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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

April 30, 2012 - 7:02 p.m.
Antrim Elementary School
10 School Street
Antrim, New Hampshire

In re: **SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:**
DOCKET NO. 2012-01: Application
of Antrim Wind, LLC, for a
Certificate of Site and Facility
for a 30 MW Wind Powered Renewable
Energy Facility to be Located in
Antrim, Hillsborough County,
New Hampshire.
(Public Information Hearing)

PRESENT:	SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:
Amy L. Ignatius, Chrmn. (Vice Chairman of SEC) (Presiding Officer)	Public Utilities Commission
Harry T. Stewart, Dir.	DES - Water Division
Donald Kent, Designee	Dept. of Resources & Econ. Dev.
Craig Green, Designee	Dept. of Transportation
Brad Simpkins, Dir.	DRED - Div. of Forests & Lands
Brook Dupee, Designee	Dept. of Health & Human Services
Ed Robinson, Designee	Fish & Game Department
Eric Steltzer, Designee	Office of Energy & Planning

COUNSEL FOR THE COMMITTEE: Michael Iacopino, Esq.

COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC: Peter C. L. Roth, Esq.
Senior Asst. Atty. General
N.H. Attorney General's Office

COURT REPORTER: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52

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APPEARANCES:

Reptg. Antrim Wind, LLC:
Susan S. Geiger, Esq. (Orr & Reno)
Douglas L. Patch, Esq. (Orr & Reno)
Jack Kenworthy (Antrim Wind)

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P R O C E E D I N G

1
2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: We figured we would
3 start with some of the preliminaries, even though some
4 people are still coming in, because we have a lot of
5 people, and we want to make sure people have an
6 opportunity to speak tonight and not be home too late.
7 So, why don't we begin. My name is Amy Ignatius. I will
8 be presiding in this proceeding tonight, and throughout
9 this matter, as it works its way through the Site
10 Evaluation Committee. And, so, I want to give you a few
11 introductory remarks, and we'll introduce all of the
12 members of the Subcommittee, give you an idea of what's
13 going to be happening tonight, the agenda, and what's
14 going to be the proceedings, and then a sense of what's
15 yet to come in any case that works its way through the
16 Site Evaluation Committee. It looks like there's
17 hopefully more chairs, if there's still people looking for
18 places to sit, and more over on that wall there.

19 The Site Evaluation Committee, the SEC,
20 as many of you know from being involved in the preliminary
21 stage with this matter, is set by statute, RSA 162-H. It
22 includes commissioners and directors of a number of state
23 agencies and specified key personnel and designees from
24 other agencies. In the cases where the SEC considers the

1 siting and the construction of a renewable energy
2 facility, which this proposal is, we form a Subcommittee
3 to review the Application. And, so, what you have here
4 tonight are the Subcommittee members, all but one, who was
5 not able to attend, and it will be this Subcommittee that
6 deals with this Application to the end.

7 I'd like, if we can initially have all
8 of the Subcommittee members introduce themselves and tell
9 you what agency they represent, I think that would be
10 helpful. So, starting at this far end please.

11 MR. DUPEE: So, I'm Brook Dupee. I work
12 for the Department of Health & Human Services, here on
13 behalf of Commissioner Nicholas Toumpas.

14 DIR. SIMPKINS: Brad Simpkins, New
15 Hampshire Division of Forests & Lands.

16 MR. ROBINSON: I'm Ed Robinson, with the
17 Fish & Game Department. I'm a Wildlife Biologist. And,
18 I'm here representing Director Normandeau.

19 DIR. STEWART: Harry Stewart, Director
20 of the Water Division, New Hampshire Department of
21 Environmental Services.

22 DR. KENT: Don Kent, Department of
23 Resources & Economic Development.

24 MR. GREEN: Craig Green, with the

1 Department of Transportation.

2 MR. STELTZER: Eric Steltzer, with
3 Office of Energy & Planning.

4 MR. ROTH: I'm not a member of the
5 Subcommittee. I'm Counsel for the Public. And, my name
6 is Peter Roth. I'm with the Department of Justice.

7 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. And, a
8 little later we'll have Peter describe what the role of
9 the Counsel for the Public involves.

10 Tonight we have one item on the agenda,
11 in our notice that was issued, and that's to have a public
12 information hearing on the Application of Antrim Wind,
13 LLC, for a Certificate of Site and Facility, for the
14 siting, construction and operation of a 30-megawatt wind
15 powered renewable energy facility in Antrim, Hillsborough
16 County, New Hampshire. It's docketed as number "2012-01".
17 And, if anyone's not aware now, all of those materials in
18 the Application, you can see the three volumes here that
19 were submitted, all of the materials for this Project will
20 be online, you can get through the State website "Site
21 Evaluation Committee", and you can see all of the
22 materials. All of the hearings are public. Technical
23 sessions, people are welcome to attend. They're also
24 public. There's a process for intervention, which is

1 also, if you haven't already seen the orders that address
2 that, are available online. And, so, it's a proceeding
3 that has its own rules, through an adjudicative
4 proceeding, with hearings held in Concord. But you all
5 have opportunities to participate in a number of different
6 ways, which we'll talk about later tonight.

7 The Application itself was filed
8 January 31st, 2012 by Antrim Wind Energy. As I mentioned,
9 it's seeking a Certificate of Site and Facility, in order
10 to site, construct and operate a wind facility in Antrim.
11 And, it proposes that there be not more than ten wind
12 turbines, with a maximum nameplate capacity of not more
13 than three megawatts each, for a total nameplate capacity
14 of not more than 30 megawatts.

15 The facility is proposed to be located
16 on and adjacent to property at 354 Keene Road, or Route 9,
17 in Antrim, and includes approximately 1,850 acres of
18 private lands leased to the Applicant. The lands occupy
19 the area in Antrim from Route 9, southward, to the east
20 summit of Tuttle Hill, and to north flank of Willard
21 Mountain to the west. The Facility is proposed to be
22 constructed on a ridgeline that starts approximately 0.75
23 miles south of Route 9 and runs south southwest for
24 approximately two and a half miles. It's proposed to

1 consist, as I said, before of ten wind turbines, with a
2 maximum capacity of not more than three megawatts each.
3 The final identification -- I'm sorry, the final turbine
4 selection has not been made, but the largest turbine
5 that's being considered to be used is, and I don't know
6 how to pronounce this, the A-c-c-i-o-n-a, "Acciona"
7 perhaps, AW-116 3-megawatt turbine. Each turbine will
8 have a tower, a nacelle, which is the sort of working
9 parts, and a three-blade rotor. The total turbine height,
10 from foundation to the tip of the blade, will be 492 feet.

11 In addition, the Facility is proposed to
12 consist of approximately 4 miles of new gravel surface
13 roads within the project area, a joint electrical
14 collector system, consisting of both underground and
15 overhead collection lines, an interconnection substation
16 to be built within a fenced area and an operations and
17 maintenance building of approximately 3,000 square feet.
18 The Applicant proposes to interconnect to the existing
19 Public Service Company 115 kVA electric transmission line
20 through the proposed interconnection substation, which
21 will be constructed adjacent to that PSNH line L-163, the
22 115 kV line.

23 If a Certificate is granted, the
24 Applicant expects completion of construction to occur no

1 later than September 30, 2014.

2 On March 5th, 2012, so just this past
3 March, I issued an order on behalf of the Subcommittee
4 finding that the Application, these volumes here, was
5 complete, meaning that all of the things that were
6 required to be addressed were included in the Application,
7 and the thing that triggers the next stage, of having a
8 public hearing and beginning the adjudicative process.

9 On March 20th, I designated the
10 Subcommittee, the people you see here today, to
11 participate, and we will be involved in the ultimate
12 decision here.

13 We're required under law to render a
14 decision within 240 days from the date of acceptance of
15 the Application as being complete. And, we've done the
16 math for you. The deadline works out to be October 31st,
17 2012, unless the Committee finds a need to suspend
18 deliberations and extend the time frame for further
19 information.

20 I also put out an order scheduling
21 tonight's public information hearing, which was published
22 in the Union Leader, in the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript,
23 and in The Villager. Also, display advertisements went
24 into the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript and The Villager.

1 And, we received affidavits of publication indicating that
2 all of those publications were done as required under law.

3 So, the other thing I'd like to do
4 before we begin with the actual presentation of
5 information is to introduce again the person who's been
6 designated to serve as Counsel to the Public. This is
7 something through the Attorney General's Office. Peter
8 Roth is the person who has been designated. And, so,
9 Peter, if you're able to give a brief description, so
10 people understand your role, how it differs from the
11 Committee, and how they can work with you over the next
12 few months, that would be helpful.

13 MR. ROTH: Thank you. I was appointed
14 by the Attorney General upon the request of the
15 Chairperson of the Committee to serve as Counsel for the
16 Public. I've performed this function in several other
17 cases involving wind facilities; Lempster, Groton, and
18 Granite Reliable, up in Coos County.

19 My function is to act as the title says,
20 "Counsel for the Public". And, it's a bit of an
21 interesting position, because the public doesn't all think
22 the same way about projects like this. So, I'm kind of in
23 a tight spot, in terms of making a representation of
24 people who don't agree on the position taken in a

1 proceeding. What I can say about my role and what I will
2 do in a case like this is to make sure that the process is
3 thorough and honest, and that the public interest, as it
4 can be broadly defined, without getting into sort of a
5 division of what that public interest is, is protected.
6 And, the statute provides that there has to -- the project
7 can be approved if there's an appropriate balancing
8 between the environmental impacts and the need and
9 production of energy. And, my role and my objective in
10 this is to make sure that what kind of evidence, through
11 cross-examination of witnesses that will be presented,
12 that that is fulfilled, that there is somehow struck an
13 appropriate balance between the environmental impacts and
14 the energy produced.

15 If you -- I know a number of you have
16 already been in touch with me at various places. I see a
17 lot of you have intervened. I cannot represent a
18 particular person or organization in this case. I'm happy
19 to talk to anybody about the case and to listen to your
20 concerns, and you can write to me, send me e-mails, or you
21 can call my office, to tell me what you think, or you can
22 write me letters. And, you know, I'm an open door. You
23 may not get a satisfactory answer from me, unfortunately,
24 but I do listen and I do take everything into account.

1 And, then, during the hearings, I will, you know, present
2 a case. And, I will be at the hearings and I will
3 participate in the prehearing discovery and all the
4 preparation for it, and so that the public interest will
5 hopefully be protected and represented in this proceeding.
6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. One of
8 the really important distinctions to be aware of is that
9 those of us who are members of the Subcommittee have to
10 live by the rules that judges do, that you can't take what
11 they call "ex parte communications". You can't be hearing
12 individually from people outside of the normal hearing
13 process once this case begins. So, a homeowner, a Company
14 representative, they have no -- they can't come and just
15 talk to us personally. They shouldn't be sending us
16 e-mails, they shouldn't call us on the phone, and it's up
17 to us to caught those off if it happens. And, so, if you
18 hear anyone who has made that kind of an entreaty to talk
19 to us and we say "I'm sorry, I can't talk to you", that's
20 the reason why.

21 MR. ROTH: Just to --

22 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Mr. Roth is in a
23 different category.

24 MR. ROTH: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: He is not a member
2 of the Subcommittee. He's not one of the deciders in this
3 case. And, so, those rules, kind of walling us off, don't
4 apply to him.

5 The next thing to go over is what we're
6 going to be doing tonight. And, it looks like we've got
7 -- we found chairs and bleachers and things for everybody,
8 I hope so. What we have on the agenda tonight is to have
9 a public hearing to provide information to everyone
10 regarding the Application of Antrim Wind, and to take
11 public questions and public comment regarding the
12 Application. It's not, as you know, the end of any sort
13 of a process. It really is the starting point. And, so,
14 it's the beginnings, to make sure that all of you
15 understand what's being proposed. It's also the
16 beginnings for us to hear what issues are of concern about
17 the proposal. But it's not the end of any of those
18 discussions, and that will take a matter of months of
19 testimony and discovery and, ultimately, hearings on all
20 of those issues and cross-examination of witnesses. So,
21 it has more to do tonight with what you have to say and
22 what you want to bring to our attention than what we have
23 to say.

24 So, what we'll be doing is starting out

1 with an opportunity for the Applicant to make a
2 presentation about the Project. Then, we will turn to you
3 and ask if there are any questions that you want to raise
4 about the Project. And, how we've done it, we'll do it
5 tonight, and have done in every other case, is to have you
6 write out questions. Mr. Iacopino, who is Counsel to the
7 Committee, seated at the front, waiving a card, he'll
8 collect those. So, if you have any, just, you know, hold
9 it up and he'll come grab it. And, we'll sort of sort
10 them out to make it as orderly as we can, try to group
11 some topics together, so we don't bounce from, you know,
12 views to sound to road construction to, you know, back and
13 forth again, trying to clump them together a little bit to
14 help. And, it may be that some of the questions are
15 answered by hearing other people's questions. We're not
16 going to have people personally question each other.
17 We're going to do it through the written cards.

18 And, once we've worked through those
19 questions, we'll then ask if any of you have any comment
20 you want to make; for, against, concerns, not sure where
21 you come out, but just to have concerns you want to
22 express. We would like to hold those to three, four
23 minutes each, because there are a lot of people here, and
24 we want to make sure that everybody gets their chance. If

1 we get through everyone who wants to say something, and
2 it's not too late, we're happy to start again and hear
3 people who want to say something further. But, in
4 fairness to your colleagues here, let's try to keep those
5 comments somewhere in the sort of three to four minute
6 range, all right?

7 You can see there's a court reporter.
8 The man in front here, Steve Patnaude, is taking it all
9 down. And, in order to make it possible for him to do
10 what he does, we've got to keep one person speaking at a
11 time, and not talking too fast. So, he's famous for
12 telling people to slow down. And, if we see that that's
13 getting to be a problem, I'll try and give you an
14 indication as well. But, if you cross over each other,
15 there's no way in the world he can get it down. He's
16 good, but he's not that good.

17 I think that's it for the preliminary
18 things I wanted to mention, with one exception. I think
19 many of you know, we spent the afternoon on a site visit,
20 going to eight different locations. Some of which were
21 accompanied with photo simulations of where -- what the
22 view of the turbines would be from various locations, and
23 you're going to be seeing some of these in the
24 presentation of the Company, I suspect.

1 We had a chance to hear things from the
2 Company, some questions we could ask, questions that other
3 members of the community who joined us asked. And, so,
4 there are a couple of things that came up I want to make
5 sure the Company addresses tonight, because they were of
6 importance to the Committee and to members of the
7 community. And, so, I think they probably would be of
8 interest to people who weren't there as well. So, let me
9 just give you a couple of those, jot them down, and see,
10 in case you weren't planning on addressing them, that you
11 do mention them.

12 There were questions about "how close
13 the nearest houses are to turbines at various locations?"
14 There were questions about "how close schools are to
15 turbines?" There was a question about "why certain photos
16 were taken and why other ones were not? Why were the
17 locations selected to do these photo simulations?" And,
18 if you've never seen those before, you may not know what
19 I'm talking about, but you'll see it when they put some of
20 those up, and I think they may be propped up in the back
21 as well, to try to simulate where the turbines would be
22 from certain positions and what you would see if they had
23 been built. There was a question "why, in some of the
24 photo simulations, the met tower we could see with our

1 naked eye was there, and yet, in the photo simulations, it
2 didn't appear?" And, there was questions about the
3 relative height between the met tower that's already in
4 place and what the turbines would be, if constructed as
5 proposed.

6 If anyone thinks on the Subcommittee any
7 other issues that they know came up that they want to be
8 sure is addressed tonight, please chime in? That's what I
9 recalled.

10 (No verbal response)

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. And, we
12 may have questions along the way, too, and we may jump in
13 and ask some things. But this really has more to do with
14 all of you having an opportunity. So, we may save most
15 that for when we're in the hearings down the road.

16 So, with that, I would like to turn the
17 floor over to Antrim Wind. And, Ms. Geiger, are you
18 leading off or whoever is best to begin?

19 MS. GEIGER: Thanks. Jack Kenworthy,
20 who is going to be representing the Company this evening,
21 will give his remarks.

22 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right.
23 Mr. Kenworthy.

24 MR. KENWORTHY: Okay. Well, thank you

1 very much. My name is Jack Kenworthy. I am from Antrim
2 Wind Energy. Before I get started with the presentation,
3 I just want to briefly point out that, in addition to
4 myself, there are numerous other representatives from
5 Antrim Wind Energy itself here tonight, as well as quite a
6 few of our experts and consultants that have helped us to
7 prepare some of the technical documents that we've used in
8 our Application. And, they're here to help answer any
9 questions that you may have related to the Project. And,
10 I do think that we will be able to address the questions,
11 Commissioner Ignatius, that you raised.

12 So, I'm going to go ahead and jump right
13 into the presentation here. There's obviously a lot of
14 stuff to cover in a presentation like this. Our
15 Application is several thousand pages. But we're going to
16 try to move through it fairly quickly for the interest of
17 time. So, I presume people will just be able to ask
18 questions at the end that we'll be happy to answer.

