

# Pocasset Wampanoag Tribe

275-B Indiantown Rd.  
Fall River, MA. 02720  
Chairman George Spring Buffalo  
508- 736-7423

March 3,2010

Honorable Ken Salazar  
Secretary of the Interior  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

John M. Fowler  
Executive Director  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
Old Post Office Building  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 803  
Washington, D.C. 20004

RE: Cape Cod Wind Project.

Please accept this letter as an expression of the Pocasset Tribe's support for the Cape Wind project. Harnessing wind for the purpose of producing clean energy for the economic and environmental betterment of our society is consistent with our cultural values and our vision for future economic development. We understand that two tribes in Massachusetts have made claims that the Cape Wind Project would conflict with certain religious ceremonies they perform. We have asked our elders and they do not know of and have never witnessed a daily ceremony on the waters of Nantucket. As descendent's of the Royal Family of the Wampanoag nation, we believe that the surviving culture of our nation is very important. Our cultural values include being in harmony with the forces of nature, including the wind. Channeling the wind and developing other green energy sources are true expressions of our culture. We have discussed this with tribes in other parts of the country who feel the same way and have set up wind farms on their reservations.

We support the views of Governor Patrick and President Obama that green energy jobs are the way to recovery. The citizens and Native Americans of Massachusetts are experiencing difficult

economic challenges. Inexpensive energy produced in harmony with nature will maintain a clean environment for future generations while providing lower costs of living and operation to residents and businesses, respectively. The demand for these projects and the resulting business productivity improvements will result in jobs for many of the unemployed. We have made this our vision, too. Turning away the Cape Wind Project is in direct conflict with this vision. On behalf of the Pocasset Tribe, we promise to support green energy projects established in the 6 million acres of our native territory. Furthermore, we welcome collaboration with corporate, governmental and labor organizations on future alternative energy projects. We believe portions of our reservations, located in Fall River and Freetown, would offer strategic benefits to all stakeholders.

These lands are surrounded by some of the poorest communities in Massachusetts. It was not that long ago when this area was one of the most industrious in the Northeast. A clean energy project on one of our reservations would help breathe life into the native and non-native communities of the area. We would be proud to use our land in this way. Historically, the Royal Family from Benjamin Tuspauquin to King Philip ruled over the Wampanoag Nation. We are the direct descendent's of the Royal Family. Matters of native culture and native law are decided based on historical laws and not the laws of state and federal government. All Massachusetts tribes are members of the Wampanoag Nation. On behalf of the Royal Family of the Wampanoag Nation, we challenge any claims made by other members of our nation against the Cape Wind Project. We request that you consider the comments made to be the opinions of the individuals who made them and not that of the Nation.

With Great Respect,

**George Spring Buffalo**

Chairman George Spring Buffalo  
Pocasset Wampanoag Tribe

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