A Once in A Generation Opportunity

Big Decision for the Town of New Shoreham on Whether it Should Purchase the Block Island Power Company

Block Island residents are being presented with an opportunity to purchase and control their own power company.

Why consider this now?

With the new wind farm coming to Block Island, BIPCo will be restructured. The majority owners of BIPCo have indicated they want to sell (if not to the town, to someone else)

A town purchase of BIPCo would give Block Island residents control over some of the crucial restructuring decisions.

There are issues that deserve community involvement including:

• Operation of diesel generators
• Cost allocation between residential and commercial customers
• Conservation and alternative energy programs
• Management of underground fuel tanks
• Investment in distribution infrastructure
• BIPCo land use

There are several issues to consider as we decide whether we want to move forward with the purchase. Over the next several weeks, the Town will be communicating information and FAQs to assist residents as they consider the BIPCo purchase. Look for regular articles and factual information in the Block Island Times on the New Shoreham Website, and other available outlets. And we’d like to hear from you. Let us know your questions and concerns.

There are a series of important action steps required as we consider the purchase and important opportunities for residents to weigh-in.

Finally, mark on your calendar for September 26th when the Town has a Financial Town Meeting on the issue.

Submitted by the Town of New Shoreham