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15 NOV 2010

The New Hampshire
State Public Utility
Commission - Site
Evaluation Committee (SEC)

Dept of Environmental Services
Box 95
29 Hazen Drive
Concord NH. 03302-0095

Dear Committee, We are against the proposed
wind farm on Fletcher + Tenny Ridge by Groton
Wind LLC for several reasons.

- 1) The hydro power coming soon from Canada to
Franklin will be sufficient for years to come.
- 2) The towers are insightly to all neighbors
- 3) The towers are not able to operate without
govt. subsidy which will eventually be shifted
from Washington to New Hampshire
- 4) The towers are proven bird killers + will
deplete most birds on the 4,000 acre site.

Proof is found in the record of two large
Corporate fines, one of 10 million dollars that
killed 200+ eagles + a 2 million plus fine that
killed 300+ of an endangered species

over

on the west coast, Alaska or Washington State. The fines were for killing endangered birds — but no fines or records kept of all the other birds that common sense tells us were also killed.

These towers will produce a SILENT SPRING!
— AND it is incumbent on the SEC to study this "bird kill issue" now or be responsible for all future fines.

Respectfully Submitted

Glenn + Anne Dorr

Bristol NH 03222

Please see attached articles re: bird kills
and 4 other articles

Plymouth wind farm plan aired

◆ **Concerns:** More study called for to check if birds or bats will be harmed or people's lives will be diminished.

(Editor's note: The reporter owns property and lives within view of this proposed project.)

By PAULA TRACY
New Hampshire Union Leader

CO: TORD — With endangered

UNION LEADER NOV. 5, 2010

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before the state's Site Evaluation Committee by the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office Counsel for the Public countered that the developer's proposals for bird safety are inadequate.

The company suggests that a year of post-construction study would be done and if levels of kills warranted further study, another year of evaluation could be ordered.

Trevor L. Lloyd-Evans, an ornithologist with the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences in Massachusetts, said there has not been a lot known about wind turbine mortality for local and migrating birds throughout the Northeast because there are few wind parks. Three years of data would be more in keeping with what he would like to see for the project. He said migratory paths change from year to year, so one year of study is not enough.

He noted that the state's Site Evaluation Committee, which is considering permitting the wind park, required three years for the Granite Reliable Power project for Coos County, which has not yet been built.

"This is a very fair way of assessing the mortality," he said.

He said that Iberdrola's bird and bat protection plan is a good one but rare birds already face many threats.

"Anything that happens at a turbine is in addition to the mortality they already encounter. As a society, they (the turbines) have to be weighed against impacts to wildlife," Lloyd-Evans said.

Check the west coast states

species potentially in harm's way of a proposed wind farm in Groton, there should be at least three years of independent study on bird and bat mortality, an ornithologist told a state board yesterday.

Iberdrola Renewables wants to build 24 wind turbines outside Plymouth to create up to 48 megawatts of electricity a year. The company has said the affect on raptors will be minimal, despite threatened peregrine falcons nest within several miles of the project

The committee has until the end of December to determine whether to permit the 48-megawatt project in Groton. Iberdrola has a 24-megawatt wind park in Lempster, the first approved in the state.

The committee is taking testimony all week on the subject, and took public comment Thursday.

Pamela Hamel of Groton, an area resident for 14 years, said she has seen a lot of changes and growth in the Baker River Valley.

"Obviously, there is local impact," she said. "It will change the Baker River Valley but I believe that change is positive and will be beneficial...It's green, renewable...growth means a number of things and one of them is the need for energy. It needs to come from somewhere."

Greg Pitman, executive director of the New Hampshire Campground Owners Association, said the project would have a negative impact on the Baker River Valley Campground.

"People come for the peace and quiet," he said. The owners "are concerned that the noise from the proposed wind park will drive business away."

"How would they be reimbursed for the loss of business? Those are among our concerns," Pitman said.

Those who live and work in Lempster, including Cathy Sturgeon, who owns a small store, said the 12 turbines have meant more business for the town.

"It was an economic boost

area on Rumney's Rattlesnake Mountain.

Golden eagles and the northern harrier were also observed on the project site — all birds of concern under the Endangered Species Act — during recent studies by the company of the ridge lines on Fletcher and Tenney mountains. Those birds take advantage of ridge-line updrafts, but company officials said the birds avoid the turbine blades and towers.

An expert on birds brought

See Wind, Page B2

for our area," and people are more drawn to the turbines, Sturgeon said.

"It creates a lot of energy and helps the economy," Sturgeon said.

At the end of the day, the Dr. Lawrence Mazur and Richard Wetterer of Rumney took the stand. They oppose the project and are concerned with health effects from wind turbines, particularly from noise.

Vermont is proposing that turbines be no closer than two miles in mountainous terrain from homes, Wetterer said.

The Mazur home looks out at Fletcher Mountain and will be in full view of some of the turbines. Dr. Mazur discussed the phenomenon of "wind turbine syndrome."

"It's not clear in my mind if it is a reasonable issue of concern or not, however, it seems that if wind turbines are a thing spreading throughout the year, before licensing authorities such as this approve these, they should understand whether or not there are impacts such as this," Mazur said.

He said global warming is an issue but possible health hazards from towers near homes has to be considered.

The fact Vermont wants the two mile setback is something that should be considered by New Hampshire, he said.

"We feel the inhabitants of the Baker River Valley...will all be potential, involuntary guinea-pigs...why build these things in proximity to human beings?" Mazur said.

Campaigns Rap Wind Power as 'Failed Stimulus'

By PAUL GLADER

The wind power industry has become tangled in the election-year spin cycle.

Republican candidates who have heavily targeted President Barack Obama's stimulus bill in ads are calling funding for wind-power projects a "failed stimulus" that sent jobs to China.

The \$4.5 billion set aside for wind power hasn't drawn as much fire as bigger targets like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the deficit, but the attacks are troubling for an industry already hammered by sluggish power demand and falling orders.

"Wind turbines are being used in an inaccurate way to serve near-term political agendas," said Rob Gramlich, senior vice president for public policy at the American Wind Energy Association. "That certainly could harm the industry if this myth is allowed to perpetuate."

A political ad supporting Austin Scott, who is running for Congress in Georgia against incumbent Democrat Jim Marshall, claims Mr. Marshall voted for "Obama's stimulus plan that's done little for American jobs and sent nearly \$2 billion overseas to build wind turbines."

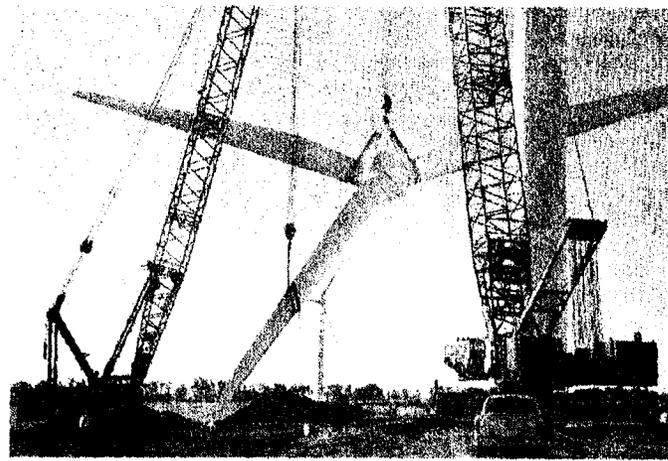
In a New Mexico House race, Republican challenger Jon Barela alleges, in an ad, that incumbent Democrat Martin Heinrich voted for the stimulus plan "that's done little to create new American jobs." It goes on to say "Chinese workers were paid to build wind turbines. Call Martin Heinrich. Tell him you want your money back."

The Obama Administration used several mechanisms in the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to provide funding to the U.S. wind industry, which added 10,000 megawatts of power in 2009. The stimulus bill allowed wind devel-

opers to use either production or investment tax credits that can be converted to a grant that requires project construction by the end of 2010. The current production tax credit expires in 2012.

At least a dozen ads portray stimulus spending on wind power or renewable energy as an example of waste. Another dozen or more allege the stimulus sent jobs to China. None explicitly calls for ending the tax breaks for the industry once they expire this year, but the wind association fears the criticism will make them harder to renew.

The Republican campaign committee claims it has identified 11 U.S. wind farms that used stimulus grants to buy wind turbines, with 695 of the 982 total coming from overseas suppliers. The Republican group is calling for more stringent "Buy American" provisions throughout the stimulus package.



A rotor for a Suzlon Energy wind turbine is raised in Ohio, Ill.

The American Wind Energy Association disputed the findings, saying only three of the 33,000 wind turbines in the U.S. were made in China and that the vast majority of foreign suppliers produce turbines for the U.S. market in facilities here.

AWEA Chief Executive Denise Bode wrote to leaders of both parties' congressional campaign committees Oct. 22 to ask for a cease fire, arguing that the ads could undermine efforts to get Congress to extend renewable energy tax credits.

Wind power has long been an industry with political overtones and the recent attacks show the downside of its reliance on government tax credits. The attacks catch the industry at a vulnerable moment. The AWEA reported Friday that wind power installations of 1,634 megawatts in the first half of 2010 were down 72% from 2009.

General Electric Co., the largest wind-turbine maker in the U.S., with 40% of installed capacity, said orders dropped by 30% or \$600 million, in the third quarter.

GE's chief wind turbine rival globally, Vestas Wind System A/S of Denmark, said Tuesday it could cut 3,000 jobs at three plants in Denmark and one in Sweden to stay competitive.

Vestas has spent \$1 billion to add 2,500 jobs in the U.S., where it has four factories. Vestas expects 30% of its revenue to come from North America in 2010.

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Once again
we salute the
winners

Bid for Ghana Oil Field Is Rebuffed

Continued from page B1
GNPC-Cnooc bid could be aimed at pressuring Kosmos into a sale. "They are putting under the sun-light that there is a credible bid that is even higher than the one Kosmos had from Exxon," said Jefferies & Co. analyst Subash Chandra. "Everyone knows now that there is a deal on the table."

GNPC couldn't be reached for comment.

Some analysts said that Kosmos may not be willing to sell because it deems the price offered by GNPC and Cnooc too low. Buckingham Research Group said in a note to clients on Sept. 29 that Woodruff Energy Services Corp. stands out as a bidder

which is the same as Kosmos's, has an estimated value of \$6.75 billion. Other recent discoveries nearby could boost the stake's value even further.

Venture-backed companies like Kosmos that specialize in the risky oil-exploration business are usually eager to cash in on their successes before they have to put up money to develop their holdings. In the case of oil-rich fields, development costs can run into billions of dollars.

But Kosmos Chief Operating Officer Frank Marjolef said in September that the company plans to continue developing the Jubilee field and is preparing

for Jubilee's initial production.

That could simply mean the Kosmos thinks its assets Ghana are worth a lot more than has been offered, said Jefferies' Ms. Chandra.

In addition to Kosmos, GNI and Anadarko, partners in the Jubilee field include Tullow PLC and EO Group.

In September, China Export Import Bank lent Ghana \$1 billion for infrastructure projects, and the China Development Bank provided a separate \$3 billion loan for the development of the country's oil and gas sector.

Eric V. and William Come contributed to this article.

Gone With The Wind

Environment: From California to Missouri, four of five environmental initiatives lost at the ballot box. Voters are clearly still not ready for exorbitant costs and excessive regulation without clear benefits.

President-elect Obama may have felt "a righteous wind" at his back during the campaign, but it did not translate into environmental victories at the ballot box, where one green initiative after another failed for a variety of reasons.

California voters shot down both clean-energy propositions on the ballot. Proposition 7 would have required utilities to generate 40% of their power from renewable energy by 2020 and 50% by 2025. It lost 65% to 35%.

Proposition 10 would have created \$5 billion in general obligation bonds to help consumers and others purchase certain high-fuel-economy or alternative-fuel vehicles, and to fund research into alternative fuel technology. It failed 60% to 40%.

Even in San Francisco, the capital of liberalism and greenie fervor, voters rejected Proposition H, which would have mandated a rapid increase in the city's use of clean energy to achieve its goal of being 100% renewable by 2040. It would also have meant taking over the city's private electric company.

Obama took the former red state of Colorado, which also elected environmentalist Senate candidate Mark Udall over oil executive Bob Shaffer. Yet Coloradans struck down a measure to pay for conservation and clean energy by increasing taxes on oil companies.

Only in Missouri did green energy score a victory. There, Proposition C mandated a 15% increase in renewable energy by 2021 with slow and steady yearly increases that energy companies felt they could phase in without disruption and with which voters felt more comfortable.

The mantra is that oil and car companies are blocking the increased use of renewable energy. The truth is that consumers, through their choices and their votes, are slowing the stampede. They worry about the cost in tough economic times and whether

such efforts are worth it based on dubious evidence of global warming. Energy independence is one thing, but going bankrupt to achieve it is quite another.

When gasoline prices were over \$4 a gallon, the chant "drill baby drill" grew loud enough that Democrats were forced to back off renewing a ban on offshore drilling. Now in complete control, they can block offshore drilling, nuclear power and shale oil in their Ahab-like pursuit of alternative energy.

Texas consumers are finding out how expensive the pursuit of alternative energy can be. Their state generates more electricity from wind than any other, and people like oil legend T. Boone Pickens want to generate more.

A just published study by the Texas Public Policy Foundation, "Texas Wind Energy: Past, Present and Future," says that to achieve even modest amounts of wind energy would cost rate payers and taxpayers at least \$60 billion through 2025. That includes transmission costs, production costs, subsidies, tax breaks, economic disruption costs and grid-management costs.

Because of the intermittent nature of wind, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas uses a figure of only 8.7% of wind power's installed capacity when determining available power during peak periods.

On cloudy and windless days, solar and wind are useless and require conventional power sources as backup. Output is not steady and cannot be increased on demand. You can't make the sun shine brighter or the wind blow harder during peak periods.

A Feb. 27 Reuters story illustrated the point. Headlined "Loss Of Wind Causes Texas Power Grid Emergency," it told of an electric grid operator forced to curtail 1,100 megawatts of power to customers on just 10 minutes' notice. The wind simply stopped blowing.

Wind turbines generally operate at only 20% efficiency compared with 85% for coal, gas and nuclear plants. A single 1,000-megawatt nuclear power plant would generate more dependable power than 2,800 1.5-megawatt, occasionally operating wind turbines sitting on 175,000 acres.

Nuclear power is clean energy, and you wouldn't have to wait for a sunny or windy day to plug in your electric car.

Glenn - Here's another thought. The new Hydro Electric power from Hydro - Quebec will be completed in 2015. It is being delivered to Franklin, NH where it will be converted for new local PSNH supply. This will ultimately be cheaper than wind, to say nothing about excess supply. We need to defeat the proposed unsightly ridge line wind farm.

Bailing Out Wind

Energy Policy: Obama announces his energy team without mentioning a green source of renewable energy that could create jobs, reduce carbon emissions and reinvigorate a vital manufacturing sector — nuclear power.

The domestic auto industry isn't the only uncompetitive industry that seems to require life-sustaining transfusions of government cash to stay in business. Alternative energy sources have relied on such subsidies, called "investments," for years.

Yet in President-elect Obama's announcement of his energy team, we were told "the foundations of our energy independence" lie in "the power of wind and solar." Except that for these alternative sources there's been a severe power shortage.

After decades of tax credits and subsidies, wind provides only about 1% of our electricity. By comparison, coal provides 49%, natural gas 22%, nuclear power 19% and hydroelectric 7%.

Wind power is currently uncompetitive. As the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported recently: "In 1999, 2001 and 2003, when Congress temporarily killed the credits, the number of new turbines dropped dramatically." These subsidies will be renewed in the new administration, but to "invest" in wind and solar to replace fossil fuels will be expensive.

A just-published study by the Texas Public Policy Foundation, "Texas Wind Energy: Past, Present and Future," says that to achieve even modest amounts of wind energy in that state alone would cost rate- and taxpayers at least \$60 billion through 2025. That includes transmission costs, production costs, subsidies, tax breaks, economic disruption costs and grid management costs.

Europe, held up as a model of eco-friendly policies, is finding alternative energy to be an expensive and uneconomical proposition. According to estimates by the Rhine-Westphalia Institute for Economic Research, green subsidies will cost German electricity consumers nearly 27 billion euros in the next two years. Each of the 35,000 solar jobs in Germany is subsidized to the tune of 130,000 euros.