19 So, quickly to start out, some
20 background on Antrim Wind Energy, LLC. Antrim Wind Energy
21 is a project entity that was formed by Eolian Renewable
22 Energy and Westerly Wind. It's a Delaware Limited
23 Liability Company that was formed in 2009, at the same
24 time that we commenced development work on this project.

1 The two partners I mentioned, it's owned and managed
2 entirely by Eolian and Westerly. Eolian is a Portsmouth,
3 New Hampshire based company, and we focus on developing
4 utility-scale wind energy facilities across New England.
5 We have right now a portfolio of about 150 megawatts of
6 wind energy that's under development. And, Westerly Wind
7 is a portfolio company of US Renewables Group also focused
8 on developing utility-scale wind energy projects across
9 the United States.

10 A little bit more background. As I
11 mentioned, we're New Hampshire based. Our partners have
12 over 40 years of experience in the energy and real estate,
13 consulting, construction experience. And, there's that
14 150 megawatts I mentioned. Westerly is based in
15 Massachusetts, a portfolio company of USRG, and has over
16 60 years of combined experience in the management team in
17 the development, financing, construction and operation of
18 power generation assets, and that includes over 700
19 megawatts of wind. Doing okay?

20 Commissioner Ignatius went over a number
21 of these elements, so -- and we'll get to take a look at
22 them a bit on the slides I have as well. But, just
23 briefly, the proposal calls for the development of a 30
24 megawatt wind facility in the northwest portions of the

1 Town of Antrim. That consists of ten 3-megawatt
2 generators, a collector and interconnection substation, an
3 operations and maintenance building, and we have some
4 meteorological towers that are also included as a
5 component of the Project. The facility is to be
6 constructed entirely on private property and will be
7 accessed by a new gravel surface road that enters off of
8 Route 9. And, we'll be able to see that when we go to the
9 maps.

10 I want to talk a little bit about site
11 selection, and kind of what goes into selecting a site
12 that we feel is suitable for utility scale wind energy
13 development. And, there's a very specific set of
14 conditions that need to be present. One, obviously, is a
15 suitable wind resource. There needs to be adequate wind
16 speeds to make a commercially viable wind facility work.
17 There needs to be a reasonable proximity to access to the
18 site. So, you need to be able to get equipment and
19 turbines to the locations where you're going to install
20 them. Transmission resources need to be located in
21 reasonable proximity once again to be able to accept the
22 generation that's coming off of the new wind plant. The
23 Project needs to be able to be located in such a way that
24 there are sufficient setbacks, to ensure public safety and

1 to minimize the impacts of the development.

2 Environmental: We need to make sure that there aren't the
3 presence of any critical, sensitive, threatened,
4 endangered species/habitats, things of that nature, we
5 need to make sure that there isn't. The impacts of the
6 Project aren't going to overburden the environment. And,
7 finally, constructability. Obviously, these are large
8 categories to generalize here, but these are the key ones
9 we looked at. Constructability: It needs to be a
10 location that has slopes and other features that we can
11 actually do the construction for these facilities on.

12 This is a very general map of the Town
13 of Antrim. It shows a number of these types of -- a
14 number of these types of -- what did I do with that
15 pointer -- conditions that we look for. You can see here,
16 this is the area of the town where the Project is
17 proposed. So, this is Antrim, this whole area here
18 [indicating]. The "viable wind" is the area, if you look,
19 that's highlighted in green right here [indicating]. And,
20 then, we've got the PSNH transmission corridor that many
21 of us saw today, that is about a half a mile to the north
22 of the Tuttle Hill summit. And, the New Hampshire Route
23 9, you can see there's a lot of conservation land around
24 here that we'll discuss a little bit more in depth later

1 on. But, when you come down to it, there aren't a whole
2 lot of areas that really are suitable to contain all the
3 elements that are required to build an economically and
4 environmentally successful wind project. And, we believe
5 this Antrim site possesses all of those.

6 Talk a little bit about the project
7 area. Again, we leased about 1,800 acres in this town,
8 located in the northwest portion of Antrim, which is not
9 very densely settled, it's pretty sparsely settled in that
10 part of town. The adjacent development for the project
11 area consists primarily of rural residential dwellings and
12 some seasonal camps. The closest residence to any turbine
13 in the Project is a participating landowner, whose home is
14 about a half a mile north of the northernmost proposed
15 turbine. And, all other residences in the project area
16 are greater than half a mile.

17 So, this is a view of the lands that
18 Antrim Wind Energy leases, these outlined in black here
19 [indicating] define the lease boundaries. The way this
20 works for us, is we usually lease the entire parcels to
21 begin with, when we don't know exactly where facilities
22 are specifically going to go. And, then, we have an
23 obligation in the leases to reduce that area down to the
24 as-built locations, with any required buffers and

1 setbacks, within 180 days of commercial operation. So,
2 really, what is in here in the yellow is the limits of
3 clearing that the site will entail. That's about
4 57 acres. So, we expect, by the time we actually reduce
5 this down, the actual leasehold interest will be somewhere
6 in the vicinity of 70 or so acres. Once again, New
7 Hampshire Route 9 here [indicating], to the north, and
8 this is the PSNH corridor [indicating].

9 This is a slide that shows proximity of
10 dwellings here. So, each of the turbines is laid out
11 along the ridge. If I refer to turbine numbers, they
12 start here [indicating] with Number 1, up to the north,
13 and then go sequentially down to Number 10, which is all
14 the way down here [indicating], in the southwest portion
15 of the site. And, this pink boundary here is a half-mile
16 buffer off of those turbines. So, you can see that we do
17 not have any residences that are inside that pink buffer.
18 All residences are either at or outside it. And, that one
19 that is at is a participating landowner up here
20 [indicating], and the others are further out. And, the
21 further boundary out there is a mile buffer. So, that
22 gives you kind of an idea of where the residents are --
23 residences are in relation to the Project elements.

24 Much of Antrim is undeveloped woodlands.

1 Historically, the area we're work -- putting this
2 development is a -- was cleared, it's been logged, it's,
3 you know, further back was used for sheep farming. Now,
4 most of the lands in and around the project area is
5 undeveloped, it's forest lands, and at various stages of
6 maturity. And, it's been heavily logged at several times
7 over the past couple of decades, unrelated to our Project.

8 These are just a couple of slides
9 showing the aerials, again, of the site. So, once more,
10 PSNH's transmission corridor and New Hampshire Route 9.
11 This is Tuttle Hill here [indicating], some logging that's
12 happened on the north slope. This is difficult to see, I
13 apologize. But this shows an aerial that actually picked
14 up the entire project area, once again showing the
15 transmission and roadways and the turbine string coming
16 off of here [indicating], and some clearcuts down in this
17 area [indicating] as well.

18 Talk a little bit about the Project
19 Team. Antrim Wind has built a Project Team with a high
20 degree of experience in working on commercial-scale wind
21 facilities specifically in New England. So, I'm not going
22 to read through all the names here. This is available in
23 lots of public documents. But we have quite a -- quite a
24 team of experts that we've pulled together to help us make

1 sure that we're able to achieve the goals that we have for
2 developing a wind energy facility of the highest
3 standards.

4 Once again, briefly, we have the Project
5 designed to consist of the 30 megawatts of ten turbines.
6 There is a 100-meter meteorological tower that is intended
7 to remain in place for the life of the wind project.
8 These are used to ensure that turbines are performing in
9 the right way, to make sure that the power curves are
10 appropriately calibrated. And, things like warranties for
11 power curves from turbine manufacturers are being adhered
12 to. And, we need to get hub height measurements from that
13 meteorological tower. It consists of the -- a collector
14 and interconnection substation, four miles of new gravel
15 surface roads, I mentioned the 57 acres of clearing. And,
16 the Project also consists of 685 acres of new conservation
17 land that I'll talk a little bit more about in a minute.

18 The turbines themselves are, again, as
19 Commissioner Ignatius mentioned, we have not made a final
20 selection of the turbine for the Project, but we have
21 chosen to use the Acciona turbine as the turbine permit,
22 because it is the largest turbine, it also produces the
23 most noise of any turbine that we have under
24 consideration. So, generally, the impacts that would be

1 created by this turbine would be as great or greater than
2 any other turbine that we have under consideration.

3 These turbines are a 116-meter rotor
4 diameter atop of a 90 meter tower. And, so, it's got an
5 effective 92 and a half meter hub height, for 492 feet to
6 the tip of the blades. So, they're large turbines. These
7 are larger turbines than have been installed in New
8 Hampshire in the past. Certainly, the trend in the
9 industry is to start to get somewhat taller turbines,
10 somewhat larger rotor diameters, which enable more energy
11 to be captured from a site. So, for the same amount of
12 impact that we have to create for a new road or for a new
13 turbine foundation, we're able to extract substantially
14 more energy.

15 As it relates to a project like
16 Lempster, for example, which is close by, each of these
17 turbines is rated at a 50 percent greater capacity than
18 those Lempster turbines, which are 2-megawatt turbines.

19 Once again, the site design. This is a
20 -- just an excerpt from the civil plans, to kind of give a
21 sense of some of the infrastructure. And, for those of us
22 that were out there today, here's New Hampshire Route 9
23 here [indicating]. And, this is the proposed access to
24 the site. Right here [indicating] is the PSNH corridor.

1 So, for those of us who came up on the site walk, we came
2 in the transmission corridor and walked up this way
3 [indicating], and we could see where that orange and black
4 flagging was for the new proposed road. And, then, the
5 substation is located just to the north of the
6 right-of-way down towards Route 9. So, this is the
7 115-kilovolt portion of the substation [indicating], this
8 is the 34-kilovolt portion of the substation that collects
9 all the power that is generated by the wind turbines.
10 And, this PSNH substation would tap into this 115-kilovolt
11 line that runs about 150 feet away in the transmission
12 corridor. So, one of the big benefits of this Project is
13 that no new transmission needs to be built at all to take
14 that power to market, because we have the availability
15 right here in an existing transmission line.

16 This is just one more excerpt. We're
17 not going to go through the full set of civil plans. But
18 just to give you a sense again of some of the project
19 elements. This is Wind Turbine 4 -- I'm sorry, 5. So,
20 you can see we have, you know, turbine pads that are
21 created, to have a lay down area that allows for the
22 delivery of turbine components to be staged there prior to
23 construction. And, a crane pad that's inset here, as well
24 as the actual turbine location itself. And, then,

1 obviously, the roadway that connect the turbines together.
2 And, these little kind of features that come off the
3 roadway are stormwater features. And, so, this basic
4 shape on the kind of outside of these facilities is
5 ultimately what will remain in the lease after the Project
6 is complete. And, you can see here we've made great
7 attempts to try and avoid sensitive resources here, like
8 wetlands and vernal pools, and other sensitive natural
9 resources.

10 Speak quickly about the electrical
11 design. All of the ridgeline collector systems will be
12 buried along the roadside below ground. So, there won't
13 be any above-ground poles for electrical lines on the
14 ridge. From the -- from the point where the access road
15 intersects the ridge road, those power lines will become
16 above ground onto wooden poles. And, those poles will
17 carry that power down. And, I think it's 32 poles,
18 approximately 35 feet above ground, that would carry that
19 power back down to just south of the PSNH transmission
20 corridor, where they would go underground to cross under
21 the corridor and come into our substation.

22 All Project collector lines and
23 substation will be designed and constructed to meet or
24 exceed the Edison Electric Institute's Avian Power Line

1 Interaction Committee recommendations. And, once again,
2 no new transmission lines will be constructed here. So,
3 really, the extent of above-ground electrical facilities,
4 in terms of lines, is about a mile and a half, from the
5 ridgeline down to the substation. On the ridge, they're
6 buried. And, no other transmission is being built.

7 So, as a result of the process,
8 obviously, you select the site first, based on our ability
9 to screen for various extant environmental conditions,
10 modeled wind speeds, you know, digital elevation models,
11 to help us understand about topographies. And, then, once
12 we get on the site, we, obviously, begin to investigate
13 these in a whole lot more detail, to understand commercial
14 viability, constructability, a permit ability, in terms of
15 the type of impacts that may be created for the Project
16 and how it's going to perform over time.

17 So, there's a list here of I think the
18 majority of the studies that were performed, in
19 consultation with various state and federal agencies over
20 the last year or so, some going back a little further than
21 that, to try and document all of the current conditions
22 and proposed conditions on the site, so we can understand
23 the potential impacts.

24 We'll speak about each of these fairly

1 generally here. The wetlands have been delineated by
2 wetland scientists. The kind of initial inventory mapping
3 on the site showed only about 0.6 acres. We've actually
4 delineated closer to 6.4 acres of wetlands within the
5 site. So, we've taken a -- I believe it's a 462 acre
6 survey area that encompasses those potential impacts to
7 focus our natural resource surveys in. And, within that,
8 we found 6.4 acres of wetlands. The full reports of
9 wetlands and vernal pools are, obviously, part of our
10 Application. And, the Project, based on a number of
11 different iterations in the design, the final design
12 results in a direct impact of less than two-tenths of an
13 acre of wetlands.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Mr. Kenworthy, can
15 you describe what "direct impact" means?

16 MR. KENWORTHY: Yes. By "direct
17 impacts", we're referring to actually having to fill
18 wetlands in.

19 Similarly, natural communities were
20 surveyed within that same 462 acre area, in accordance
21 with the *Natural Communities of New Hampshire, Second*
22 *Edition*. We were looking for, obviously, in addition to
23 natural communities classifications, we're looking for
24 rare plants and other natural resources. Once again here,

1 this is an effort that was performed by our scientists in
2 consultation with various New Hampshire agencies,
3 including Natural Heritage Bureau, and --

4 (Court reporter interruption.)

5 MR. KENWORTHY: No significant natural
6 communities have been found on the site.

7 Water resources in the area: There are,
8 obviously, water resources in the vicinity of the project
9 area, including the North Branch River; Gregg Lake, where
10 we were today; and Willard Pond, where we also were today.
11 And, this Project has been designed to avoid negative
12 impacts to local water resources through the adoption of
13 an appropriate stormwater management plan, which was also
14 submitted along with our Application.

15 Visual impacts: Obviously, one of the
16 concerns that's often raised about wind projects is the
17 visibility of the projects. These are large turbines.
18 They are visible from a number of locations. And, so,
19 we've worked with Saratoga Associates to perform a visual
20 impact analysis for the Project. That analysis extends
21 out five miles from each of the turbine locations. We
22 created viewshed maps to look at areas from which the
23 Project would actually be visible. And, then, within
24 those areas, we've chosen specific locations for further

1 evaluation to characterize what types of impacts the site
2 would actually have. And, this may speak a little bit to
3 the question of "how the locations were chosen for visual
4 simulations?" That was a process that was done initially
5 both in conjunction with the Town, and I believe it was
6 the -- we solicited input from the Planning Board and the
7 Board of Selectmen and the Historical Society, and we
8 received feedback from the Selectmen and the historical
9 Society as to a list of areas that they felt were
10 important for us to create simulations from. And, so, we
11 incorporated that into our feedback, and that's part of
12 what determined the final list. Obviously, we wanted to
13 chose areas that had visibility of the turbines. And,
14 generally, we were focusing on areas that were public
15 places, and not going to private properties to run visual
16 simulations. And, a number of them that we did were not
17 sites that we could access today, because they were not
18 places you could easily drive to.

19 So, this is the map that I was
20 describing here that Saratoga produced. And, the map on
21 the left is showing the areas assuming a Bare Earth model
22 with no vegetation that would have visibility of the
23 turbines in the project area. And, the colors represent,
24 from each of these areas, how many turbines you'd be able

1 to see. So, red is 9 or 10, yellow is 7 or 8, and so
2 forth. And, then, when you apply the vegetation model, it
3 obviously reduces the areas down that you can actually see
4 that from. Certainly, there are some places where you may
5 have screened visibility. I think we were at one of those
6 today, where you have some kind of screen or shielded
7 visibility from certain project areas -- from certain
8 areas on the Project.

9 Just going to kind of run through some
10 of the visual simulations here. So, this is a view from
11 Gregg Lake, looking up at the ridge. So, Turbine --
12 Turbine 10 is over here on the left. This is the tallest
13 turbine -- or, is the highest elevation turbine, all the
14 way to the southwest on Willard. And, then, continuing on
15 over, it does not pick up, in this view sample, the
16 turbines that furthest to the north and east. But this is
17 clearly an area that will have good visibility of many or
18 all of the turbines.

19 Here we are again. This is the visual
20 simulation from the Willard Pond area. Again, it's a
21 different area than we went. It's not the boat launch
22 area. It's down by the dam, where there's less
23 obstruction from some of the topography here, to try and
24 maybe capture more of what you would be able to see if

1 you're on that side of the pond. So, you can see turbines
2 here [indicating], and the portion of a turbine here
3 [indicating]. There's actually two right together right
4 here [indicating], and then on down the line.

5 This is a view that we were not able to
6 get to today. This is a view from the summit of Bald
7 Mountain. And, so, we're looking back up towards the met
8 tower. So, this is -- this is actually a permanent met
9 tower that's proposed as part of the Project here, which
10 is generally proximate to where the existing met tower is
11 on the Project area. So, we're looking kind of from
12 beyond Willard, back up towards Tuttle Hill.

13 One issue for the Project is to evaluate
14 the impact of shadow-flicker, which is something we hear a
15 lot about with wind turbines. Shadow-flicker is a
16 condition that can occur when turbine blades are rotating,
17 during daylight hours, when the Sun is low in the sky, so
18 that it will cast shadows. It does not occur on foggy or
19 overcast days, when the Sun is not bright enough to cast
20 those shadows. And, those, or the phenomenon of
21 shadow-flicker to occur, the receptor needs to be within
22 ten rotor diameters of the turbine. And, that kind of
23 defines the survey area that we model out when we look at
24 flicker. So, you can see here [indicating], these are the

1 receptors, which are really just residences, places where
2 people are. And, you can see the kind of number of hours
3 per year that are expected to occur at each of these
4 receptors.

5 The summary is, there's 36 receptors
6 that we identified within that 1,160, or ten times the
7 rotor diameter range. Of those, just under half do not
8 fall within the shadow zone. Eleven of them get between 2
9 and 10 hours per year, seven between 10 and 20, and one
10 between 20 and 30. And, generally, what we look for is to
11 make sure that level is below 30 hours per year. And, we
12 only have one that is between 20 and 30, and this property
13 owner, in fact, we actually have a waiver with, even
14 though that number is below that "30 hour" threshold.

15 Talk a little bit about lighting. FAA
16 has issued a Determination of No Hazard to the Project
17 area, which is required for structures taller than
18 200 feet. We received those for all ten turbines. The
19 Project will be required to comply with any FAA
20 regulations regarding lighting. And, in accordance with
21 that requirement, turbines will be painted white. And,
22 based on the current FAA guidance, they are requested or
23 required that six of the turbines would have a single
24 medium-intensity red light at nighttime. And, if I recall

1 from the top of my head, I believe those are Turbines 1,
2 3, 4, 6, 8, and 10.

3 On sound: We also engaged Epsilon
4 Associates to evaluate both existing and future sounds, if
5 the facility was constructed. So, we could kind of
6 characterize what the background levels were and what the
7 model of what the predicted future levels would be.
8 Again, that model was based on the Acciona 116, which is
9 -- which produces more noise than any other turbine models
10 that we're considering. So, we believe that it is a
11 reasonable and conservative evaluation. And, our study
12 demonstrated that the Project will be -- will meet or be
13 below the noise regulations that we've agreed to in an
14 agreement with the Town of Antrim, which requires the
15 Project to maintain noise levels below 45 dBA at the
16 facade of homes at nighttime. And, this is a map, we've
17 also got a copy of it here in the back in poster form,
18 that kind of shows, again, turbine locations here
19 [indicating]. And, these concentric rings are kind of
20 bands that represent where each of the kind of points for
21 different decibel levels fall. So, if I'm not mistaken,
22 this, this green band here [indicating] is the 45 dBA band
23 for the Project. And, again, none of the closest property
24 owners or residences are within that band.

1 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Can I ask you again
2 to repeat that? They all look like green bands to me, so
3 --

4 MR. KENWORTHY: Sorry. Yes. This band
5 here [indicating], is the green band that represents the
6 kind of -- the 45 dBA level. So, everything towards the
7 turbines will be lower than that, and everything away from
8 the turbines is higher. The second one out is a blue band
9 you can barely see, which is 45 dBA. And, again, this
10 model assumes --

11 MR. COFELICE: You said "45" twice.

12 MR. KENWORTHY: I apologize. I'm sorry,
13 this is 45 [indicating]. The blue band out here is 40.
14 And, the model assumes, and Rob O'Neal is here from
15 Epsilon and can answer more detailed questions about the
16 noise studies, but generally assumes that all the
17 receptors are always downwind, and the turbines are
18 producing their maximum amount of sound. So, they're
19 generally conservative estimates, and there isn't noise
20 attenuation taken into account for vegetation.

21 Did you have further questions on
22 noise?

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: No. Go ahead.

24 MR. KENWORTHY: One of the other things

1 we looked at in the environmental impacts is cultural
2 resources. And, so, we had -- back in October, we
3 submitted a request for a Project Review to the New
4 Hampshire Division of Historic Resources. We completed a
5 Phase 1A and B archeological study, which was submitted in
6 December 2011. We received a response that there was no
7 likely impact to archeological resources, and so further
8 studies were not required. Again, both those 1A and B
9 reports are submitted as part of our Application and
10 available on the website.

11 Historic architecture is an ongoing
12 process. That process is still underway, in coordination
13 with both U.S. Army Corps and New Hampshire DHR. Our
14 evaluation followed DHR Guidelines for Wind Farm
15 Development determining the Area of Potential Effect, and
16 then evaluating properties that are listed in the National
17 Register, as well as those that are potentially eligible
18 to be listed. And, then, a consultation with Army Corps
19 and DHR to evaluate those that are potentially eligible,
20 as to whether or not there will be any impacts that we
21 need to address.

22 Just talking for a bit here about the
23 "Orderly development of the region" piece. As I mentioned
24 before, successful wind projects require very specific

1 criteria, that includes good wind speeds, proximity to
2 transportation, proximity to transmission, good setbacks,
3 the ability to avoid sensitive ecological resources. And,
4 we believe this site meets all those criteria. One of the
5 things that lease revenues can help to do, with large
6 timberland tracts, is to help compensate landowners in a
7 way to get revenue from their property that does not
8 require them to develop it in other ways. I think it can
9 actually help, in fact, to kind of preserve open space.
10 And, specifically here, and I'll talk a little bit more
11 about this in a second, the conservation easements that we
12 have proposed as part of the Project go significantly
13 beyond that incentive to provide for substantial open
14 space preservation.

15 This facility is expected to provide
16 clean energy for the equivalent of about 13,500 average
17 New Hampshire homes each year, but also creating jobs, tax
18 benefits, as well as conservation benefits to the Town and
19 the region.

20 The historic land uses, which, here
21 again, is primarily logging, will be able to continue
22 largely unencumbered by the Project. In the Antrim Master
23 Plan, it does speak extensively and supportively of the
24 need for renewable energy resources and renewable energy

1 development in town. And, the Southwest Regional Planning
2 Commission also identifies that the current lack of local,
3 renewable energy alternatives is a substantial risk to
4 future growth in the region.

5 We believe that the site is consistent
6 with the orderly development, because it maximizes the use
7 of existing infrastructure and it coincides with local and
8 regional land use goals. Being near existing high voltage
9 transmission, no new transmission being built; being
10 located adjacent to Route 9, which is a substantial state
11 highway. The kind of new roads per megawatt that we need
12 to build here is actually quite low. Given we've got 30
13 megawatts of new generation going in, with only four miles
14 of new gravel surface road, that ratio is quite low. And,
15 again, the installation of a renewable energy facility in
16 a sparsely settled area of the Town, on these private
17 property areas, adjacent to these areas we believe is in
18 concert with the orderly development.

19 But, briefly, the economic impact: We
20 did retain Professor Ross Gittell and Matt Magnusson of
21 UNH to look at what the economic impact of the Project
22 would be. Their evaluation was that the Project would
23 generate, over its 20 year -- first 20 years of operation,
24 \$55.7 million in local economic benefit, about 12 million

1 of that is during the construction period, and then about
2 2.3 million a year, each year, for the first 20 years.
3 Jobs: There would be about 86 full-time equivalent jobs
4 during construction, and then 13 full-time equivalent jobs
5 during operations. And, obviously, these are including
6 full-time equivalencies, is obviously looking at direct,
7 indirect, and induced. And, this is discussed in more
8 detail in Professor Gittell and Matt Magnusson report.
9 And, the "local area" here is defined as these five
10 counties, "Hillsborough, Cheshire, Merrimack, Rockingham,
11 and Sullivan Counties".

12 Talk a little bit about public safety.
13 Again, the facility is located entirely on private lands,
14 with over a half a mile setback from the nearest
15 non-participating residence. We believe these setbacks
16 are sufficient to protect the public from any safety
17 risks, both during normal operations and in the event of
18 any potential equipment failures.

19 In addition, AWE has, in an agreement
20 with the Town that was signed in March, agreed to a number
21 of other measures. For example, placing -- making sure
22 that the access roads are gated and locked to prevent
23 public access on the roads, and providing keys or codes to
24 those locks to Antrim emergency response personnel and

1 selectmen. Ensuring that the towers themselves aren't
2 climbable and access doors are always locked. The high
3 voltage electrical equipment is enclosed and marked. And,
4 keeping all facilities further than or at 1.1 times
5 turbine height to an adjacent property line.

6 We've also agreed to place signage on
7 roads at 750 feet from any turbine, and on informal trails
8 that crisscross the area at 500 feet from any potential
9 turbine. All the equipment that we utilize in the
10 facility will have the appropriate design safety
11 certifications. Any blasting that occurs on the site will
12 have a blasting plan that will be in accordance with DES
13 standards. And, obviously, we'll be in coordination with
14 the Town to notify them prior to any blasting occurring.

15 Fire protection: The wind towers have
16 extensive sensors that determine when there is a potential
17 for or risk of fire that automatically shuts the turbines
18 down. There is fire protection equipment that is located
19 in each turbine nacelle, as well as in the operations and
20 maintenance building, and available for crews to be able
21 to utilize. And, we have agreed to work with the Antrim
22 Volunteer Fire Department to make sure if they have any
23 specialized training that they may need in the event of an
24 emergency response.

1 Talk a little bit about the construction
2 process. The first thing that happens in the construction
3 process is that the scientists -- our scientists go out
4 and flag any sensitive areas, so that we know where to
5 avoid when the crews come in and start construction. So,
6 once the site's flagged, a logging company will come in
7 and commence site clearing. We are committed to using
8 best efforts to try and complete all the tree clearing
9 during the winter or late summer, to minimize any impacts
10 during that clearing phase of the Project. And, once
11 that's done, road construction commences, the civil work
12 commences, once we have enough space to be able to get
13 excavation equipment in there to move around. And,
14 obviously, all that activity would be in coordination or
15 in an adherence with a Alteration of Terrain Permit. Any
16 topsoils that are harvested from the site during clearing
17 will be stockpiled on the site, and used to revegetate the
18 areas after the site construction is complete. So, that
19 we make sure that what we're using for revegetation is
20 native, local soil and seeds, and other material on the
21 site. Obviously, all the turbine locations need to be
22 cleared and graded. The foundations will be excavated and
23 constructed. And, once again, that blasting will be done
24 in conformance with an approved blasting plan and DES

1 guidelines.

2 Our proposal calls for the turbines to
3 be delivered each directly to the turbine locations.
4 Where they would be staged, and the erection process would
5 commence at Turbine 10, and work its way all the way back
6 down sequentially to Turbine 1. So, the crane would be
7 assembled at Turbine 10, it would actually be walked down
8 the ridge to Turbine 1, where it will be disassembled and
9 then removed from the site.

10 Once construction is complete, we have
11 committed to reduce the roadways down by revegetating
12 those shoulders, to leave just a 16-foot wide access road.
13 And, again, to have another briefing with the Town on the
14 whole construction plan prior to commencing construction,
15 and always notice before blasting occurs.

16 Decommissioning is a question that,
17 obviously, gets raised a lot, making sure that there is a
18 program in place to effect the removal of the towers after
19 operating life. So, generally, we look at wind turbines,
20 commercial utility-scale wind turbines as having an
21 operating life of 20 to 25 years. It's possible, and we
22 have the ability under our leases, to extend the lease out
23 for an additional 25 years, what we call "repowering" the
24 project, by putting new equipment up there after the

1 initial operating period, assuming there was still a
2 competitive market for wind, and we were able to obtain
3 any permits that would be required to do so. But, once
4 the turbines are no longer operational, they will be
5 decommissioned. And, this will require that all
6 facilities will be removed, including foundations, would
7 be removed down to 2 feet below grade and filled back up
8 with topsoil -- or, 18 inches below grade, excuse me.
9 And, we have, within our agreement with the Town,
10 specified what some of these decommissioning requirements
11 are, as well as to a decommissioning funding plan, which
12 requires that we fund the plan, which will be developed by
13 a third party engineer that the Town of Antrim can
14 approve. And, they will also, in addition to their plan,
15 develop a Fund -- Decommissioning Funding Estimate. That
16 we will fund 125 percent of, or \$200,000, whichever is
17 greater, prior to commencement of construction. And, so,
18 that plan includes the salvage value of the equipment on
19 the hill, and it includes a re-evaluation of what that
20 salvage value is periodically, to make sure that any
21 funding assurance that's in place is up-to-date.

22 Property value impacts: We also had
23 Professor Gittell and Matt Magnusson do an evaluation of
24 both the literature and of specific -- or, actually,

1 firsthand research of property value impacts, potential
2 property value impacts at the Lempster Project. They
3 examined quite a number of property transactions from
4 prior to the Lempster Wind Project, going into effect to
5 several years after its operation.

6 And, the conclusion that they found is
7 that there certainly -- it does not include the
8 possibility of isolated cases, where there may have been
9 property value impacts. But they found no evidence that
10 the project has had a consistent or
11 statistically-significant impact on property values. And,
12 specifically, that, in their evaluation, neither a view of
13 or proximity to wind turbines had a direct effect on
14 property values in Lempster. Which is, obviously, the
15 closest wind farm that we have the opportunity to
16 evaluate.

17 Talk a little bit about emissions
18 benefits in the Project. We want, in fact, to go in and
19 really do an evaluation based on these specific turbines
20 at these specific locations, based on wind data that we
21 have, using the actual TMME. So, our meteorologists
22 generated what's called an "8760 model", which is
23 essentially hour by hour for 8,760 hours a year, how much
24 energy the Antrim Wind Energy Project would be producing,

1 and then correlated that to the same 8,760 hours in the
2 New England ISO, the New England grid, where we all get
3 our power from. To look at what dispatchable plants would
4 be either not dispatched or ramped down to accommodate for
5 the wind generation. So, this is called a "Time-Matched
6 Marginal Emissions Model". Again, this report that RSG
7 produced is part of our Application. And, what it showed
8 is that, in an average year, about 59,000 tons of carbon
9 dioxide will be saved from the Project. Another 150 tons
10 of nitrogen dioxide, other nitrogen oxides, sulfur
11 dioxide, methane, particulate matter.

12 And, then, one that may not be quite as
13 obvious is fresh water. Again, by avoiding generation
14 from other fossil-based plants or thermal plants, we save
15 a lot of fresh water that's not used for cooling. And,
16 that's about 17 and a half million gallons of fresh water
17 each year. And, that carbon equivalent is about 10,600
18 cars' worth, just for a reference.

19 As with a lot of New Hampshire, there's
20 significant conservation areas that do exist in the
21 vicinity of the Project. And, we recognized early on,
22 we've been working in Antrim for about three years now,
23 that conservation interests were highly regarded in this
24 area. We have met over the last three years, but

1 particularly over the last 18 months, with groups such as
2 the Antrim Conservation Commission, The Nature
3 Conservancy, New Hampshire Audubon, The Harris Center, The
4 Monadnock Conservancy, and the Forest Society. And, as a
5 result of those conversations and our interest in trying
6 to bring a project that has multiple benefits forward, we
7 have worked together with The Harris Center and local
8 landowners to permanently conserve about 685 acres of land
9 in the Project area, if this Project is built.

10 This map, again, to kind of get a
11 reference here, this is Willard [indicating]. We've got
12 the PSNH corridor here [indicating], north is up, Route 9.
13 We've got several parcels here that comprise approximately
14 685 acres of land that will be permanently conserved. So,
15 there are binding agreements that Antrim Wind Energy has
16 entered into with The Harris Center and landowners that
17 would require us to put these lands into conservation
18 within, you know, 180 days of commercial operations.

19 To give you a sense of how that fits in
20 with other conservation lands in the area, we just
21 included this map here. So, these green lands again are
22 the new conservation areas, much of which is adjacent to
23 or very close to other conservation lands that are
24 currently standing.

1 One of the other things that we have
2 done in our approach to this Application is to submit an
3 Avian and Bat Protection Plan, that we think is based on
4 some of the best current science about how we mitigate
5 impacts to avian and bat species in wind facilities. That
6 begins by doing comprehensive pre-construction surveys to
7 understand what we're finding at the site. And, then,
8 going and doing post-construction monitoring, to make a
9 determination as to whether or not what we're seeing on
10 the ground aligns with what we expected to see. And, has
11 -- it's really built around an adaptive management
12 framework, which we think is the best way to proceed,
13 because it allows us to adapt as we get more information
14 about how impacts evolve with the life of the Project.
15 And, a big piece of that adaptive management process is a
16 tiered consultation with New Hampshire Fish & Game and
17 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, that allows us to kind of go
18 through, responding to incidents, and providing
19 information as the Project progresses.

20 One of the key elements to this is a
21 test curtailment of half of the wind turbines in the first
22 year of operations, which would basically change the
23 cut-in speed for five of the ten turbines from three and a
24 half to five meters a second, which is the low wind speed,

1 five of the turbines wouldn't run. Because this has been
2 studied elsewhere and been shown to reduce bat mortality
3 by up to 80 percent. It's never been studied in New
4 Hampshire. So, we've proposed to advance this curtailment
5 test, and evaluate how effective it's been in that first
6 year of the Project, and, again, adjust operations
7 accordingly. And, if we find it's an effective strategy,
8 then that's something that we can look at applying over
9 the entire Project for its 20 year operating life.

10 Just to give a little bit of a sense of
11 kind of how we have been involved in and interacting in
12 the community since the beginning here. We have -- first
13 gave a conceptual meeting with the Antrim Planning Board
14 in April of 2009. So, just about three years ago. Since
15 that time, we've been -- we've participated in dozens of
16 meetings throughout the years, on things ranging from the
17 meteorological towers, to information about our Project
18 proposal. We went through a lot of effort to negotiate
19 the Agreement with the Town of Antrim, and also had PILOT
20 discussions.

21 In February of 2011, we did a survey of
22 -- that was sent out to all Antrim residents, or was
23 intended to reach all Antrim residents, or at least a vast
24 majority. We got a really great response of about 618

1 respondents that showed a lot of support for the Project.

2 In November of 2011, we came with a
3 number of our experts and had an informational open house
4 that was open, in was in a venue like this, at the Antrim
5 Town Hall. Invited people to come, meet with our experts,
6 meet with our team, ask questions about various Project
7 elements, and raise concerns that they may have.

8 We have been at the Antrim Home and
9 Harvest Festival for each of the last two years with a
10 table, again, having information out there about the
11 Project, being available to answer -- answer the public's
12 questions. And, more recently, we have -- we launched the
13 Antrim Wind website that has a lot of information about
14 the Project that the public can go to.

15 Benefits to the Community: Antrim would
16 be -- Antrim Wind would become the largest tax payer in
17 Antrim, which would bring steady revenue to the Project --
18 to the town over the Project life, without costing the
19 town really any money, any direct cost to the town.

20 There are also, you know,
21 direct/indirect economic benefits of, you know, a roughly
22 \$60 million development coming into the town, that include
23 jobs, local, you know, local employment, particularly
24 during the construction period, but also there's indirect

1 and induced benefit that will happen with that kind of
2 activity happening in town, for, you know, food, fuel,
3 housing, materials. Again, these kind of economic
4 benefits have been detailed in a much more in-depth way in
5 our report. And, then, again, the permanent conservation
6 of at least 685 acres of forestlands in town.

7 I talked about the agreement with the
8 Town of Antrim, which was signed in March. So, we have
9 worked closely with the Town over the last three years.
10 We signed an agreement with the Town that covered a number
11 of the construction period and operating period
12 requirements that the Company would be held to. It
13 addresses topics such as noise, public safety,
14 construction timing, decommissioning, complaint response,
15 emergency response, and other key issues. And, this was
16 recently submitted along to the SEC as well.

17 And, then, on numerous occasions over
18 the last three years, residents of Antrim have come out
19 and shown a lot of support for this Project, which is
20 always very good to see. There were several straw polls
21 that the Town conducted in 2009 and 2011, which showed a
22 strong majority support for the Project. There was very
23 high survey response rates to our survey, which shows a
24 very strong support, I don't have the numbers in front of

1 me, but I think it was at least two-thirds support for the
2 Project in town.

3 And, then, more recently, Antrim
4 residents came out and have defeated two wind ordinances
5 that would have either prohibited or severely restricted
6 commercial wind energy in town, to the point that, in our
7 view, would not have enabled the Project -- our Project to
8 proceed. And, those ordinances were not enacted.

9 So, just to summarize here. Our site is
10 the result of a careful site selection process. It's
11 focused on high performance, it's focused on low impacts.
12 We've been performing extensive studies that we believe
13 that the Project can be built without undue adverse
14 impacts, to the community or the environment, while it
15 brings significant economic and energy benefits to the
16 state and the region.

17 Our direct impacts are 57 acres of
18 direct land impacts on the ground, while producing enough
19 energy for 13,500 average New Hampshire homes, substantial
20 new revenue to the Town, and significant ongoing emissions
21 benefits.

22 We've been fortunate to have the support
23 of a large majority of Antrim residents over the last
24 three years. And, we believe that the site is consistent

1 with the goals of the State of New Hampshire for
2 increasing clean energy, and then meets the criteria of
3 162-H to receive a Certificate of Site and Facility.

4 Thank you very much. That concludes our
5 presentation.

6 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you very much.
7 Are the slides you've shown tonight available? Will they
8 be posted?

9 MR. KENWORTHY: Sure. Yes. We can make
10 them available.

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. That
12 might be useful, so that people can have a record of what
13 they've heard and be able to double check. And, it's got
14 the contact information as well. So, we appreciate that.
15 Are there any questions that the Committee has? Anything
16 you want to clarify or bring out before we move to
17 community comments and questions?

18 (No verbal response)

19 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Was
20 there something else you had, Mr. Kenworthy?

21 MR. KENWORTHY: No, just -- but John
22 just told me, in response to the question about the
23 proximity of the schools, to closest school to a turbine
24 is 3.5 miles.

1 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: 3.5 miles. And,
2 which school is that?

3 MR. KENWORTHY: This school.

4 MR. SOININEN: This facility is at least
5 three and a half miles from any turbine.

6 (Court reporter interruption.)

7 MR. SOININEN: John Soininen.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. I think
9 we may want to give our court reporter a little bit of a
10 break, and make sure we've got all of the questions
11 gathered. If anybody's still writing any, please do so,
12 get them to Mr. Iacopino. Let's take, it's now not quite
13 8:15. If we can be ready to begin at 8:20. So, it's
14 about a, depending which clock you look at, a six or seven
15 minute break, and we'll start up with questions. Thank
16 you.

17 (Recess taken at 8:13 p.m. and the
18 hearing resumed at 8:21 p.m.)

19 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: So, welcome back.
20 Thank you everyone for taking a quick break. We have a
21 lot to come. People have got a lot of good questions.
22 And, many people have signed up to make comments
23 afterwards.

24 Are there any other questions people

1 have written out that they would like to submit? All
2 right. My questions aren't here. Mr. Iacopino?

3 MR. IACOPINO: Coming.

4 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: You've got the
5 questions. We've done what we can to group them into a
6 sort of orderly set of topics, to try and make this as
7 consistent and coherent as we can. And, I'll read them as
8 clearly as I can, and not -- I won't interpret them. But,
9 if I get a word wrong, it's not -- I'm not reading them
10 right, not that I'm trying to do anything.

11 So, the first few have to do with the
12 process that an application like this goes through, has to
13 do with the SEC process mostly. And, I'm going to ask
14 Mr. Iacopino, who's Counsel to the Committee, to respond
15 to these.

16 The first one is, "How will
17 interventions -- how will intervenors be chosen? Can
18 anyone be an intervenor?"

19 MR. IACOPINO: And, intervention is
20 governed by RSA 541-A, Section 32. And, I took the
21 liberty of writing down what that says, so I'll know.
22 What the Committee must consider under the law, in
23 determining whether or not to let somebody intervene, is
24 whether that person or group or association has "rights,

1 duties, privileges, immunities or another substantial
2 interests that may be affected by the proceeding. Or, in
3 some cases, certain intervenors are required -- in certain
4 cases, certain people are required to be allowed to
5 intervene by law. A general example of that is a
6 municipality that may be affected by an administrative
7 proceeding must be allowed to intervene by law. But, for
8 the average person or organization, that person or
9 organization must have rights, duties, privileges,
10 immunities, or another substantial interest that may be
11 affected by the proceeding.

12 And, to intervene, one must file a
13 written motion to intervene, which demonstrates what those
14 rights, duties, and privileges are, asserts what they are,
15 and is filed on a timely basis, which is by tomorrow under
16 the order, the scheduling order in this case. And, by the
17 way, we had about a dozen of them received at the office
18 today. I haven't been able to review any of them,
19 obviously, because I've been up on the mountain. But,
20 thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: One other thing you
22 might mention is, we occasionally require people with
23 similar interests to work together. Want to explain how
24 that goes?

1 MR. IACOPINO: Yes. What can happen is
2 that the Presiding Officer, Commissioner Ignatius, can
3 order that intervenors be grouped together based upon
4 similar interests. And, then, what would happen is, as a
5 member of that intervenor group, is sometimes designated
6 to be the -- sort of the lead for that group. They would
7 do the speaking at any hearing or the questioning. But
8 that is a -- that is permitted by RSA 541-A as well.

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. The next
10 question says: "Antrim's selectmen signed a contract with
11 Antrim Wind on March 8, 2012, which spells out maximum
12 turbine heights, property line setbacks, and
13 decommissioning finances, among other provisions. How
14 will that document coordinate with the SEC's review?"
15 And, "what happens if the SEC disagrees with some of the
16 provisions of the signed contract?"

17 MR. IACOPINO: That document has been
18 filed with the SEC as an addendum to the Application. If
19 there are provisions in that that the Committee, after
20 their deliberations, determines should or should not be
21 imposed, the Committee has the authority to impose the
22 condition or not impose it after its deliberative process.
23 So, the Committee is not bound by -- the short answer is,
24 the Committee is not bound by that agreement. It could --

1 they could require more onerous conditions or it could
2 require less onerous conditions.

3 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: The next question
4 reads: "The process that this town has gone through over
5 this wind farm has been manipulated by the Town
6 powers-that-be and the people have not been allowed to
7 freely discuss their objections [and] questions. Is this
8 going to be a review" -- I'm sorry. "Is there going to be
9 a review of this process by the SEC?"

10 MR. IACOPINO: The SEC is required to
11 consider and give due consideration to the information
12 provided by the opinions and the positions of municipal
13 and regional planning agencies. And, that is one of the
14 main statutory requirements that the SEC may follow. The
15 SEC will not be doing some investigation into whatever
16 happened in Antrim during the course of what I understand
17 has been a very vocal process that's gone on here. We're
18 not going to investigate people. We are going to take the
19 information, and are going to put that into the mix with
20 all of the other statutory considerations, and make a
21 decision based upon the evidence that is submitted to the
22 Committee during the course of the adjudicatory
23 proceeding. That's the process that will be used.

24 And, what weight to be given to any

1 particular town vote, straw poll, or ordinance vote,
2 whatever weight to be given will be decided by the members
3 of the Committee, after they have considered not just
4 that, but all of the evidence for all of the different
5 categories that they must consider by law.

6 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: This question reads,
7 in the tiniest print I've ever seen: "In your proposed --
8 in your proposal guidelines you mentioned giving "due
9 consideration to municipal and regional planning
10 commissions and municipal governing bodies." How does the
11 SEC implement this?"

12 MR. IACOPINO: We implement that through
13 the adjudicatory hearing process. In this particular --
14 and, before today, I don't know, there may be other
15 municipalities or regional committees that have filed
16 motions to intervene. But, prior to today, we have a
17 motion to intervene from your town, from your Board of
18 Selectmen, and from the Historic -- I'm sorry, from your
19 Conservation Commission. I don't know if there have been
20 other, either regional planning agencies or other towns
21 that abut the Project or abut the Town of Antrim. They
22 have all been notified of this. I don't know if we've
23 received any motions to intervene from any of those folks.

24 But what happens is, they intervene, and

1 they act as parties in the hearings that will go on after
2 today, the adjudicatory hearings. The Committee will
3 consider everything that those planning agencies and
4 municipalities have to offer, and then make a decision.
5 With the municipalities, that decision primarily deals
6 with whether or not there will be -- whether or not this
7 will interfere with the orderly development of the region.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: It appears to me one
9 question we should address before everybody leaves
10 tonight, I don't think I addressed this earlier, which is
11 other opportunities for people to make comment, even
12 after, not just after tonight, but even after the matter
13 goes into the adjudicative hearing process in Concord.
14 And, there's still opportunities, they don't have to be
15 intervenors, formally intervenors to participate and make
16 comments known. Would you explain that.

17 MR. IACOPINO: Sure. And, there are
18 three different ways that additional comments can be made
19 by anybody in this room or, in particular, anything that
20 is submitted by a town or a municipal planning agency we
21 will take and make part of the record. Sometimes that
22 happens where a particular town does not choose to
23 intervene in the proceeding, but they send along some
24 information or something that they want for us to

1 consider. That would certainly be considered.

2 But, for most of the people in this
3 room, there will be at every session of the adjudicatory
4 hearing, we usually set aside some time to take additional
5 public comment. Just like we're going to take public
6 comment tonight, there will be time set aside at each
7 session of the adjudicative phase for public comment.

8 In addition, anybody can file written
9 public comment with the Committee right up until the day
10 that a final decision is issued. We take written comments
11 right up to that day. Obviously, it would be wise to get
12 any written comments that you have into the Committee
13 before the day that the decision comes out, so that the
14 Committee can consider your written comments.

15 And, obviously, what generally happens
16 is, we have the adjudicatory hearings. There is a period
17 of time where we take a week or two off, so that we can
18 get transcripts. And, then, we have a public deliberative
19 session where this Board will actually sit in public, on
20 the record with a stenographer, and we'll actually
21 deliberate and make their decision, and talk about that
22 decision on the record. So, get your written comments in
23 before then, because that's when they will make the most
24 difference. But we do take written comments right up

1 until the day a final decision is made -- is issued.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: And, who would you
3 submit the written comments to?

4 MR. IACOPINO: Written comments should
5 be submitted to the Committee Secretary, Jane Murray,
6 M-u-r-r-a-y. And, she is at the Department of
7 Environmental Services. And, I don't remember their
8 address. It's on Hazen Drive, in Concord. But there is
9 -- I'm sorry.

10 FROM THE FLOOR: Twenty-nine.

11 FROM THE FLOOR: Twenty-nine.

12 FROM THE FLOOR: P.O. Box 95.

13 MR. IACOPINO: Post Office Box 95.

14 Okay.

15 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: That's all on the
16 website.

17 MR. IACOPINO: Yes. It's on the
18 website. And, also, you can also e-mail your comments, if
19 you wish, to *janemurray@des.nh.gov*.

20 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. The next
21 question is, again about our process: "How do you operate
22 -- operationalize your seemingly contradictory guidelines,
23 for example, maximizing alternative energy and protecting
24 rare animals? Is the operationalization entirely

1 subjective or do you use numbers?"

2 MR. IACOPINO: The Committee -- one of
3 the reasons why I'm answering these questions is because
4 the Committee is supposed to be pristine and they're not
5 supposed to be making decisions before they hear all of
6 the evidence. So, I can tell you that, generally, the
7 decisions are made because -- are made when evidence has
8 been presented. So, in large part, the Committee must
9 rely upon the evidence that's presented by the parties,
10 that includes the Applicant, the towns and the intervenors
11 that are involved in the case. The Committee considers
12 all of that. If there are numbers involved there, the
13 Committee will consider those.

14 I wouldn't say that it's a "subjective"
15 process. It's a well-guided process. The RSA 162-H tells
16 the Committee the areas that they must consider and the
17 standard of proof which they must apply. However, I can't
18 tell you what any particular Committee on any project is
19 going to use, until we know what's in the record. If
20 there's not enough evidence in support of a project in the
21 record, the project will be denied. If there's ample
22 evidence in support of a project in the record, the
23 project will be approved.

24 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: The next questions

1 go to the developer. And, I'll leave to you to pick,
2 Mr. Kenworthy, or others, to respond to. "Please explain
3 how this project will have little or no cost to [the]
4 Town? How can this be if it increases town evaluation
5 totals and asset value?"

6 MR. KENWORTHY: I think the primary
7 point that I intended to make from that slide is that the
8 project does not cost the Town dollars, like other forms
9 of development often do. Things like municipal services,
10 plowing the roads, busing children, sewage, trash-hauling,
11 things of that nature, that ultimately take away from new
12 tax dollars that come in from developments. So, that was
13 the primary purpose of that slide.

14 With regard to the question as to
15 "increasing the Town's valuation", and how that might
16 impact any -- and, I assume what's being referred to here
17 is some of the PILOT questions that have been raised. We
18 have been actively working with the selectmen in the Town
19 of Antrim to ensure that the agreement that we enter into
20 with them will provide for an assurance of substantial net
21 revenue to the Town under all circumstances, including if
22 the full value of the Project were to be added to the
23 Town's equalized value for the purposes of making payment
24 into ConVal.

1 (Court reporter interruption.)

2 MR. KENWORTHY: Into ConVal, the school
3 district.

4 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Why did you state
5 at the meeting that was sponsored by the Antrim Grange
6 that the Audubon Society is in favor of this project, when
7 indeed it is not? They are intervenors at this point."

8 MR. KENWORTHY: I think what's being
9 referred to there is a slide that we have shown in a
10 number of presentations that categorizes generally some
11 sentiments within the conservation community, that include
12 the Audubon Society, National Audubon, which has made a
13 statement that comes out in support, and in strong
14 support, of properly sited wind energy projects. So, I
15 think that's the reference. It also included references
16 to the Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, and Sierra
17 Club. So, that specifically was referring to those
18 national chapters, not, in this case, New Hampshire
19 Audubon.

20 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Where is the Antrim
21 Wind Energy Project in the ISO-New England queue?" And,
22 you might explain what the "ISO-New England queue" is, for
23 those that have not had the pleasure.

