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May 20, 2011

Jane Murray, Secretary
NH Site Evaluation Committee
Dept. of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, P O Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Antrim Wind Energy, LLC, Docket No. 2011-02

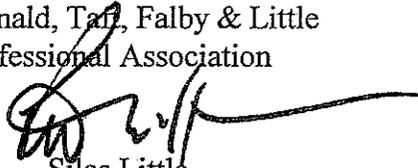
Dear Ms. Murray:

Enclosed please find for filing with the Site Evaluation Committee the original and fourteen (14) copies of Pre-Filed Direct Testimony of Charles A. Levesque, Member, Antrim Planning Board and Martha E. Pinello, Member, Antrim Planning Board together with exhibits referenced in their Pre-Filed Direct Testimony.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If there is a question concerning this filing, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Fernald, Taft, Falby & Little
Professional Association

By: 

Silas Little

Direct Line: 603-924-3364 Ext. 14

sl/djh

enc.

cc: Office Service list; Docket Nol. 2011-02 (w/enc.)
Town of Antrim Planning Board (w/enc.)

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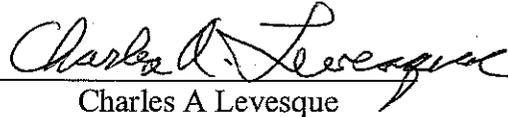
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Docket No. 2011 – 2

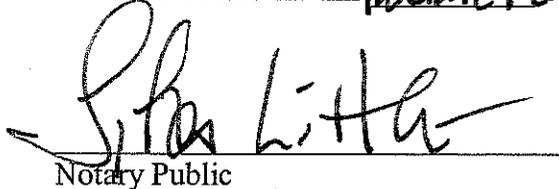
Re: Antrim Wind Energy, LLC

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF CHARLES A LEVESQUE
MEMBER, ANTRIM PLANNING BOARD

I hereby affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the within testimony is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Charles A Levesque

Sworn to before me this Twentieth of May, 2011.


Notary Public

SILAS LITTLE, My Commission
Expires Dec. 27, 2011
My commission expires: 20__

Pre-filed Testimony of Charles A Levesque

1 **Q: Please state your name for the record.**

2 A: Charles A Levesque

3 **Q: Where do you live?**

4 A: 37 Old Pound Road, Antrim.

5 **Q: What is the purpose of this testimony?**

6 A: I want to provide the Site Evaluation Committee (sometimes "the Committee"
7 and sometimes "the SEC") with information that demonstrates the ability of the Antrim
8 Planning Board to handle its duties with regard to the Antrim Wind Energy proposals in
9 a timely and professional manner consistent with the statutory requirements it operates
10 under. These statements (i) support and are consistent with the motion of the Planning
11 Board to postpone or adjourn this proceeding and (ii) oppose the SEC exercising
12 jurisdiction which will pre-empt that of the Antrim Planning Board.

13 **Q: How long have you lived at your present home?**

14 A: 14 years.

15 **Q: Is your residence located within sight or hearing of the proposed wind tower
16 development?**

17 A: Not to my knowledge.

18 **Q: Could you briefly outline your education?**

19 A: I received a Bachelor of Science Forestry (Magna cum laude) in 1979 from the
20 University of New Hampshire. I was also a Leadership New Hampshire Associate in the
21 class of 1994-95 and attended the Institute for Participatory Management & Planning in
22 1992. Other courses are listed on my resume.

1 **Q: Are you presently employed?**

2 A: Yes. I am the founder and President of Innovative Natural Resource Solutions
3 LLC. I am also a licensed forester in New Hampshire and certified forester with the
4 Society of American Foresters and certified lead environmental auditor through
5 RAB/QSA. .

6 **Q: What sort of work does that involve?**

7 A: I am attaching a partial client listing that demonstrates the range of work we are
8 involved in as CAL Exh A. Our firm has offices in New Hampshire and Maine and
9 specializes in assisting business, non-profit and government clients in resolving today's
10 complex natural resource management and business challenges. We specialize in
11 renewable energy issues, with an emphasis in biomass energy, as well as forest
12 sustainability.

13 **Q: Does this work involve project management?**

14 A: Yes. Virtually all of our work is project related and requires management.
15 Sometimes this work is part of a development project, such as a wood-fired power plant
16 or coal to wood conversion or co-firing and sometimes it involves the production of a
17 research report or business plan or financial analysis or all of the above. Much of our
18 work involves a team of people, sometimes within our firm but often including
19 employees of our firm and other people who are either part of the client's personnel or
20 are with another firm or entity involved in the greater project. Several examples below
21 will demonstrate the breadth of projects our firm works on.

