

# Cape & Islands "Voting Energy" Survey - Initial Results

- Survey, issued by mail in mid-August with phone/email follow-ups, available for download at <http://cirenew.info/independence.htm>.
- 12 respondents as of 09.15.06:
  - Candidates for U.S. Representative, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Legislature, and County Commissioner
  - 7 Democrats, 3 Republicans, and 2 Independent/Green-Rainbow candidates
- Survey prepared and results analyzed by Chris Powicki of Water Energy & Ecology Information Services in conjunction with Megan Amsler of Cape & Islands Self-Reliance.
- *Voting Energy Guide* and analysis of additional candidate survey results to be issued in advance of the general election.

## Results

## *Global Considerations*



- 92% of respondents believe that skyrocketing energy prices increasingly reflect global market pressures.



- 92% of respondents believe that the "war on terror" and other global conflicts are attributable at least in part to U.S. reliance on foreign oil.



- 100% of respondents believe that the world's consumption of fossil fuels is changing global climate.

## *Cape & Islands Impacts*



- 100% of respondents believe that reliance on fossil fuels harms the economy of the Cape & Islands, through high prices and capital outflows.



- 92% of respondents believe that reliance on fossil fuels affects public health in the Cape & Islands, through air pollutant emissions and mercury releases.



- 100% of respondents believe that reliance on fossil fuels degrades water quality and habitat in the Cape & Islands, through deposition of airborne pollutants, surface runoff, and fuel spills.



- 100% of respondents believe that reliance on fossil fuels poses risks to the future of the Cape & Islands, through the localized effects of global climate change.



- 92% of respondents believe that continued reliance on fossil fuels could have either "extreme" or "serious" adverse impacts on the Cape & Islands.



## Results

## *Local Opportunities & Options*



- 100% of respondents believe that the Cape & Islands should be working aggressively toward a long-term goal of energy independence.



- 59% of respondents believe that communities on the Cape, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket could become electricity independent within the next 10 to 15 years.



- 82% of respondents support community-based siting and installation of large-scale offshore wind projects not visible from land.



- 92% of respondents support community-based siting and installation of large-scale wave and/or tidal energy projects not visible from land.



- 100% of respondents believe that local communities should receive long-term, stable power supply contracts from Cape & Islands offshore renewables projects.



- 92% of respondents believe that local communities should receive opportunities for public ownership of offshore renewables projects.



- 92% of respondents believe that offshore renewables projects should include investment in complementary education, research, and economic development initiatives in local communities.



- 92% of respondents believe that offshore renewables projects should be integrated with demonstrations of hydrogen, plug-in hybrid, and other advanced energy systems in local communities.



- 75% of respondents believe that local residents should receive employment opportunities with offshore renewables projects.



- 75% of respondents believe that local communities should receive mitigation fees for adverse impacts from offshore renewables projects.



- 67% of respondents believe that local communities should have final say on project siting and sizing for offshore renewables projects.



- 100% of respondents support creation of a Cape & Islands renewable energy cooperative to buy green power at wholesale rates, own and operate projects and systems, and give residents and businesses direct control over their energy future.