24 MR. KENWORTHY: Sure. So, ISO --

1 ISO-New England is a nonprofit corporation that basically
2 has two functions. They ensure the kind of safety and
3 reliability of the New England grid, which interconnects
4 all the New England states. And, they also ensure fair
5 markets in the New England grid as well. Those are their
6 two primary functions.

7 For the purposes of the "queue", every
8 project that proposes to interconnect new generation needs
9 to submit interconnection requests to the New England ISO.
10 That then gives you a queue position. And, I can't
11 remember our queue position now. We submitted our Large
12 Generator Interconnection Request, which is what all
13 generators who are larger than 20 megawatts in the New
14 England ISO use. We submitted that in August of last
15 year. And, so, it goes through a process that involves,
16 kind of the first phase being a feasibility study, and the
17 second phase being a system impact study, commencing with
18 a facility study. And, ultimately, an interconnection
19 agreement that contains all the requirements that we will
20 have to adhere to in order to interconnect the Project.

21 The status of that is that we are
22 literally right at the wire. The working group at the ISO
23 has recently signed off on the findings of their study
24 group, which includes Northeast Utilities, PSNH, a number

1 of other stakeholders in the area. And, we expect that
2 feasibility study from them within about a week from
3 today. And, the subsequent system impact study, which
4 looks at stability on the grid, we expect by the middle of
5 June.

6 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "What is the peak
7 generating capacity that will be accommodated by the PSNH
8 interconnection?"

9 MR. KENWORTHY: The interconnection
10 request is for 33 megawatts. That's what is being
11 studied. There's something of a nuanced reason for this.
12 And, it actually goes back, Commissioner Ignatius, to
13 something you said in the beginning as well, and also ties
14 into our not having finally selected a turbine yet. We
15 are committed to ten turbines in the 3-megawatt size
16 class. One of the turbines that we have under
17 consideration is a Vestas 3-megawatt turbine. That
18 turbine is technically rated at 3.06?

19 MR. SOININEN: Seventy-five.

20 MR. KENWORTHY: 3.075 megawatts. And,
21 so, in the event that we chose to use Vestas turbines, we
22 would be at 30.75 megawatts. So, we couldn't study ten of
23 the Accionas, because, if we then switched to Vestas
24 turbines, we would technically have to reset our queue

1 position, because you can't go up in size. So, that's the
2 technical reason why we've studied 33, even though we only
3 intend to use ten turbines. And, so, essentially,
4 30 megawatts is the maximum amount of generation, you
5 know, give or take that 0.75 that we may have available,
6 if we were to choose a Vestas turbine.

7 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "What is the average
8 wind velocity measured by the met tower, and over what
9 period of time?"

10 MR. KENWORTHY: We have measured wind on
11 the site. For those of you who were on the site tour
12 today, you couldn't see the met tower, others can see it
13 in the area, it's visible from a number of locations. The
14 met tower has been on site since November of 2009. So, we
15 have now about two and a half years or so of site wind
16 data. More recently, we have supplemented that with a
17 ground-based laser, called a "Light R", that moves from
18 different locations around the site, it sends a laser up
19 into the sky that measures wind at very tall elevations.
20 I can't give you very specific wind data. I can tell you
21 that the kind of capacity factors that we expect the wind
22 to generate for us, as we've indicated in our Application,
23 are, you know, in the upper 30s, in terms of capacity
24 factors. And, part of that is due to a strong wind

1 resource, part of that is also due to modern turbines,
2 with larger rotor diameters, that you are able to capture
3 more energy from that wind.

4 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: How many homes are
5 within 2 miles of any turbine?

6 MR. KENWORTHY: I don't know the answer
7 to that. We could try to find out and come back with an
8 answer. I don't have it offhand.

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Why don't we see, if
10 you have that material here, we'll come back to that
11 question tonight. Somebody see if they can come up with
12 it?

13 MR. SOININEN: We don't have it.

14 MR. KENWORTHY: I don't think we have it
15 here, in terms of the number of homes. I mean, two miles,
16 to us, is a fairly -- fairly kind of arbitrary distance to
17 study. So, we haven't studied homes within two miles. We
18 could try to --

19 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Well, let's think
20 about what you do have. You showed a slide with a couple
21 of different circumferences and residences located on it,
22 right?

23 MR. KENWORTHY: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: So, maybe somebody

1 could count up the categories that you do have, and you're
2 not going to do it on the spot, of what you have already
3 measured, and at least report that.

4 MR. KENWORTHY: Sure. We can try to do
5 that.

6 MR. SOININEN: It's 47 within
7 1,160 meters. That's the metric that we have.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: And, what does that
9 mean in terms of miles?

10 MR. KENWORTHY: That's around a half a
11 mile. I think we need to go -- I think this is the slide
12 we're referring to. Could we try and count those that are
13 within a mile before the end of the evening? We can try
14 and count that.

15 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. See
16 what --

17 MR. KENWORTHY: Or, we can come back
18 with an answer later.

19 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Yes. See what you
20 can come up with tonight. And, if that's not sufficient,
21 we can ask that that be supplemented. "What's the height
22 used for turbine foundations? Are any of [them] above
23 10 feet of grade?

24 MR. KENWORTHY: I don't know that I

1 completely understand the question, in terms of "will the
2 actual foundations be above" --

3 FROM THE FLOOR: You can count them
4 right here. There's like a hundred or so.

5 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Well,
6 maybe the Company can do some counting.

7 MR. KENWORTHY: Sure. Do you want to --

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Well,
9 let's start with --

10 MR. BROWN: This isn't going to do it.

11 MR. KENWORTHY: There is no distance on
12 that map.

13 MR. BROWN: Right.

14 MR. KENWORTHY: I think, if it's an
15 important question for us to answer, we're happy to try
16 and answer it. I'm just not sure we can easily do it
17 tonight.

18 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Let's
19 continue with, and we'll think about the best way to
20 respond to that. On the height of the foundations, you
21 have a pad?

22 MR. KENWORTHY: Right.

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: What's the -- how
24 high do the pads go? Let's take it from that as a start.

1 MR. MARTIN: I would say, generally, a
2 foot or two --

3 (Court reporter interruption.)

4 MR. MARTIN: I'm sorry. My name is
5 Patrick Martin. I'm a civil engineer with TRC. I worked
6 on the roadside and the stormwater design. Just a real
7 quick look at the plans, the foundations are generally a
8 foot or two above the ground.

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. And, the
10 foundation here is a concrete pad --

11 MR. MARTIN: Yes. That's right.

12 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: -- and then built on
13 it?

14 MR. MARTIN: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. "Is
16 there a noise model to show sound-carry in valleys or over
17 water?"

18 MR. KENWORTHY: I'm going to ask if Rob
19 O'Neal from Epsilon can answer that question.

20 MR. O'NEAL: Sure. Rob O'Neal, from
21 Epsilon Associates. So, the poster graphic that folks
22 have seen, it's also in the reports that are before the
23 Committee, this was generated using a software package
24 that uses a very standard model, if you will, an algorithm

1 called "ISO 9613". So, that takes -- that takes
2 meteorological conditions. It takes topographies or the
3 digital elevation model from the USGS. Those different
4 actions and factors are taken into account by the
5 algorithm that go into doing the calculations from each of
6 the turbines, out -- the distance out to each of the
7 receptors of the houses that you see here. Does that
8 answer the question?

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: I was looking at my
10 cards, I'm sorry. I honestly don't know. I was looking
11 at the cards. I'm told the answer is "yes". So, that was
12 a noise model that shows how sound carries.

13 MR. O'NEAL: Yes. The answer is "yes".

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. "Will
15 the access road be continuously fenced?"

16 MR. KENWORTHY: No. The plans don't
17 call for any fencing around the access road. There's one
18 entry point to the Project area, which is off of Route 9,
19 that will access the substation. That road is intended to
20 be gated and locked. But there will be no fence beyond
21 that gate, just prevents vehicular access. The substation
22 yard itself is intended to be fenced for public safety.
23 So, there's high voltage electrical equipment in there.
24 And, that is the extent of the fencing that's been

1 proposed for the Project.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "How much of the
3 planned cleared areas are already clear? And, how much
4 has been acci -- I'm sorry, coincidentally cleared during
5 recent logging operations?"

6 MR. KENWORTHY: I don't know the
7 specific answer to that. There has been recent logging
8 that's been done on land owned by private landowners
9 independently of the Project. There has been, this year,
10 there's been several clear-cuts that have been performed.
11 We have not mapped the extent of the cutting that they
12 have done. It's been through separate permits that they
13 have filed with DES and Intent to Cuts, *etcetera*. But we
14 have not gone and mapped where their harvesting kind of
15 overlaps our plans. Although, we do have plans to be back
16 up on the site shortly to kind of evaluate what, you know,
17 impact that may have had relative to the studies that we
18 have performed. I would say, prior to -- prior to this
19 year's logging, of the 57 acres that we have, I'm
20 estimating a little bit here, kind of subject to check, I
21 would say, you know, very little of it would have been
22 existing clearing. It would have been forest in various
23 stages of successional growth. You know, maybe -- maybe 5
24 or 10 percent of it would have been existing clearing

1 prior to this year. I don't know the numbers
2 specifically. That is also subject to check.

3 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "How deep are lines
4 buried underground?"

5 MR. KENWORTHY: I believe those -- I
6 would need to check this, but I believe they're buried at
7 3 feet beneath the ground. And, we can check the plans on
8 that as well.

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "How much of the
10 energy generated by the ten wind turbines will stay in the
11 Town of Antrim? And, will we benefit in any way from this
12 energy?"

13 MR. KENWORTHY: I think there's kind of
14 two separate questions that maybe are kind of wrapped into
15 one here. I think, in terms of -- Antrim Wind Energy is
16 an independent power producer. We're not a regulated
17 utility. We do not sell power to end-users, such as
18 residents or businesses in Antrim. So, our market for
19 power is in the kind of commercial sector. So, we would,
20 you know, sell the power to entities like PSNH or others
21 that ultimately sell power onto end-users. We do not, at
22 this time, have a power purchase agreement in place. So,
23 it's unclear as to ultimately who will be buying all the
24 output from this Project.

1 With that said, there are, obviously,
2 the actual electrons themselves that are generated by the
3 wind farm will flow locally and regionally. I mean, they
4 are like -- kind of like water and water pressure, they
5 flow to the closest load. But I imagine the question was
6 more of an economic question, a transaction. And, again,
7 we don't have the ability to sell power direct to
8 end-users in Antrim or anywhere else. So, we'll be
9 looking to sell the power in a long-term power purchase
10 contract to an entity like PSNH or another utility.

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Is there an inverse
12 relationship between Antrim's relatively low elevation
13 along the Tuttle range and any need for quite tall
14 turbines, such as the Acciona 500-foot turbines you say
15 you're considering?" And, there's a second question,
16 maybe I'll tell you both, but they are -- they are two
17 independent questions. "Would the Project be commercially
18 viable, either in terms of adequacy of wind resources or
19 power output produced, if the turbines were
20 Lempster-sized, more like 400 feet?"

21 MR. KENWORTHY: I think the -- I
22 wouldn't directly say that there is an "inverse
23 relationship" between elevation and turbine size. But
24 what I would say is that projects, like Antrim Wind

1 Energy, are projects that need to sell power in a
2 competitive marketplace. And, we are competing against
3 obviously other wind facilities that are being proposed
4 and developed in New England. We're also competing
5 against other sources of energy. We are operating in a
6 market that has certain uncertainties, like tax incentives
7 that may or may not be available at the time that we're
8 trying to effect commercial contracts. So, our goal is to
9 try and maximize the Project's potential to be financially
10 successful.

11 In the case of taller turbines with
12 larger rotors, we have the ability to make an economic
13 project happen with fewer turbines, and, ultimately, less
14 impact. So, I think, you know, while they are taller, and
15 taller turbines do have increased visibility, they also
16 have fewer foundations, they have less road that
17 interconnects them. So, there's clearly some trade-off
18 there. But, again, our objective is to try and make sure
19 we advance a project that's going to have the best chance
20 of being competitive in a commercial power marketplace.

21 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "What is the height
22 of the towers represented in the pictures?" I assume that
23 means those photo simulations.

24 MR. KENWORTHY: I beg your pardon. I

1 didn't --

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: The height? What is
3 the height of the towers depicted in the photo
4 simulations?

5 MR. KENWORTHY: Those photo simulations
6 are done using the Acciona turbines. So, those are 90
7 meter towers, with a 116 meter rotor. So, they actually
8 -- they kind of refer to the tower as the "hub height",
9 and the hub height is actually somewhat taller than the
10 tower, by the time you place the nacelle on there. So,
11 hub height is 92 and a half meters, tip of blade is
12 492 feet. And, those are the turbines that we used in the
13 visual simulations.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: So, if you add
15 everything together, those aren't in addition to each
16 other, the total from base to the tip of the blade would
17 be?

18 MR. KENWORTHY: 492 feet. And, the
19 tower's -- the tower height is 90 meters, if you isolate
20 that component.

21 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Did the UNH study
22 look at completed transactions of real estate only --
23 completed transactions of real estate only, or also at
24 houses for sale but not selling, and which homes were put

1 on the market because of the towers?"

2 MR. KENWORTHY: I know the study looked
3 at, I believe, all of the real estate transactions that
4 did occur in Lempster over the course of the past several
5 years as part of its evaluation. I do not believe that
6 there was any assessment of whether or not a particular
7 home was placed on the market for any specific reason. I
8 don't believe that was addressed in the study, and, in
9 terms of talking to owners and finding out whether or not
10 they listed a property and stated "it was because of the
11 wind farm", I don't believe that was included.

12 There was a number of different -- I
13 think, types of analysis that was used to compare kind of
14 assessed values of homes versus home sale prices. So, it
15 was kind of trying to levelize things and look at the
16 assessed value of the home, versus the sale price of the
17 home, and homes that had views, and homes that didn't have
18 views, in Lempster and the surrounding area, to try and
19 draw a conclusion as to whether or not proximity to, which
20 in this case was a proxy for sound or views of wind
21 turbines, had an impact on those sale values. I think
22 that's what they based their analysis on.

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: And, the study
24 itself was part of the Application that's online?

1 MR. KENWORTHY: Yes, it is.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: So, if people want
3 to read the real details, you can go online and pull that
4 up. "Where are the reliable scientific studies and
5 science and fact-supported evidence with real data to
6 support not pursuing cleaner, more renewable forms of
7 energy, i.e. wind, versus the numerous white papers and
8 scientific studies by reputable institutions outlining the
9 benefits to the overall public in pursuing alternative
10 energies?"

11 MR. KENWORTHY: Are you sure that
12 question's for me?

13 MR. IACOPINO: Would it help you to read
14 the question in writing?

15 MR. KENWORTHY: Sure. Thank you. Well,
16 I think this is asking "where are the scientific studies
17 that say we should not pursue cleaner, renewable energy?"
18 I'm not particularly aware of scientific studies that come
19 out and say "we shouldn't pursue renewable energy." I
20 think I'm reading that question the right way.

21 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Yes. Thank you.
22 "Extensive conservation easements protecting approximately
23 700 acres have been mentioned as supporting the Project
24 proposal. Is a copy of the easement agreement or

1 agreements available for public review?"

2 MR. KENWORTHY: We have not submitted
3 them as part of our Application. We have -- several
4 individuals have requested them from us, both the binding
5 letters of intent that are the agreements that we have
6 signed now, both Harris Center, Antrim Wind, and the
7 landowners. There are four of them, and attached to those
8 are the easements themselves. So, we have supplied them
9 upon request to a number of individuals or groups, and
10 we'd be happy to supply them to others. And, if -- I
11 don't know if we can make them publicly available, we
12 don't have any objection to that.

13 MR. IACOPINO: Mr. Kenworthy, do you
14 know if your counsel intends to submit them as exhibits
15 during the course of the adjudicative proceeding?

16 MR. KENWORTHY: I don't think we have
17 discussed whether or not there is a -- and, Susan, I don't
18 know if you want to talk to that, or -- I don't know.

19 Yes. I think the -- our basic position
20 is these are documents that ultimately are going to become
21 public documents. These are going to be reported
22 documents. I think we have versions of the letters of
23 intent that have certain very short sentences that are
24 redacted. And, attached to each of those is the easement

1 itself, which is, again, intended to be a public document.
2 We wouldn't have any problem submitting those, if the
3 Committee would like, or making them otherwise available.

4 MR. IACOPINO: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. A
6 follow-up on the UNH real estate studies that hadn't been
7 answered in the multiple questions, I think this one
8 didn't get picked up. "Did the UNH study include homes
9 for sale but not selling?" And, any understanding of "why
10 those homes are on the market?"

11 MR. KENWORTHY: I do not believe it did
12 address homes that are for sale but not selling. I would
13 need to double check that and read the report. So,
14 subject to check, but I do not believe that it did.

15 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Are the visual
16 simulations on display tonight calibrated correctly to
17 show 492-foot turbines/towers? And, who did the
18 calibrations?"

19 MR. KENWORTHY: John, could I ask you to
20 answer that question, with respect to the calibrations of
21 the size of the turbines in the photographs.

22 MR. GUARIGLIA: The simple answer is
23 "yes". Our simulation methodology, actually, we end up
24 building the terrain, the regional terrain, and not

1 actually building the turbine to scale when creating these
2 simulations. So, yes, they all calibrate to 492, and also
3 using the --

4 (Court reporter interruption.)

