be the best place to start.
- I think immediate steps should and could be taken before taking final decisions. This would provide some immediate relief to those affected.
- must move turbines
- Town should buy iut disgruntled abutters & give on going monetary compensation to abutters according to the sound & visual impact of the turbines.
- Shut them down, move them or try to sell them.
- Move or dismantle turbines and take care of our citizens' health.

- Would a sound barrier wall such as are used on high traffic highways to shield residential tracts from noise be effective?
- The Town needs to admit they make an error and either move or dismantle the turbines. The Town should work with our State Reps to determine what relief can be obtained from the State. It puzzles me when the Town says there is fiscal impact of paying the utility bills without the turbine. It begs the question of they could pay the bill before the turbines were in place why can't they do the same without the turbines in the future.
- the cost to move them is too high. The only feasible option is to offer to buy out a FEW homes, but this should be extremely limited to those FEW who have voiced the loudest complaints.
- The turbines should stay and be operated as originally intended. If we stopped talking about how ugly and noisy they are and started talking about how clean they are our property values would go up. Besides, compared to the oil rigs I grew up with in South Texas the wind turbines are stunning works of art! I like them.
- I have zero interest in options 8,9, and 10 as I see them as fiscally irresponsible.
- I'm not sure what is meant by "other renewable energy production" or "economic options"
- Photovoltaic array should provide "green" energy without the negative effects of wind turbines
- In order to suggest a solution, one needs to believe there is a problem. I think that in this situation, the problem IS the folks having the "problem." I live very close to Wind 1 and 2 and my family and I have zero problems. Our windows were open all summer (day and night) and we are not bothered by the gentle, minimal sound that comes from the turbines. We can barely hear them when we are out in the yard.
- Again, this survey forces respondents to weigh each option over another when in fact the respondent may feel that an option is equally beneficial or equally detrimental as another. The survey does not allow for this opinion to be expressed and will skew results. The survey should allow the respondent to weigh suggested solutions (allowing for duplicate weights) instead of ranking.
- MOVE TURBINES TO OTIS
- Not sure whether mechanical changes, legal action, or "operating according to specifications" would have any impact??
- not concerned with any of these issues.
- State/Federal Intervention as they have responsibility and resources to help move them (trade for 3 smaller ones)
- MOVE THE TURBINES Sell them back to the state and federal government
- BOTH WIND I AND WIND II MUST GO--FOR THE SAKE OF MANY INDIVIDUALS AND THE CRAGGY RIDGE DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE BEING FORCED TO LIVE IN A TOXIC ENVIRONMENT.

How does living near the turbines affect you personally?

6. How does living near the turbines affect you personally?		Create Chart	Download
		Response Percent	Response Count
They impact my health and well-being		23.2%	16
I'm worried that they will lower my property values		63.8%	44
I really don't like how they look		30.4%	21
They don't really impact me personally		37.7%	26
		Other (please specify) Show Responses	20
		answered question	69
		skipped question	6