Meanwhile, nuclear power is making a comeback despite regulatory and environmental roadblocks, and little federal help. It is spending its own money to invest in clean energy for the future.

The hysteria after Three Mile Island, where no one suffered any harm, shut down the American nuclear power industry and caused our nuclear manufacturing base to atrophy. The overhyped event at Chernobyl was more an indictment of Russian technology than of nuclear power. Yet the damage was done.

Until recently, there was no domestic capacity to manufacture the huge components needed to build nuclear reactors. Global nuclear giant Areva and Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding are partnering to start building heavy nuclear components. The U.S. had very little enrichment capacity. Now, two new facilities are under construction, with two more planned.

"While visions of 'green jobs' dance in the heads of Washington bureaucrats," notes Jack Spencer of the Heritage Foundation. "The nuclear industry is creating thousands of high-skill, high-paying jobs."

Westinghouse, for one example, has already created more than 3,000 jobs and expects to add 2,900 for a development in Louisiana that will be used to construct modules for new nuclear plants.

Each new reactor will employ 1,400 to 1,800 people during construction, rising to as high as 2,400 jobs as the facility is built. During operation, a nuclear plant typically has a skilled work force of between 400 and 700 employees.

On cloudy and windless days, solar and wind are useless and require conventional power sources as backup. Output is not steady and cannot be increased on demand. You can't make the sun shine brighter or the wind blow harder during peak periods.

The Europeans and the Japanese long ago solved the problem of nuclear waste, reprocessing most of it into new fuel and safely storing what it can't, making nuclear power a renewable resource. It also removes billions of tons of greenhouse gases, waste that also finds its way into our lungs.

Nuclear power means jobs, clean air, energy independence and keeping money here at home.

Glenn - These are copies of articles from Investors Business Daily newspaper relating the high cost of wind and solar power. Where ever used wind and solar energy farms require considerable government subsidies to operate. They are not economically self sustaining. I think they would ruin the natural beauty of the local ridge lines of Tenney and Fletcher Mountains. You'll be able to see them from your northern house windows and back deck. They aren't necessary. New Hampshire needs to retain its natural, pristine appearance, views appreciated by residents and visitors alike. Once built they will only provide new jobs for 5, maximum 6 people = not worth it! I'm writing my disapproval to DES in Concord. Additionally, I don't wish to buy the equipment from a Spanish company. This is something we don't need!

Murray

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Groton Wind proposal enters SEC trial phase

Marcia Morris
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GROTON—The proposal to build 24 wind turbines on Fletcher and Tenney Ridge in Groton has been making its way through the New Hampshire State Public Utilities Commission Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) proceedings over the past few months. This week, beginning on Nov. 1, the application entered the adjudicatory phase in those proceedings in Concord, in which designated “interveners” have the opportunity to present evidence and make their

case against the proposed wind power installation.

The public will be represented in these proceedings by the Counsel for the Public, Peter Roth, Senior Assistant Attorney General.

The parties to the adjudicative proceedings are the Applicant, Groton Wind LLC; the Town of Groton; the Town of Rumney; the Town of Plymouth; James M. Buttolph; Cheryl Lewis; Carl Spring; Richard Wetterer; Kathleen Park; Lawrence Mazur, MD; Christine G. DeClerq-Mazur; Sarah Mazur and Theodore Mazur.

There is public comment session scheduled for today, Thursday, Nov. 4, at 2 p.m., and written comments from the public will be accepted up until the completion of deliberations.

Comments should be submitted to the SEC at the Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive in Concord.

Representatives for Groton Wind submitted their completed application for a 48-megawatt renewable energy facility on 4,180 acres off Groton Hollow Road this past March. A series of tech-

nical reviews and hearings have taken place since that time, with the proceedings published in full on the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee Web site, along with a complete copy of the application, with amendments, reports and correspondence.

If the project should be approved by the SEC, the 24 turbines would be visible from several locations in Rumney, Plymouth and other surrounding communities.

During multiple public hearings and information sessions held in Rumney,

Plymouth, Hebron, Groton and other towns since last year, a number of local residents have voiced concerns about the visual, environmental, economic and public health impacts of the project. Other residents have expressed support for the expansion of renewable energy in the region and anticipation that the project will bring some additional employment to the area.

The project would also bring considerable tax benefits to residents of Groton.