



For Immediate Release
April 7, 2009

Media Contact: Audra Parker
508-280-9082/508-775-9767

Statement of the Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound

In a February 19, 2009, letter to the Waterkeeper Alliance, the Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound formally withdrew its Nantucket Soundkeeper license and recommended that the program be continued under the leadership of Sue Nickerson and the Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association. Co-founded by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. in 1999, the Waterkeeper Alliance is a highly-respected environmental organization with nearly 200 member programs throughout the globe dedicated to protecting vital bodies of water and waterways. As an official program of the Alliance since 2005, the Nantucket Soundkeeper program spearheaded the Nantucket Sound Water Quality Collaborative, hosted educational Eco-Adventure Tours, operated a pollution hotline, conducted boat patrols and coastal clean-ups, and was an active participant in the Massachusetts ocean zoning process. "With the investment the Alliance has made in the Nantucket Soundkeeper program and our long term commitment to protecting Nantucket Sound, we are pleased that the program has a new home to continue our efforts," said Audra Parker, Alliance Executive Director & COO.

The Alliance is continuing to focus on the long term protection of Nantucket Sound and the establishment of proper ocean zoning to ensure that renewable energy is developed in appropriate areas and that national treasures like Nantucket Sound are off limits to development and preserved in perpetuity. Cape Wind is the most significant immediate threat to Nantucket Sound and would negatively impact the local environment, the economy, electric rates, public safety, and Tribal and historic interests.

Cape Wind is facing mounting legal challenges and local and national opposition. The Federal Aviation Administration has issued a presumed hazard determination for the project due to radar interference to the 400,000 flights that travel over Nantucket Sound annually. The national Passenger Vessel Association has opposed the construction of an offshore wind energy facility in Nantucket Sound because of hazards to navigation safety for local ferry operators and their millions of yearly passengers. The Mashpee and Aquinnah Wampanoags as well as the United South and Eastern Tribes, a 25-Tribe coalition, have been outspoken in their opposition to the cultural, religious, and archaeological impacts the proposed project would have on their Tribes. The Cape Cod Commission has issued Cape Wind a procedural denial on a key permit and has requested the withdrawal of certifications the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) recently issued to Cape Wind. The Town of Barnstable as well as the Alliance and a group of residents have also filed suit against CZM.

4 Barnstable Road, Hyannis, Massachusetts 02601
□ **508-775-9767** □ **Fax: 508-775-9725**

www.saveoursound.org

a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization

The fight to protect Nantucket Sound from the Cape Wind industrial project continues and is gaining strength. Cape Wind must secure each and every one of approximately twenty federal, state, and local permits and authorizations to begin construction.

4 Barnstable Road, Hyannis, Massachusetts 02601
□ **508-775-9767** □ **Fax: 508-775-9725**

www.saveoursound.org

a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization