

April 4 2011

Good morning,

We have enclosed a couple of articles regarding wind farms. I am sure that the S. E. C. have a tremendous amount of information to look at on this wind farm permit, but we thought that these two articles are especially important.

The first concerns health issues and cost after installation.

The second highlights road use/problems. Our little Groton hollow road is not up to handling this type of weight, height, width, and length of trucks. This type of truck and volume of vehicles will surely block all access to our homes for long periods of time.

Thank you for all of your hard work on this permit and hope you will keep us in mind when you review this project.

Sincerely


Lloyd, Anita French

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Just how big is big? This little story begins at the last NH exit along I-93, exit 44 for Monroe through which a rest area/welcome center is accessible to travelers on both sides of the highway. A rest area that may be closed soon due to budget issues! As you can see an important staging area and welcome area for many local, tourist, business and special jobs that venture this location frequently... In this case a staging area for Southern Tier Expresses continuing journey from Maine to Milford, Utah, hauling two 72' long and 15' diameter GE Base Sections for wind towers, from a laydown yard in Houlton Maine.

Each unit weighs 125,000 lbs and the gross weight of truck and tower combined is 200,000 lbs. The overall length of the truck is 160'. To call this equipment specialized is an understatement. In fact even though these units were driven into the rest area they could not turn around, so had to be backed out. In order to do that and many other tight turns encountered, a remotely operated rear wheel capacity is on these trailers. They can be operated by an individual walking behind the truck or by a person in the follow up safety pick up truck. Safety being the paramount concern.

To complicate this operation, permits are required for the entire journey and most of the Northeast states require two civilian and 2 state police escorts as well. Rough cost of the permits & police escorting is \$10,000. According to Michael Mills, Southern Tier Expresses VP/Operations manager although wind towers are going up all over the country, the majority of them are in Texas & California. Southern Tier Express is located in Andover, NY and has extreme capabilities and cover the lower 48 states as well as Alaska and Canada.

- Story & Photo by Joe McQueeney

Story #7: Human Events: Painful Lessons for Wind Power

RUSH: "Painful Lessons for Wind Power," Brian Sussman, Human Events. "Wind energy took another blow – this time in Massachusetts. Wind One is the 400-foot-tall wind turbine owned by the town of Falmouth, on the southwestern tip of Cape Cod. The residents of Falmouth initially welcomed Wind One as a symbol of green energy and a handy way to keep local taxes down. Electricity generated by the turbine would be used to power the municipality's infrastructure, thus shaving about \$400,000 a year off its utility costs." That was the dream. That was the ideal.

So they installed their giant wind turbine "in the spring of 2010 at a cost of \$5.1 million (with some \$3 million derived through grants, government kickbacks, and credits)." As soon as the wind turbine was turned on residents began to complain. "Wind One was as loud as an old Soviet helicopter. Neil Anderson lives a quarter of a mile from the turbine. He's an avid supporter of alternative energy," he's a good liberal, "having owned and operated a passive solar company on Cape Cod for the past 25 years. 'It is dangerous,' he told WGBH in Boston. 'Headaches. Loss of sleep. And the ringing in my ears never goes away. I could look at it all day, and it does not bother me ... but it's way too close.' Tired of the constant chopping sound, paired residents decided to lawyer up. This month a deal was struck with the town to disengage —" get this, now. Wind turbine, create electricity, save money, green energy, save the planet. They struck a deal with the town to turn it off "when winds exceed 23 miles an hour." I kid you not. "This is problematic because giant windmills such as Wind One operate at optimum efficiency at about 30 miles an hour." When the wind's at 30 miles per hour that's when you get the best output, but it's intolerable, the noise. So they've got a rule. They shut the damn thing off when the winds get up to 23 miles per hour. (laughing)

"So now Falmouth's investment has taken a hit. According to Gerald Potamis, who runs the wastewater facility, shutting off the turbine during higher winds will cost the town \$173,000 in annual revenue, because now they'll have to rely more on natural gas." (laughing) Is this not typical of liberals? You put this giant damn thing up there and when the winds are blowing at the optimum level it's intolerable. Hell, it's intolerable at any time the wind is blowing. So they shut it down. They talk about Altamont Pass in California, which is the same thing. Altamont Pass, 4500 windmills in California, this is east of the Bay area. The number of dead birds reported because of those windmills, the activists don't even want to talk about it. They went ballistic demanding action. So a taxpayer funded examination, two years, of the problem was conducted, then the monitoring team determined 8,200 birds were whacked dead by these turbines, Altamont Pass. Yes, I'm sorry. It's funny. To me it's hilarious.