22

1 **Q: Could you give the committee some examples of the projects you have**
2 **managed.**

3 A: First, our firm served in the biomass supply lead role in the development of
4 several biomass electricity plants in New Hampshire. The first one was the conversion of
5 one of the coal-fired generation plants owned by Public Service Company of NH at the
6 Schiller Station in Portsmouth, NH. This plant was built and began operation in 2006.
7 We also conducted a number of biomass supply and sustainability analyses for the
8 proposed Clean Power Development LLC biomass combined-heat/power facility in
9 Berlin, NH. This plant is still in the planning stages.

10 Second, from 2001-2003 I served in a co-lead role in the project that protected the
11 171,000 acre Connecticut Lakes Headwaters forest, that makes up the northern tip of
12 New Hampshire. We raised over \$40 million from public and private sources to
13 consummate the project. Our work included my facilitator work leading the Connecticut
14 Lakes Headwaters Task Force that was co-chaired by then Governor Jeanne Shaheen and
15 Senator Judd Gregg. This was the largest project of its kind in New Hampshire history.

16 Third, I led a team that assisted Harden Furniture, a high-end furniture manufacturer
17 in central New York, develop a forest sustainability plan and system in preparation for
18 the firm's seeking (and being granted) certification under the Sustainable Forestry
19 Initiative. This role involved designing the entire project, building a team of people from
20 within the company and from another contractor, developing a timeline and deliverables
21 and completing the project within budget and timeline.

22 Fourth, in 2009 I led the team from our company that researched and developed a
23 Biomass Fuel Supply and Environmental and Community Impact Assessment for St.
24 25

Pre-filed Testimony of Charles A Levesque

1 Lawrence University in upstate New York. The University was exploring the methods,
2 effects, and costs of converting all or part of its energy use from fossil fuel to biomass
3 and other renewable sources. A carbon analysis was also included in that work.
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7 In addition to the work of Innovative Natural Resource Solutions LLC, I was the CEO
8 of three non-profit organizations before I started the firm. As the Executive Director of
9 the NH Timberland Owners Association, I was responsible for all organizational
10 operations, planning, project management and reporting and responsible to a board of
11 directors. With the Trust for NH Lands, I had similar responsibilities. That project, in
12 partnership with the public Land Conservation Investment Program, successfully
13 protected 100,000 acres of land in New Hampshire – its stated goal for the 6-year project.
14 Lastly, I was the Executive Director of the Northern Forest Lands Council from 1991-94.
15 I organized, planned the work for and oversaw/managed the implementation of this 17-
16 member body of governor appointees (16) and one federal appointee to research, study,
17 analyze and report on the changing land use patterns and land use in the 26 million acre
18 “Northern Forest” stretching from eastern Maine to Lake Ontario in New York. I was
19 fully in charge of designing, facilitating and completing this project within a limited time-
20 frame and budget.

21 **Q: I am going to show you a document which has been marked CAL Exh B.**

22 **Can you tell us what it is?**

23 **A: It is a copy of my resume.**

24 **Q: Do your professional projects take place in a complex regulatory**
25 **environment?**

26 **A: Yes.**

1 **Q: Now, apart from your professional life, have you been involved in municipal**
2 **affairs?**

3 A: Yes, on March 8, 2011, I was elected to the Antrim Planning Board. Before that,
4 I served as the Chair of the Antrim Open Space Committee appointed by the Antrim
5 Board of Selectmen, as the Antrim representative to the ConVal School Board, the
6 elected Town Moderator in the Town of Deering, a member and Chair of the Deering
7 Conservation Commission, a member of the Deering Master Plan Committee.

8 **Q: In that connection, have you attended training sessions on the responsibilities**
9 **of municipal office holders?**

10 A: I have attended several of the annual NH planning conferences convened by the
11 Office of Energy and Planning and am signed up for this year's conference in June,
12 numerous annual Saving Special Places conferences convened by the land trust
13 community, several years of training as Town Moderator and other training related to
14 Master Plan development and conservation commission work.

15 **Q: Have you also been engaged in other public service activities?**

16 A Yes, I have served on numerous non-profit and public boards including: co-
17 chairing the Land and Community Heritage Investment Board; the board of the Statewide
18 Program of Action to Conserve Our Environment (SPACE); as board member and
19 President of the Center for Northern Woodlands Education; many committees and as an
20 elected board member for the Society of American Foresters; the board of Conservation
21 New Hampshire and on other boards and committees throughout a career that spans more
22 than 30 years.