5 MR. GUARIGLIA: -- using the
6 specifications of the Acciona turbines.

7 FROM THE FLOOR: Can't hear you.

8 MR. KENWORTHY: Why don't you state your
9 name.

10 MR. GUARIGLIA: John Guariglia, from
11 Saratoga Associates.

12 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Will you be
13 performing balloon tests?" And, whoever wants to answer
14 that, why don't you explain, for those who don't know,
15 what a "balloon test" would be, what it would show.

16 MR. KENWORTHY: No. We don't have any
17 plans to having to do any balloon tests. I think the
18 intention behind a balloon test is to put a balloon up
19 into the air, at a location where -- at the height of what
20 the potential structure would be, to get, you know, some
21 sense of scale. I think, here, what we've intended to do
22 is to provide kind of photo realistic simulations or what
23 the turbines would actually look like in those locations.

24 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: I'm not sure if this

1 is a question or just a comment. "My calculations put my
2 residence at a half mile from a turbine." But I don't see
3 a question that goes with that. So, I guess there isn't
4 one.

5 "What restrictions might be placed on
6 the towers in order to protect bats and birds and whose
7 recommendations do you follow?"

8 MR. KENWORTHY: I can speak a little bit
9 about what we have proposed in our kind of Avian and Bat
10 Protection Plan. I think, in terms of protocols that were
11 followed, I may need to rely on either Dana or Adam to
12 speak to that further. But, initially, as I mentioned in
13 the presentation, one of the things that have been shown
14 in other parts of the country to really reduce bat
15 mortality, and, obviously, we recognize that bats are a
16 concern, because the populations are -- have decreased so
17 much, is to identify the times when bat collision is most
18 likely to happen, or bat mortality is most likely to
19 happen, because bat mortality may not be caused by
20 collision, it may be caused by barotrauma, which happens
21 when the -- you know, bats fly into the low-pressure zones
22 behind turbine blades. To identify those times, and then
23 to try to mitigate them, in this instance, by curtailing
24 those low wind speeds. So, what we have proposed to do

1 here is, for the first year of turbine operations, to
2 curtail five of the ten turbines, and then measure whether
3 or not there's a difference in bat mortality with turbines
4 that have been curtailed and turbines that haven't been
5 curtailed. And, that curtailment again would be in
6 conditions generally summertime through early fall, in low
7 wind conditions, when the temperatures are warm, and bats
8 are generally foraging. We expect we can reduce mortality
9 by that kind of curtailment. Again, with the adaptive
10 management plan, it enables us to kind of modify
11 operations as we go forward, in consultation with New
12 Hampshire Fish & Game and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, to
13 maximize that -- that result.

14 I think, if we don't find that there's a
15 material benefit there, then we won't continue the
16 curtailment, so that we can get the maximum clean energy
17 benefit from the facility.

18 With respect to -- with respect to
19 birds, we clearly have done a lot to evaluate the existing
20 conditions of, you know, migratory song birds and breeding
21 birds, raptors and eagles that use the area, and to
22 create, you know, an assessment of the risk to them. Adam
23 and Dana can probably speak better to those individual
24 elements. You know, part of the benefit I think to those

1 species is to add forest habitat, like the 685 acres of
2 conservation lands, that are a good habitat for both birds
3 and bats. And, also, by, you know, conducting the Post
4 Construction Monitoring Plan that we have proposed in
5 conjunction with the adaptive management process. So, the
6 adaptive management plan is attempting to put into place
7 and kind of guarantee the process that we go through, as
8 we find results and measure impacts after the site is
9 built, and put that framework in place so we can continue
10 to make the best decisions, in consultation with the
11 agencies.

12 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: There are a number
13 of questions someone submitted that all relate to fire
14 safety and response. So, why don't I just read all of
15 them, and then you can address them together. "What
16 additional fire risks are there with these turbines?
17 Considering that Antrim's Fire Department is staffed with
18 volunteers, what additional hazards would our volunteer
19 fire fighters be subject to in the event of a fire at
20 these turbines, for instance, chemicals, *etcetera*? Will
21 utility company, I assume that means Antrim Wind, supply
22 extra support in the event of a fire? Who incurs these
23 extra costs, the Town or Antrim Wind?"

24 MR. KENWORTHY: I think the first thing

1 I would like to say is that fires in wind turbines are
2 very rare events. It's not to say they can't happen, but
3 they're extremely rare. I think the -- with respect to,
4 you know, the types of systems that are in place to
5 protect against them, the primary systems that are in
6 place is kind of sophisticated SCADA systems. These are
7 Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems that are
8 monitored at all times from the control house, in the O&M
9 building on-site. That allows us to monitor temperature
10 situations in transformers and pumps and bearings, and
11 shut turbines down if there are conditions that might
12 present a risk for a fire to occur.

13 Clearly, as in regards any particular
14 training that might be necessary for the Antrim Fire
15 Department, yes, we have committed to work with them and
16 provide training that they may require. And, even if
17 there's a requirement for specialized equipment that we
18 both agree is necessary, and the costs to the Town for any
19 extraordinary response to an event, in other words, more
20 than what they would incur in responding to any other
21 business, would be borne by Antrim Wind.

22 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: And, did you -- I'm
23 sorry. Did you respond to the "are there any particular
24 chemicals or unusual hazards" that would be different than

1 what people are used to here?

2 MR. KENWORTHY: I can't speak exactly to
3 what the Antrim Fire Department is used to. I can say
4 that we have kind of presented, as part of our
5 Application, and have available to have discussions with
6 the Antrim Fire Department and others on, including the
7 State Fire Marshal's Office. All the kind of list of
8 materials that are in various kind of places throughout
9 the facility, whether it's in the substation, and oils and
10 lubricants that are used, or, in the turbines, themselves.
11 We do have that information available, and that will be
12 part of any conversation we have with the Antrim Fire
13 Department and other emergency response personnel.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Could the Applicant
15 speak in some detail about what the DES, that would be the
16 Department of Environmental Services, blasting
17 specifications and standards are? And, why the New
18 Hampshire Department of Transportation standard highway
19 specifications are not being used?"

20 MR. KENWORTHY: Yes. I mean, I think
21 that what we will need, prior to commencing any blasting
22 activity, is a blasting permit. And, that blasting permit
23 will need to adhere to the standards that the agency that
24 issued those permits imposed upon us. Whether that

1 incorporates components of DOT or just DES, I'm not
2 entirely clear at this time. I think there are best
3 practices that have been established by DES, which we
4 certainly would intend to follow. And, so, we would need
5 to submit a blasting plan that we'd need to get an
6 approval before we would use it. And, we would expect
7 that that would be, you know, subject to the kind of
8 authority of any agency that would, you know, want --
9 would have authority to, you know, insert influence over
10 that permit.

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "How long did you
12 perform noise studies? And, at what time of year?"

13 MR. O'NEAL: Rob O'Neal, from Epsilon
14 Associates. If I understand the question, "for how long?"
15 Will we conducted existing conditions sound level
16 measurements for about two and a half weeks, in September
17 and October of 2011. What was the second part of the
18 question?

19 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: I think that was --
20 I think that was it.

21 MR. O'NEAL: How long and what time of
22 year? Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: That's right. There
24 -- I think this question says, "have you done studies of

1 rare plants and species? And, at what time of year was
2 that done and over how long a period?"

3 MR. KENWORTHY: I'm going to ask if Dana
4 Valleau can answer that question.

5 MR. VALLEAU: Dana Valleau, from TRC.
6 And, we did do a natural community and a rare plant survey
7 on the site during the Summer of 2011. And, rare plants,
8 there were at least two site visits to look for rare
9 plants. I think one in early summer and one later, in
10 late summer, August/early September, something like that.
11 We tried to time those to be there when certain plants are
12 in a condition where their easily identified. And, we got
13 a list of potential plant species from Natural Heritage
14 Bureau before we did those surveys.

15 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: There are a few more
16 questions about sort of environmental impacts. "Of the
17 665 plus or minus acres of potential additional
18 conservation land spoken about in the presentation, how
19 many acres are actually the Project and how many acres are
20 impacted by the Project?"

21 MR. KENWORTHY: I can answer that in a
22 pretty specific way, although probably won't be
23 100 percent precise. So, there's 57 acres of direct
24 impact that the Project is -- it's going to create limits

1 of clearing and limits of disturbance. Approximately half
2 of that is occurring on lands that will then be
3 subsequently conserved. There is at least one 295-acre
4 contiguous block of property that is not part of the
5 Project area at all, and will have potentially zero
6 Project impacts on it. There is another approximately
7 140-acre parcel that is kind of directly kitty-corner to
8 that over the other end of the ridge, that has a very,
9 very small section of road that goes through the upper
10 corner of it. And, the remainder includes the upper
11 portion of the property that's owned by Mr. Ott. So, it
12 will pick up the road from south of the power lines, to
13 the summit. And, effectively, when that easement goes
14 into place, after the wind farm is decommissioned, that
15 road will not be able to be used for any further
16 commercial purposes. So, it effectively blocks future
17 development happening downstream of that easement, even
18 though some of the center properties in between them are
19 not conserved.

20 So, all told, to summarize, 685 acres of
21 conservation land, probably 25 acres are going to be
22 impacted by the Project within that area.

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "During the
24 presentation Mr. Kenworthy used the term "overburden the

1 environment". What does that mean in terms of wildlife
2 and the ecosystem?"

3 MR. KENWORTHY: You know, I don't think
4 it's a particularly technical term. I didn't have a
5 specific definition. I think what we mean is, you know,
6 we believe that there are appropriate sites for wind
7 energy, and we believe this is one of them, given the kind
8 of balances of the studies that we performed, that show,
9 if we can get the kind of benefits that we are proposing
10 here, with, you know, 30 megawatts of generation for only
11 4 miles of new gravel surface road, 57 acres of impact,
12 while impacting only two-tenths of an acre of wetlands,
13 and not having found any significant natural communities
14 or rare plants in the area, to us, in the whole, the kind
15 of balance of that seems to indicate that it's not in any
16 way overburdened. Particularly, when you can also
17 incorporate the kind of emissions benefit that the Project
18 is expected to create that we've also evaluated. So, I
19 think, you know, there are thresholds, but I think this is
20 one we believe is strongly on the side of kind of a low
21 impact type of project. But I don't have a specific
22 definition for "overburden".

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "How did you arrive
24 at the half mile distance of safe proximity of dwellings

1 to turbines?"

2 MR. KENWORTHY: It's an iterative
3 process. I think what we do is, when we look at a site
4 that we think is going to be suitable, for our purposes,
5 honestly, when we do initial site screening, and we are
6 able to pull kind of GIS coordinates of residences and
7 other buildings into that model and evaluate where
8 turbines might go, we generally look at, you know, a 2,200
9 foot setback to residences as kind of a starting point for
10 where we run our evaluations. And, then, if we find that
11 a noise model or a flicker model or some other model seems
12 to indicate to us that we would not be able to maintain
13 acceptable levels of noise or flicker, then we would make
14 an adjustment from there.

15 In this instance, I think we're again
16 fortunate in the site, in that where we want to locate
17 turbines is in an upland area, with a good wind resource,
18 that nobody is within half mile of. So, I think there's
19 -- it could have been people were less than half a mile,
20 still didn't have, in our view, a kind of undue adverse
21 impact based on noise or flicker or other things of that
22 nature. But, certainly, in this case, nobody is less than
23 half a mile. And, when we actually look at the impacts,
24 like noise and flicker and other things, I think that the

1 public safety, that buffer we believe is very adequate.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: There are a number
3 of questions about the lights that would be installed on
4 the turbines. The first one says "Will this be lit up all
5 the time at night?"

6 MR. KENWORTHY: The current FAA guidance
7 that we received is that the Project will require six red
8 synchronized lighting, lights that will be on top of the
9 nacelle that would be operational at night. There would
10 not be a daytime lighting requirement. But, I think, if
11 the question is, "will those lights" -- "are they
12 anticipated to be on each night?" Then, I think the
13 answer is "yes", based on the current guidance.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "At an early meeting
15 you mentioned the possibility of aviation lights that are
16 motion-triggered. Not all six lights on at all times.
17 Any progress with that?"

18 MR. KENWORTHY: Yes. We are aware of,
19 and have been for some time, of a radar-based lighting
20 technology that's called an "AVWS", an Audio Visual
21 Warning System, that uses radar to essentially track
22 whether or not there are aircraft within an FAA-approved
23 distance that are on a course that might intercept a
24 turbine and at an elevation that could present a collision

1 hazard. Which would then activate the lights and send an
2 audio signal to the pilot. The FAA has permitted only
3 pilot programs with that technology in the U.S. It's
4 going through the FAA system. But, as of right now, there
5 is no kind of circularized FAA procedure to go through to
6 get that AVWS system permitted.

7 There are also real concerns from our
8 perspective about the commercial availability of the
9 technology. The leader in that space, and the only one
10 who had had a deployment in the U.S. was a group called
11 "OCAS", which stands for "Obstacle Collision Avoidance
12 Systems. And, OCAS was recently bought by Vestas. And,
13 now, as of today, Vestas has not made that technology
14 available on turbines other than Vestas turbines. So, I
15 think there are concerns that we have about FAA
16 permitability, about commercial availability, and then,
17 finally, cost is a factor. These technologies are orders
18 of magnitude more expensive than conventional lighting.
19 So, that's kind of the status on the technology.

20 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Someone wrote "I
21 heard on NPR that purple was now a better color for
22 turbines." Do you have any comment on that?

23 MR. KENWORTHY: Eye of the beholder.

24 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: A question about

1 sound. "How far away can the turbines be heard, even a
2 little?"

3 MR. KENWORTHY: I don't really know how
4 to answer that question exactly. I mean, I think -- I
5 really don't know how to -- Rob, do you know of any
6 guidance to answer that question at all? It's --

7 MR. O'NEAL: It depends on people's
8 hearing.

9 MR. KENWORTHY: I think it depends on,
10 as Rob said, its hearing. It depends on what the ambient
11 noise is at a receptor. I can tell you that, with the
12 maps that we have provided, and that we will -- people
13 will have accessible to them here, when we make the slides
14 available, showed two things. They showed the kind of
15 concentric rings of decibel levels, as you move outward
16 from a project. And, they also show kind of common levels
17 of noise that people would be familiar with. So, that
18 kind of 42 dBA level, I believe, is kind of a whisper at
19 three feet, right, according to that kind of table. So,
20 people can kind of take a look at that chart and figure
21 out, you know, where they're looking on a map to see what
22 the decibel level the map portrays there, and then kind of
23 reference that to the chart on the other side to see how
24 that compares to sounds that they would kind of commonly

1 be familiar with.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Is that one of the
3 items that's propped up in the back, or no?

4 MR. KENWORTHY: We only have one half of
5 that. We have the -- Oh. Okay. So, it is part of the
6 Application, that chart. This is one half of it, which
7 shows the concentric rings. This is the chart that we can
8 kind of reference in the Application. And, in the slides,
9 that's part of this presentation, we'll make available.
10 Both of those are on one slide together.

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: You might, since you
12 have the graphic, but not the common sounds, maybe you
13 could leave both of those in the back for people to take a
14 look at tonight. And, then, obviously, people can get
15 them from the materials online as well.

16 MR. KENWORTHY: Sure.

17 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: This is a question
18 about taxes. "Antrim Wind is negotiating a 20-year tax
19 payment agreement with the Town of Antrim and has
20 announced a first-year payment of \$337,000 in lieu of a
21 full property tax payment. If that payment, and following
22 annual payments, are not sufficient to cover the
23 significant tax impact of a \$61 million addition to
24 Antrim's equalized assessment base, used in part to

1 calculate Antrim's cooperative school district taxes and
2 county taxes, how will that issue be addressed?"

3 MR. KENWORTHY: There are several things
4 I would say to that. I think one is that we wouldn't
5 necessarily agree that a \$61 million capital cost would
6 necessarily mean a \$61 million valuation increase, for
7 one. I think, for another, we have -- we currently have a
8 request in to the -- to Kevin Clougherty at the DRA
9 requesting a clarification as to the interpretation of the
10 various tax statutes that govern taxation, as well as the
11 PILOT statute, with respect to whether or not a project
12 would actually be, that is subject to a PILOT, would have
13 its full and fair market value be added to the equalized
14 value of the town for the purposes of allocations to
15 cooperative school districts. We expect a resolution on
16 that fairly shortly. Well, not necessarily "fairly
17 shortly". We hope, we hope for a resolution shortly, but
18 it may take several months.

19 In the interim, what we've been doing is
20 to negotiate an agreement with the Town of Antrim that
21 would provide for a scenario under which our original
22 understanding, when we negotiated and agreed to terms on a
23 PILOT, turned out to be true. In other words, we got an
24 interpretation from DRA that supported our conclusions, it

1 would go with the initial \$337,500 in year one, increasing
2 by two percent a year. Or, in the event that it turned
3 out the other way, we have kind of a backup agreement,
4 which, as I mentioned before, provides that any increase
5 in liability the Town has to ConVal would be covered, plus
6 a sum in net of that in each year. So, we're working to
7 finalize that agreement and we're currently negotiating
8 that with the selectmen.

