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Board: NEWS BB
Subject: NEW YORK POWER
Posted: February 01,1997 23:16:08
To: ALL
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Anyone know the details of a building cooperative or commune in Manhattan that erected a windmill up on its roof and converted wind directly into electric power for the tenants living downstairs?

The windmill produced more electricity than the entire building consumed so the extra electricity flowed OUT from the building, through the meters, and INTO the greater grid. This caused the meters to run BACKWARDS and aroused the suspicions of Consolidated Edison.

Con Ed sued the building to get it to stop producing electricity and the co-op responded by billing Con Ed for the electricity it was getting.

It went around in court for awhile, (and may have reached the Top Court) and the People won! The court ordered Con Ed to send a check every month to the building for the electricity that was produced.

So how come windmills haven't sprouted across New York City like mushrooms after a summer rain? With sky-high utility costs it would seem any ambitious person would jump at the chance to earn a profit from his electricity use, yet no aerial view of the City reveals any explosion of windmills across the urban expanse, and New York is NOTHING if not a City of rooftops.

The same wind that powers one building would EQUALLY power the ones on either side and the one in the back and the one across the street, etc.

So why hasn't New York been transformed into New Amsterdam yet? Perhaps some palms were greased and a "law" was passed prohibiting any more windmills. Does anyone happen to know the details of this event?

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