1 **Q: Before your election to the Planning Board, had you engaged in any planning**
2 **activities?**

3 A: Yes. In 2005, I was asked by the Antrim Board of Selectmen to chair and
4 organize a committee charged with preparing an Open Space Conservation Plan for the
5 Town of Antrim. A copy of the plan, as adopted, is attached as CAL Exh C. The Open
6 Space Committee delivered the requested plan ahead of the one-year schedule requested
7 by the Board of Selectmen. I led the efforts of the Committee in researching the
8 methodologies for the development of an open space conservation plan, seeking and
9 collecting natural resource data and information from experts and organizational sources,
10 developing maps and the report for the project. The report was subsequently
11 unanimously accepted by the Board of Selectmen and adopted at the 2006 Town
12 Meeting. [see CAL Exh D]. This report forms the basis for the Natural Resources and
13 Conservation section of the Antrim Master Plan. A copy of this section of the Master
14 Plan is attached as part of CAL Exh E.

15 **Q: Before your election, did you attend Planning Board meetings?**

16 A Yes, I attended a few meetings over the years and most of the meetings since the
17 Board proposed ordinance changes in late 2010 and early 2011. I also attended a few
18 meetings in years past as I contemplated running for a planning board seat.

19 **Q: I believe that six members of the Planning Board in Antrim are elected and**
20 **one is appointed *ex officio* by the Selectboard. Alternates are appointed by the**
21 **regular elected members of the Planning Board. Is that your understanding?**

22 A: Yes.

1 **Q: When you ran for election to the Planning Board, did you issue a statement**
2 **about your reasons?**

3 A: Yes.

4 **Q: I am showing you a document marked as CAL Exh F. Is that a copy of your**
5 **pre-election statement?**

6 A: Yes.

7 **Q: Who were your opponents in that election?**

8 A: Two former members of the Planning Board, its Chairman – C R Willeke - and
9 another member – Joe Koziell - and Martha Pinello.

10 **Q: I am showing you a document marked as CAL Exh G. It shows that two**
11 **people were elected to the Planning Board on March 8, 2011, and two were not. Is**
12 **that an accurate record of the election result?**

13 A: Yes.

14 **Q: Are you “for” the Antrim Wind Project or are you “against” the Antrim**
15 **Wind Project?**

16 A: I am neither “for” or “against” this project. As I have said publicly, I believe that
17 if the project gets built, it must be done in a manner that protects the environment and the
18 health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Antrim. This is the legislative responsibility
19 of the Planning Board. The Planning Board needs to develop an ordinance to put before
20 the voters and regulations that assure that while also assuring the landowners involved
21 have the opportunity to exercise their interest in generating revenue from the lease of
22 their land for the purpose of industrial wind development.

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3 **Q: Is the current set of regulations in Antrim appropriate for making those**
4 **determinations?**

5 A: No, both the ordinance and the site plan review regulations fall short of what
6 would be required to grant approval at this time. We are in process of adopting an
7 appropriate ordinance and regulations to address this concern.

8 **Q: What steps have been taken to adopt new regulations?**

9 A: At our meeting on April 7, the Planning Board adopted a resolution about going
10 forward with this issue. I believe that the content of that has been read to you by Martha
11 Pinello.

12 At our meeting on May 5, 2011, the Planning Board appointed the members of the
13 *ad hoc* committee, one from the Selectboard, two from the Planning Board and three very
14 experienced members of the community who volunteered for this work. For the most
15 part, these people have filed pleadings or statements in this SEC proceeding which
16 identify themselves and their interests.

17 **Q: How long will this process take?**

18 A: We are committed to bringing this to a special town meeting by late 2011.

19 **Q: Will this schedule cause AWE "undue delay" in completing its project?**

20 A: I do not believe that it will.

21 **Q: Are you confident that the *ad hoc* Committee and the Planning Board will**
22 **produce appropriate regulations within the time allotted?**

Pre-filed Testimony of Charles A Levesque

1 A: Yes, I am confident that we have the necessary resources and the determination to
2 do that.

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Exhibit List

- 9 **CAL Exh A Partial client listing**
10 **CAL Exh B Levesque Resume**
11 **CAL Exh C Antrim Open Space Conservation Plan**
12 **CAL Exh D Minutes – Antrim Town Meeting – 2006**
13 **CAL Exh E Antrim Master Plan**
14 **CAL Exh F Levesque Election Statement**
15 **CAL Exh G Antrim Election Results – March 8, 2011**
16