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: A couple of
10 questions about decommissioning. "Should this project
11 cease to operate after it's built and become unable
12 financially to support its municipal real estate tax
13 responsibility, will the individual owners of the
14 properties on which the improvements rest become
15 responsible for all municipal real estate taxes, including
16 land and improvements, turbines and other buildings, until
17 the improvements have been removed via decommissioning?"

18 MR. KENWORTHY: I'm not a tax attorney.
19 I don't know the answer to that question. I can tell you
20 that the system that's in place, in the event that there
21 were any default on the part of the owner, allows the Town
22 to essentially, you know, proceed with a lien against the
23 Project for those taxes. The Town also has a right to, in
24 our agreement with the Town that addresses -- where

1 decommissioning is addressed, the Town has the right to
2 access the salvage value, in addition to the bond amount,
3 in order to effect the decommissioning process that's
4 required. So, in whatever event may occur where the --
5 you know, Antrim Wind Energy is no longer solvent or what
6 have you as a problem, it's not that decommissioning isn't
7 happening. The Town has the means available via the
8 decommissioning fund, and the salvage value, the access to
9 that salvage value, in order to effect those
10 decommissioning obligations. But I do not know the answer
11 as to whether or not, in some intervening period, the
12 landowner would be subject to additional taxes.

13 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "What level of
14 oversight does the SEC, Site Evaluation Committee, provide
15 to ensure that the Town receives a Decommissioning Letter
16 of Credit or Bond, in form and dollar amount, both at
17 inception and with periodic increases, to adequately fund
18 the expense of decommissioning?" Mr. Iacopino, you want
19 to take that one?

20 MR. IACOPINO: Sure.

21 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Should have warned
22 you.

23 MR. IACOPINO: The SEC has the authority
24 not only to grant or deny a permit, but also to enforce

1 the terms and conditions of a permit. And, in this
2 particular case, there is some condition that is granted
3 -- if a certificate is granted, subject to a condition
4 that the Town receive a Decommissioning Letter of Credit
5 or a bond, and the terms of that condition are violated by
6 the Applicant, the Committee could use its enforcement
7 powers and fine the Applicant, as part of its enforcement
8 authority, and take the Applicant to the superior court to
9 ensure that any penalty is, in fact, paid.

10 In addition, under the circumstances in
11 this particular question, normally, a bond has its own
12 terms within it about what happens upon default. The bond
13 is actually a form of insurance, if the Applicant defaults
14 on what it's required to do, the bond should be payable to
15 the counter on the bond, which, in this case, according to
16 the way the question is written, is the Town of Antrim.

17 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you: "Who are
18 the people who are leasing the land to Antrim Wind, LLC?
19 Do they live in Antrim?"

20 MR. KENWORTHY: There are five
21 landowners that lease property to Antrim Wind. One of
22 them is a resident of Antrim and lives in Antrim. And, I
23 think the remaining four are not residents of Antrim. Do
24 you want me to name them all?

1 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Sure. I think that
2 was the question. Yes, please.

3 MR. KENWORTHY: Michael Ott is -- you
4 visited Michael's property today. He is an Antrim
5 resident. He has a home there, we went by today. The
6 next property over, down the ridge, is owned by Antrim
7 Limited Partnership. That is the Bean family. They live
8 in Massachusetts. The next property over is Steven
9 Cotran. Steve lives in Medford. The next property over
10 is Paul Whittemore. I believe Paul -- he lives in New
11 Hampshire, I can't remember the town. And, the final
12 property is the Whittemore Trust, of which Paul and his
13 mother, Helen, are trustees.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. "To
15 date, how many wind farms have you completed? How big are
16 they? And, where are they located?"

17 MR. KENWORTHY: Well, so, there's really
18 kind of a three-part answer to this question. Antrim Wind
19 Energy, as an applicant, had never completed a wind farm.
20 It's really formed for the purposes of this wind farm.
21 Eolian Renewable Energy, as an owner of Antrim Wind
22 Energy, all of our projects are currently in development.
23 So, none of them have been completed. As I mentioned
24 before, we were formed in 2009, right about the same time

1 that we formed Antrim Wind Energy for the purposes of this
2 project. And, then, on the Westerly Wind side, again,
3 it's a -- the company itself is young, but the principals
4 have been responsible for the development, construction,
5 financing, and operation of about 700 megawatts of wind
6 power in the U.S. I think those were in -- primarily in
7 Texas and Wyoming.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: And, do you know,
9 was it under the name "Westerly Wind"?

10 MR. KENWORTHY: No. No, those would
11 have been under Catamount --

12 MR. McCABE: Catamount Energy and Duke
13 Energy.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Catamount Energy and
15 Duke Energy?

16 MR. McCABE: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. "Once
18 the wind farm is built, will Antrim Wind, LLC run it or
19 will it be sold to and run by a multinational, like the
20 Spanish company Iberdrola?"

21 MR. KENWORTHY: Right now, the plans for
22 Antrim Wind Energy are to develop and finance and
23 construct and operate the Project. Certainly, we operate
24 in an industry that is sometimes subject to sales and

1 mergers and acquisitions. So, certainly, there's a
2 possibility the Project would sell. I think the intention
3 is to -- is to kind of make decisions in the way that's
4 kind of in the best interest of advancing the Project and
5 operating it for the least cost.

6 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Mr. Kenworthy
7 discovered" -- excuse me -- "discussed savings in terms of
8 greenhouse gases. What is the environmental cost in terms
9 of mining concrete, steel, transportation, clearing of
10 acres of woodland that clears" -- I'm sorry, "that
11 cleans", "cleans CO2 emissions?" I'm not sure I'm reading
12 it correctly. "Dollar for dollar, is it any better than
13 oil and gas?"

14 MR. KENWORTHY: Yes. I think, pretty
15 unequivocally. There's -- again, generally speaking, for
16 a land-based wind site, the carbon kind of debt that the
17 Project owes because of the materials and energy that go
18 into building it are, again, in kind of fairly general
19 terms, are repaid in about a year. So, the amount of
20 carbon that's the kind of cost of transporting and
21 manufacturing and installing this equipment is recouped by
22 the clean energy that's generated, and the fossil energy
23 that's offset, within about a year of operations.
24 Obviously, that's going to change somewhat depending upon

1 where your operating region is, it's going to change
2 somewhat depending upon what your wind resource capacity
3 factor are. But that's a general kind of rule of thumb.
4 So, I think it's pretty clear that the -- that the kind of
5 net carbon balance here is strongly in favor of resources
6 like wind.

7 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Mr. Kenworthy
8 claimed that the "trend" of the industry is rotary type
9 wind turbines. However, recent articles in various
10 journals suggest turbines are inefficient and costly. If
11 we are to have "wind" energy, why not new technologies
12 like", I think it says "drum or carbon stakes?" Is that
13 right?

14 FROM THE FLOOR: Stocks.

15 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "Stocks". All
16 right.

17 MR. KENWORTHY: What I can say is, that
18 the technology that we're evaluating is state-of-the-art.
19 It is, obviously, I think, this is a commercial project
20 and needs to use commercially viable technology that's
21 here today. And, I think, within that market, we are
22 using the most advance technologies that there are. In
23 terms of kind of generator efficiency, in terms of blade
24 efficiency, in terms of blade kind of stiffness and energy

1 capture.

2 I'm certainly not aware of any kind of
3 drum-type wind turbine, the vertical axis wind turbines
4 that have never been built anywhere at commercial utility
5 scales. Certainly, they're a technology that's been
6 employed more in urban environments, but not in utility
7 scale wind. So, I think I would say that we are focused
8 on kind of serving the need that exists today, with the
9 state-of-the-art and commercially available technology.

10 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: "The statement of a
11 30 megawatt total output is at 100 percent efficient.
12 What is the average output for similar installations?"

13 MR. KENWORTHY: All right. So, I think
14 this is a question that's getting at net capacity factor.
15 So, if you had -- what net capacity factor tries to do is
16 to, in a number, provide a ratio of how much power the
17 plant actually produces, versus how much it would produce
18 if it was at 100 percent output 100 percent of the time.
19 And, as I said, I think we've included this in our
20 Application as well. We expect the plant here to have a
21 net capacity factor in the upper 30s, which is a strong
22 capacity factor for a wind facility. There's, obviously,
23 been a lot of improvements in capacity factors for wind
24 energy facilities over the last ten years, in particular.

1 Part of that comes from taller turbines, part of that
2 comes from larger rotors, part of that comes from more
3 efficient turbines, more efficient blades. But,
4 generally, we're seeing higher -- higher capacity factors.

5 So, generally, we would expect the
6 turbines will be producing some amount of energy roughly
7 85 to 90 percent of the time, they will be operating,
8 producing something. And, then, over the course of a
9 year, versus 100 percent, it's going to be in the high
10 30s, in terms of net capacity additions. And, it's
11 important to point out that there's a lot of power plants,
12 like gas, that are built with very, very low capacity
13 factors, because they're only operated when they're
14 needed. So, many, many gas plants have NCFs or net
15 capacity factors down in the low 20s or below, because
16 they don't serve any demand unless it's called for.

17 So, wind, I think, could be a very
18 competitive addition to the grid, and those capacity
19 factors are continuing to improve.

20 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: That's it for the
21 cards -- we were almost there. One more card. "Where has
22 Antrim Wind Energy been negotiating the PILOT, the Payment
23 In Lieu of Taxes, with the selectmen? Which public
24 meetings have these negotiations been taking place at?"

1 MR. KENWORTHY: We have negotiated the
2 agreement with the selectmen and counsel for the selectmen
3 and counsel for Antrim Wind in Antrim. I do not believe
4 that any of those meetings have been public meetings. We
5 have had discussions in the public meetings regarding the
6 PILOT, but not in the kind of negotiated sessions.

7 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Looks
8 like one more card. Then, I'm going to shift gears and go
9 to comments, with a little break for the court reporter.

10 "The initial PILOT negotiations
11 ballparked an annual payment to the Town of \$300,000. The
12 Project started at six to eight turbines and 22 plus or
13 minus megawatts, and the Project cost \$35 million. How
14 come the negotiated PILOT payment has stayed static, when
15 the Project is now ten turbines, 30 plus or minus
16 megawatts, and the Project cost is now \$60 million?"

17 MR. KENWORTHY: The PILOT agreement
18 actually scales with Project size. So, we have always
19 represented, in our negotiations with the Town, that the
20 payment would be driven by the number of installed
21 megawatts. And, so, it's a per megawatt number upon which
22 the Town gets paid. So, back when it was eight 2-megawatt
23 turbines, which we had considered for a time, and we were
24 talking about roughly \$10,000 a megawatt, that PILOT

1 payment would have been \$160,000. We're now more than
2 double that, with a project that's 30 megawatts, and a
3 first year PILOT payment of \$11,250, and going up by
4 two percent a year.

5 So, the PILOT itself is now, and has
6 always been, a PILOT that's based on a per megawatt
7 payment. And, both the number of megawatts and the amount
8 of that per megawatt payment have gone up over the last
9 several years with the Town.

10 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: We are now going to
11 take a quick break for the court reporter, and then go to
12 comments. But I do want to tell people, because it's
13 getting late, we'll stick it out, but in case you need to
14 go home, there is another way you can make comments. So,
15 if you're not able to stay, or if you know, I know some
16 people have already gone, if you know people who wanted
17 to, please remind them or take note yourselves ways you
18 can submit written comments. You can send them to, as
19 Mr. Iacopino said, Jane Murray, at New Hampshire
20 Department of Environmental Services, who coordinates all
21 of the paperwork here. And, I got her address, you can
22 put it at the front table, or you can e-mail, again to
23 her, *jane.murray@des.nh.gov*, g-o-v. And, they'll get into
24 the public record. They'll be made available to all of

1 us. They'll get loaded onto the website. So, if you're
2 not able to stay, or if you know anyone who had to leave,
3 please make sure that you're aware of the alternate ways
4 that you can do it any time during, up until the point of
5 a final decision.

6 MR. IACOPINO: And, that address and
7 contact is on the backside of the agenda sheets. There is
8 still a stack of them on the table, if you want to take
9 one as you leave. But, if you just flip the agenda over,
10 that information is on the backside.

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: The clock I'm
12 looking at looks like about by 9:45, if we could return,
13 that gives us about seven or eight minutes. All right?
14 Thank you.

15 (Recess taken at 9:38 p.m. and the
16 hearing resumed at 9:46 p.m.)

17 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: We're going to begin
18 the comment period. And, I appreciate everyone's
19 willingness to stay late and share your point of view.
20 We're going to go through the list that we've had filled
21 out. We'll have a microphone we'll pass to you. Please
22 speak right into it, right into it. It doesn't do any
23 good to talk away from it. And, the reporter can get a
24 lot -- can get you down if you really speak right into it.

1 I remind you, please try to keep it
2 three to four minutes, so that people all get a chance to
3 speak without it being too late. And, then, afterwards,
4 if you have something else that you just didn't get a
5 chance to get to, we'll come back to you. If someone has
6 already said the things that you wanted to say, feel free
7 to express support for what they said and not restate it.
8 But we want to hear from you, so I'm not trying to cut you
9 off too much. Just keep in mind that your colleagues all
10 want to have a chance to speak as well.

11 So, we will begin off of the list that I
12 have, apologies in advance for mispronouncing people's
13 names. We begin with an easy one to pronounce. Mike
14 Bartlett.

15 MR. BARTLETT: My name is Michael
16 Bartlett. I'm President of New Hampshire Audubon. And,
17 I'd like to thank the Committee for giving me the
18 opportunity to comment.

19 As I'm sure most of you know, the New
20 Hampshire Audubon owns the Willard Pond Sanctuary, which
21 abuts the Project site. More correctly, everybody in the
22 State of New Hampshire owns the Willard Pond Sanctuary;
23 New Hampshire Audubon merely holds it in trust for all the
24 people. Willard Pond is New Hampshire Audubon's largest

1 sanctuary, and, in many respects, is its most beautiful.
2 Much of that mainly comes from the fact that the sanctuary
3 is set in a relatively undeveloped rural area, an area
4 that many people visit regularly, to fish, to canoe, view
5 wildlife, or just to enjoy solitude.

6 New Hampshire Audubon is concerned, very
7 concerned, about the impact the proposed project is going
8 to have on the visitors to the sanctuary, both from a
9 visual perspective, and possibly from perspective of
10 noise, and on the wildlife which the sanctuary supports.

11 Simply stated, we feel the proposal is
12 incompatible with the Willard Pond Sanctuary. And, as
13 someone mentioned earlier, we have filed a petition with
14 the Site Evaluation Committee to intervene in the upcoming
15 proceedings in opposition to the Project.

16 We do not take this step lightly. New
17 Hampshire Audubon believes that renewable energy must gain
18 a larger share of the nation's energy portfolio, and that
19 properly sited wind power should play a role in that
20 increase.

21 Having said that, we also believe that a
22 project's energy benefits must be weighed against its
23 costs, including its environmental costs. In this case,
24 we feel strongly that the cost to the Willard Pond

1 Sanctuary clearly outweigh the Project benefits. Thank
2 you.

3 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Shelley
4 Nelkens.

5 MS. NELKENS: Hi. I'm really glad I was
6 second, because I get to go home now. There were a few
7 things that really bothers me about this. One is that the
8 noise, we kept hearing about "receptors", and I kind of
9 thought that my ears were receptors, but the receptors
10 apparently are houses. And, so, if I'm outside, and my
11 property happens to be closer than my house, "tough".
12 That's not taken into consideration. Humans are not
13 considered "receptors", just the houses. As far as I
14 know, that's where the measurements are taken for the
15 noise readings. So -- and, it seems to me, that's kind of
16 taking the enjoyment of the property. It should be at the
17 property line, not at the home.

18 Also, I just wanted to address the
19 ordinances that were defeated, which would have changed
20 the Master Plan and allow for -- would allow for the wind
21 turbines to go in prior to it going over to the SEC. I
22 just wanted to make it really clear. The ordinances were
23 defeated by both those groups that were for the wind power
24 and against the wind power. The people who voted against

1 it, against the ordinance, and were also against the wind
2 towers, did so in support of the Master Plan. And, our
3 Master Plan in Antrim is very, very clear about not
4 allowing something of this magnitude in the Rural
5 Conservation District.

6 As far as the agreement that the
7 selectmen made with Eolian, or Antrim Wind, there was
8 quite a bit of consternation about that also, because it
9 seemed as if they were impacting our Master Plan by making
10 this agreement, without going through the formal process
11 of changing our zoning. So, --

12 FROM THE FLOOR: I think that was
13 addressed.

14 MS. NELKENS: Oh, yeah. I just wanted
15 to also bring up that lovely osprey that we saw when we
16 were out in -- at Gregg Lake. And, truly, that osprey's
17 days would, in all likelihood, be numbered if these wind
18 towers went up.