impact health

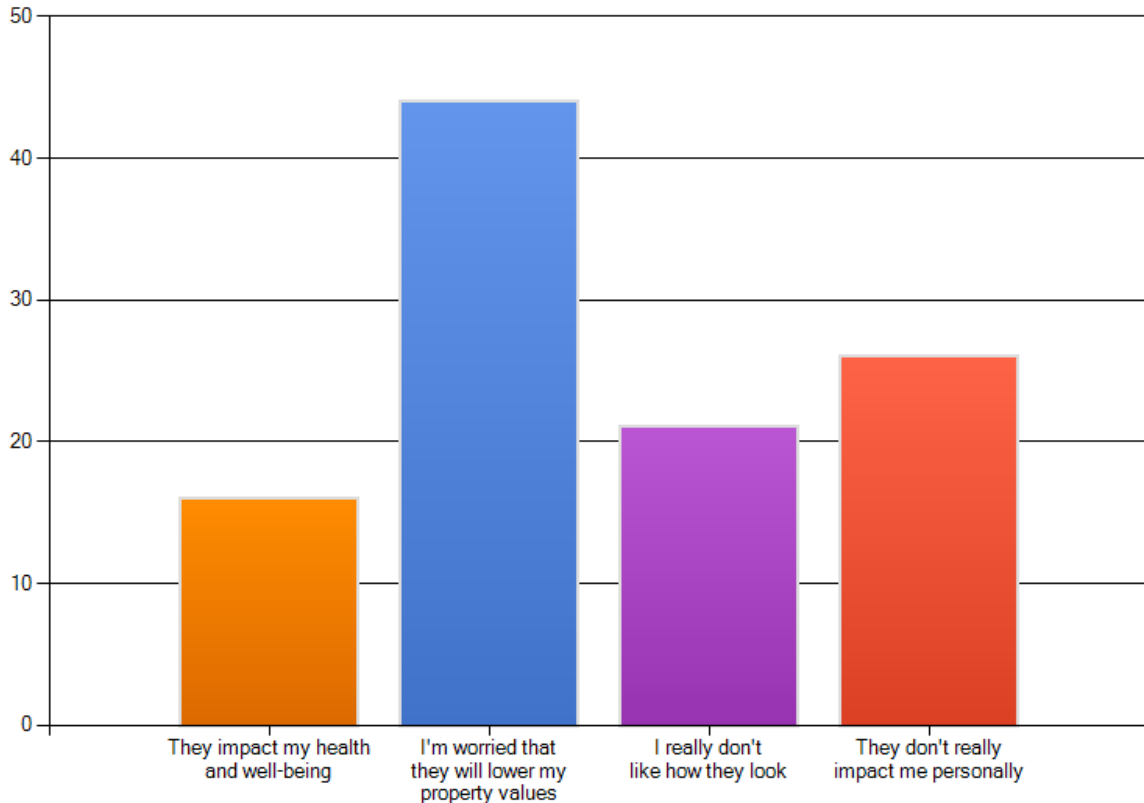
16/71 surveys=22.5%

16/69 answered question=23.1%

says at top 71 responded, but here and elsewhere they have 75 as total of answered and skipped...multiple replies from some homes?

16/75=21.3%

How does living near the turbines affect you personally?



Comments on how living near the turbines affects neighbors personally (unedited except one name removed):

- I am angry and bitter when I see the WT during the drive up the hill to my property.
- I can't click on the boxes. #1 health, #2 property value.
- if wind is blowing a certain way during a storm we hear the turbines otherwise don't
- the lack of support by town officials regarding the people they should be supporting is distressing! Politics at it's epic!
- No question they would probably affect property values
- I do worry about property values but more importantly they are too close to any housing. I have heard them occasionally and can't imagine being any closer to them! I don't understand someone living in woods hole criticizing anyone living beneath those things who is complaining about the noise!
- Property value is second to health issues for our neighbors.
- I'm unhappy/concerned at apparent lack of foresight, expertise, and overall quality of decision making by my Town Government in installing these particular turbines in this place. Town should 'bite the bullet', acknowledge its mistake(s) here, and rectify same.
- I like wind energy and the look of the wind turbines.
- I hear a slight whoosh periodically. Does NOT bother me. No negative impact on me or my family. I also see a flicker now and then, but NO NEGATIVE IMPACT on me.

- I like the wind turbines and I support building more of them.
- ...except that I think that [neighbors] yelling about how they are lowering property values will indeed lower property values.
- They don't impact me personally in the sense that we have never been bothered by noise or flickers etc. But the more other people complain, the more it seems our property values are going to be impacted negatively.
- They do not bother my family at all. We can see and gently hear them. We are fine. I want them to stay and I want them to spin continually.
- With the right conditions, the noise bothers me.
- I am worried that the manufactured 'uproar' around the turbines (not the turbines themselves) will lower my property taxes. How about we' kill many birds with one stone and advocate for a tall sound-proof wall (common on many highways abutting residential areas) to be erected along Route 28. This would reduce the noise of the highway (which I find louder than the turbines), the noise of the turbines and probably eliminate or reduce early morning flicker in the neighborhood.
- Their flicker reduces the time my wife can spend outdoors because of her susceptibility to focal seizures. There is already documented evidence property values have dropped
- they are creating real hardship among my neighbors; flicker is a minor issue for us.
- I don't like the way those people that are hurting are treated.
- We have been forced to leave our home for an extended basis. I cannot live with the sound of the machines. When we are at our Craggy Ridge home I avoid it during the hours the turbines are operating. We cannot use our yard and gardens.