

Oh no...Governor Patrick wants to install wind turbines on Mount Tom. This makes total sense - there is a lot of wind up there - but it will ruin our beautiful views and destroy property values! I'm all for clean energy, but not in my backyard!

The citizens of Easthampton, Holyoke, and Southampton have started a committee called *Citizens Opposed To (Wind) Turbines On (Mount) Tom (But) Otherwise Green* or COTTOTOG and they have hired you to proof that this these turbines will indeed have a significant impact on their bucolic views.

1. Determine the *percentage* of Easthampton, Holyoke, and Southampton from where these wind turbines will be visible and create a map showing these areas. Does anybody actually live in these areas?

But – that’s not the end of the story: it also matters if you are forced to see the entire turbine or perhaps only the tops of the blades.

2. Expand your analysis from Question 1 and account also for the *degree of visibility*: all of it, 75 percent of it, half of it, or only 25 percent of it.

But – that’s not the end of the story: what about vegetation screening – maybe trees will protect the views of some folks?

3. Expand your analysis again by *additionally* accounting for the screening effect of trees.
4. That looks pretty good, but what are the *flaws* of your analysis and how could you avoid them?
5. How would you *confirm* your analysis?

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### ***A Few Parameters***

- Use the best and most recent data available for your analysis.
- Assume the wind turbine is 400 feet tall (base to the tip of the blades at their highest point).

The results of your analysis are best summarized and presented as tables and charts. Prepare a professional GIS poster in 24 by 18 inches, an ArcGIS Online web application, and a Google Earth map to visualize your analysis.

Prepare a professional report based on your conceptual flowchart

Due Date: Wednesday 13 November 2013 at 14:00.  
NO Exceptions, so plan accordingly!