19 I also think that I did see somebody had
20 printed out some information from the website from the
21 U.S. Geological Survey about bats and about certain
22 conditions that, if the wind as -- was it John or Jack
23 mentioned, that if the -- I'm sorry, I'm falling asleep
24 while I'm standing here. That the wind towers, they

1 wanted to do some research to see if this really could
2 save bats. But, as far as I know, the research has
3 already been done. And, there are recommendations to stop
4 the wind turbines during certain times, so that the bats
5 don't implode, because of the difference in the pressure.
6 But it also said that that would cut down the mortality by
7 about 50 percent, which is, considering how few bats we
8 have, that's kind of scary; mosquitoes are happy. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Ray, Roy
11 -- Ray Ledgerwood?

12 (No verbal response)

13 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: He may have not
14 stayed on. Wes Enman?

15 FROM THE FLOOR: He's gone.

16 MR. IACOPINO: He's gone.

17 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: He's gone. Annie
18 Law?

19 FROM THE FLOOR: She's gone.

20 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: The next name I
21 think is Elsa, but I'm not sure, Voelcker, perhaps?

22 MS. VOELCKER: Yes. Thank you. Yes.
23 My name is Elsa Voelcker. I've lived in my house on 97 Old
24 Pound Road for almost 29 years. I'm a photographer and

1 make nature pictures that I sell in cards around the
2 state. I've been pretty devastated by the thought of this
3 industrial plant going in a mile, mile and a half from my
4 house, where I walk every day.

5 I feel that it's understandable when
6 these are out over farmland, where there's no people
7 living. But, I think, to site one of these huge
8 industrial complexes in the midst of maybe 150 houses, and
9 not giving us any redress, is totally unfair. In New York
10 State, I understand that they passed laws saying that
11 homeowners had to be recompensed if they were affected by
12 the wind towers. I have no idea if, medically, I'm going
13 to be able to stay in my house or not. I've heard that
14 there's wind syndrome, which gives people tachycardia,
15 gives them inability to sleep at night, and causes many
16 medical conditions. I hope that doesn't happen here, but
17 it could.

18 I moved here to New Hampshire, to the
19 spot where I live, because it's beautiful and wild and
20 natural. And, I feel that it's going to be ruined if this
21 goes in.

22 And, I hope you all enjoyed the site
23 visit today and saw how beautiful this spot is, and will
24 think about how much 50 decibels or 40 decibels or 30

1 decibels means, when you move out to be where there's very
2 few decimals of sound.

3 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you.

4 Katharine Sullivan?

5 FROM THE FLOOR: She's gone.

6 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: She's gone. Barbara
7 Gard?

8 (No verbal response)

9 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Stewart Gross?

10 (No verbal response)

11 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Keith Klinger?

12 FROM THE FLOOR: He'll mail it. He will
13 mail it.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Francie
15 Von Mertens?

16 MS. VON MERTENS: Thank you. I am a
17 steward at the New Hampshire Audubon, Willard Pond
18 Wildlife Sanctuary, and I'm also involved with the Hawk
19 Watch, and I'm from Peterborough, in Peterborough, on the
20 Wapack ridgeline. And, my concern is cumulative impacts.
21 And, I know that the governors of New England have set
22 goals, 25 percent renewable by the year 2025. And, I
23 think the Renewable Portfolio Standards have been
24 legislated along that same line by the New Hampshire

1 Legislature, setting goals for renewables. And, my
2 concern is, who in the state, with authority, is looking
3 at cumulative impacts? How many miles on our -- as
4 Mr. Kenworthy said, viable wind is on our ridgeline. And,
5 those ridgelines are wild. And, that's the case that you
6 saw today.

7 From New Hampshire Audubon's Hawk Watch,
8 in Peterborough, you can see the Lempster, we watched
9 those ten turbines go up one-by-one a couple of years ago
10 during the fall Hawk Watch season. There also is a
11 project in the works 21 miles from the Antrim project, in
12 the Town of Temple, Temple is here tonight, and New
13 Ipswich, 30 megawatts. So, that's three projects in our
14 region. And, again, our region, I don't know what the
15 cumulative impacts are. And, in your charge, RSA 162-H,
16 you're given certain criteria to pay attention to, and
17 they don't address cumulative. And, so, what to do?

18 I encourage you to keep a big picture in
19 mind during your deliberations. And, thank you very much.

20 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Robert,
21 is it "Cleland"?

22 FROM THE FLOOR: Gone.

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Rob -- I'm sorry,
24 Rich -- I can't read it, it's on Myrtle Ave.? Zwirner?

1 FROM THE FLOOR: Rod Zwirner.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: There's two. Is it
3 Rob and -- two names, Ruth and Rod?

4 FROM THE FLOOR: They left.

5 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Sorry.
6 Michael Faber?

7 (No verbal response)

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Lorraine Carey Block?

9 MS. BLOCK: I am Lorraine Carey Block.

10 And, I reside at 63 Loveren Mill Road, in Antrim. I want
11 to thank the Committee for visiting our property and for
12 giving us the opportunity to speak tonight. Sadly, over
13 the last three years, we, as a town, have never been given
14 the opportunity to address the industrial wind in an open
15 forum, to discuss the effect of a project of this
16 magnitude, and the ramifications it would have on Antrim.

17 For the last 25 years, I have looked at
18 Tuttle Hill, literally hundreds of times a day. I see it
19 from my kitchen, my living room, my bedroom, and my
20 office. I watch the Sun rise over it in the winter, and
21 the Moon rise behind it in the spring. Tuttle is a
22 central focus hill that is seen from all corners of our
23 community. It dominates the Rural Conservation District
24 zoning region that was created 23 years ago, to protect,

1 conserve, and preserve the remote mountain portions of
2 Antrim from excessive development pressures.

3 While I certainly have many concerns
4 about noise, shadow flicker, flashing red lights, and the
5 loss of value to our 230 acres, it's the industrialization
6 of our rural conservation area that I find most
7 disturbing. My husband and I have both been on the North
8 Branch River Advisory Committee. We successfully worked
9 to extend the Rural Conservation District north of Route
10 9. And, we were named "Informal Land Stewards" for the
11 Loveren Mill Cedar Swamp by the Nature Conservancy.
12 Additionally, I served on Antrim's Open Space Committee.
13 Throughout all of this, I've learned that my instincts
14 were right. That the northwest corner of Antrim is a very
15 special place. Our Open Space Report in 2006 identified
16 the Tuttle Hill area as Antrim's number one priority to
17 safeguard. The Tuttle Hill ridge is an integral part of
18 Monadnock Supersanctuary, it bisects the well-established
19 Quabbin-to-Cardigan Wildlife Corridor, as well as abutting
20 the Stoddard Preserve.

21 More recently, a prominent local
22 forester validated our assessment of our own land, saying
23 that we have some of the most extensive stonewalls and
24 largest trees he has seen in the state, as well as prime

1 bear habitat.

2 When we moved to Antrim, we bought only
3 five acres, but have been able to add on an additional 230
4 previously subdivided acres. We did this solely to
5 protect the area from development. Because we knew, as
6 part of the largest contiguously forested area outside of
7 the White Mountain National Forest, we have a special
8 place, which should remain undeveloped.

9 While I am not against wind energy, I
10 feel the siting of industrial projects need to carefully
11 balance with the aesthetic nature of the area. Placing
12 500 foot turbines, on a hill that rises only 650 feet from
13 the valley floor is grossly out of scale, and just totally
14 inappropriate for the region. This is a huge amount of
15 destruction for a very small amount of production.
16 Globally, this is not very significant; yet, locally, the
17 destruction is very significant. Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Samuel
19 Apkarian? See, that's a name I can pronounce. A good
20 Armenian name.

21 MR. APKARIAN: Thank you. Sam Apkarian.
22 I live on Liberty Farm Road. My brother-in-law and I live
23 next to each other --

24 (Court reporter interruption.)

1 MR. APKARIAN: We can see the met tower
2 from our front porches, so we will be seeing the windmills
3 if they go up. The picture that's been painted that most
4 of the town is in favor of it, and they cited from a
5 presentation and some surveys. I did a poll of my
6 neighbors, none of us received the survey. So, I don't
7 want you guys to think that that is indicative of how most
8 of us feel. There's a group of us that live in the area
9 that will be affected by it. We have been to countless
10 meetings, begging, trying to get our voices heard. And,
11 to say that it's "a bit contentious" is an understatement.
12 There are a lot of reasons why this wind power, it doesn't
13 make sense in Antrim. We moved here because it is quiet,
14 because it is such a beautiful area. We've been seeing
15 hawks lately, which we haven't seen in a long time. The
16 wildlife that migrates through periodically, you can see
17 it, from wild turkeys, to deer, to moose, they will all be
18 affected, there's no doubt about that, as well as the
19 beautiful serenity of the ponds that were mentioned.

20 So, I ask you to consider and deliberate
21 with your hearts, as well as your minds, that this
22 community is fractured, and there's a lot of pain going on
23 here. There's a lot of people that we believe are going
24 to affected negatively. And, it shouldn't happen that

1 way. Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Clifton
3 Burdette?

4 MR. BURDETTE: Okay. My name is Clifton
5 Burdette. And, I live on Liberty Farm Road as well. One
6 of the concerns that I have is the health issue. I have
7 that concern because, for many years, when I was in the
8 military, I was stationed in the Mojave Desert, where they
9 have hundreds and hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of
10 these windmills. And, over the period of time, as they
11 built more and more of these things, my wife developed an
12 inner ear balance issue, some thought it related to the
13 wind turbines. At that time, the doctor said, "no, it's
14 simply an allergy." And, so, they give her medication for
15 an allergy, which made her drowsy, but she still couldn't
16 stand up and walk without holding onto the walls of our
17 house.

18 So, when we finally retired from the
19 military and some of the jobs I had in the south, we moved
20 back here because it was a clean, serene location; built a
21 house. To where now I can sit on my back porch, where I
22 really want to just look out into the woods, now I can see
23 the met tower. And, I know soon I'll be able to see
24 several of these rotating masses.

1 The one thing I don't want to see is my
2 wife to have to go through the same thing that she went
3 through in California, to where she couldn't stand up, she
4 couldn't walk from one end of the house without holding
5 onto something to keep her from falling over, because of
6 an inner ear balance problem caused by the wind towers.
7 And, so, that is why I prefer they not be here.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Richard
9 Block?

10 MR. BLOCK: Members of the Committee, my
11 name is Richard Block. I live on Loveren Mill Road. As
12 you saw this afternoon, our home and land faces Tuttle
13 Hill where the proposed wind turbines would be, dominating
14 the view from our kitchen, living room, bedrooms. When my
15 wife Loranne and I bought our property in 1988, this view
16 of Tuttle Hill was the deciding factor for us. In my 63
17 years, I've traveled extensively throughout North America,
18 I've been in every state except Hawaii. I have seen some
19 of the most spectacular scenery in the world. I've
20 visited people who live in pristine valleys, high
21 mountaintops, undeveloped seashores, and vast prairies.
22 There are many places we could have chosen to live, but we
23 decided to settle here in Antrim, because this is a
24 special place.

1 Not long after we moved here, the people
2 in this town voted in the new zoning ordinance. What
3 struck us the most was the inclusion of a Rural
4 Conservation Zone covering almost half the town. This was
5 a very unique idea at that time, and we realized that a
6 town which would recognize the value of such a
7 far-reaching concept was worth living in. We were so
8 excited by the implications of this zone for the future of
9 Antrim, and, realizing how this was so complementary to
10 the land uses being identified in the Monadnock Super
11 Sanctuary, Lorraine and I petitioned for and achieved the
12 extension of the Rural Conservation zoning all the way to
13 the northern border of Antrim.

14 Other towns in the region have long
15 recognized the value of open space for improving the
16 quality of life for their residents, but only Antrim
17 actually wrote it into our zoning ordinance. A number of
18 years later, with the continuing recognition of the
19 importance of keeping our town rural and undeveloped, an
20 Open Space Committee was formed and charged with the task
21 of creating a plan for maintaining the unique qualities
22 which have defined Antrim. The Master Plan was also
23 redefined after extensive workshops in which the citizens
24 of Antrim expressed how important our rural, peaceful

1 character was to them.

2 I'm a Professor of Graphic
3 Communications, and I've worked in the advertising field
4 for over 40 years. When I worked in the newspaper
5 business, and supervised a staff of advertising
6 salespersons, one of the most difficult concepts I had to
7 teach them, and the clients they served, was that, in
8 advertising, blank space can have very real value,
9 particularly in the world of newspapers with their dense,
10 busy pages full of words and pictures. Most advertisers
11 thought that, if they were going to have to pay for
12 advertising space, they should pack as much stuff as
13 possible into it in order to get their money's worth. On
14 the contrary, the ads which utilized creative open space
15 in order to frame and thus accent the core information,
16 were the ones that got noticed, remembered, and thus
17 achieved the best results.

18 Likewise, human beings need space; to
19 grow, to breathe, to give them the ability to recover from
20 stress and the dense, busy lives most of us have.
21 Maintaining some of the natural world around our homes is
22 absolutely the best way we can increase our chances for a
23 healthy, productive life. Antrim is not a very big town,
24 only 36 and a half square miles in area. The downtown

1 portion is four and a half square miles, leaving 32 square
2 miles for the river valleys, lakes, farm fields, and hills
3 that surround it. Although this sounds like a fair amount
4 of land, it really is a very small piece, and the Rural
5 Conservation Zone is less than half of that. The ridges
6 of Tuttle Hill to Willard Mountain dominate this zone, and
7 are accentuated by Gregg Lake and Willard Pond, two of the
8 most beautiful small lakes in southern New Hampshire.
9 This region really is the gem of Antrim, and it gives our
10 town its unique quality and value. However, the ridges
11 and valleys, along the North Branch River, over Gregg Lake
12 and Willard Pond, are really very compact. But it is this
13 close-feeling, almost cozy quality which makes it all so
14 wonderful.

15 Tuttle Hill rises only 550 to 600 feet
16 over the North Branch, yet it is the dominant geological
17 feature of most of Antrim. It is almost inconceivable to
18 imagine the effect that 500 foot industrial wind turbines
19 would have on top of this terrain. The idea of ten wind
20 turbines, each the height of a 50-story skyscraper, with
21 their accompanying wide roads and blasted-out foundations,
22 is so jolting to the aesthetics of this region, that it
23 feels to me like constructing this facility would be akin
24 to committing an extremely violent act on the land.

1 There are many, many residents who live
2 in the Rural Conservation Zone, most of whom have lived
3 here for decades for the very same reasons; the peace,
4 tranquility, and healing value of the space around us.
5 How can we allow the massive destruction of our homes to
6 take place? How can we allow the value of our property,
7 the most valuable thing most of us have, to be destroyed?
8 How can we allow our quiet, tranquil atmosphere to be
9 replaced by massive trucks, extensive road construction,
10 and the largest, loudest industrial wind turbines in the
11 Northeast? How can we allow a company with no wind farm
12 and construction experience to reap such irreversible
13 massive havoc on our tranquil rural town. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Mr. Block, do you
15 have an extra copy of your statement? I think the court
16 reporter strived mightily to keep up. Do you have a copy
17 of your statement that he can work off of, in case he
18 missed any of that?

19 (Mr. Block handing document to the court
20 reporter.)

21 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Thank you. Janice
22 Longgood?

23 FROM THE FLOOR: She's gone.

24 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Brenda

1 Schaefer?

2 FROM THE FLOOR: She's gone, too.

3 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Andrew Robblee?

4 FROM THE FLOOR: Gone.

5 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Gone? Cynthia

6 Crockett?

7 FROM THE FLOOR: Gone.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Virginia Dickinson?

9 (No verbal response)

10 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: That's it for the
11 names that have signed up. Was there anyone else who had
12 meant to sign up who didn't?

13 (No verbal response)

14 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Anyone who -- we
15 never cut anyone off, so I'm assuming everyone had their
16 opportunity.

17 So, let me just conclude with two
18 things. The effort to identify the number of houses
19 within a 2-mile range of the turbines, I take it we don't
20 have that available now, is that correct?

21 MR. SOININEN: I counted the map that
22 was up, at a one-mile circumference. And, we had --

23 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: Sounds like we have
24 information on going out one mile. So, what is that?

1 MR. SOININEN: Yes. John Soininen, from
2 Antrim Wind. One of the maps that was put up in the
3 presentation had a half mile, as well as a one mile
4 setback. And, there are no structures within a half mile.
5 And, I counted 97 structures within a mile. So, that I
6 would say is an approximate number of 97 within one mile
7 of any turbine.

8 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: All right. Did
9 people hear that? The counting that he did showed nothing
10 in less than a half a mile, and 97 structures within one
11 mile.

12 The other thing I just wanted to say is
13 to thank our host tonight. The people from the Antrim
14 Elementary School, people within the Town. Mr. Sterns,
15 who drove us around, and got us two cars going on a road
16 that I couldn't believe could handle it, but we did it.
17 So, thank you. Thank you to all of you for being very
18 patient, and for your good questions. Thank you to the
19 Company for trying to answer as thoroughly as you're able.
20 There is much more to come. And, so, I encourage you to
21 stay involved. And, unless there's anything else from my
22 Subcommittee members?

23 (No verbal response)

24 CHAIRMAN IGNATIUS: We'll stand

1 adjourned. Thank you very much.

2 (Whereupon the public information
3 hearing ended at 10:18 p.m.)

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