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of the Northeast**

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May 31, 2013

New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
Attn: Ms. Jane Murray, Secretary
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302

**Re: SEC Docket 2012-1 – Application of Antrim Wind Energy
LLC for a Certificate of Site and Facility**

Dear Ms. Murray:

I am writing you to express the concerns of the American Lung Association in New Hampshire over the Site Evaluation Committee's ("SEC") recent denial of a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Antrim Wind Energy (AWE) project in Antrim, NH.

Our mission is to save lives by promoting lung health and preventing lung disease. One of our key goals is to assure that the air we breathe doesn't cause or worsen lung disease. There are over 100,000 people in New Hampshire with asthma including about 20,000 children. These people are especially sensitive to the pollution caused by burning fossil fuels.

Since toxic emissions from energy production are a major cause of lung disease, we are committed to the development and expansion of clean, renewable energy sources. We firmly believe that clean energy production is good energy policy and good health policy. With the growing concern about health care costs it is critical that we take advantage of every opportunity to move away from fossil fuels to produce our energy. This is why we feel it is so important that projects such as this one are given fair consideration consistent with prior precedents, current industry practice and the impact of maintaining the status quo.

We are requesting that you revisit the recent decision by the Site Evaluation Committee to deny the Antrim Wind Energy project a certificate. It appears to us that the decision departs from earlier precedents set by this committee related to the aesthetic impacts from wind energy projects. Lack of consistency in permitting will clearly discourage much needed investment in wind and other renewable sources and assure our continued dependence on fossil fuel.

All energy projects carry a degree of undesired impacts, and we understand the charge of this committee to evaluate whether those impacts exceed acceptable limits. We would also like to point out that our current dependence on burning fossil fuels is also having an impact on the health of New Hampshire people.

After 11 days of evidentiary hearings and three days of deliberations, we understand this Committee found that the project would not have unreasonable adverse impacts on the natural environment, air and water quality or public health and safety. We also understand that the Applicant has committed to embrace the measures listed below as a means of minimizing impacts to the surrounding landscape.

- AWE has entered binding agreements to permanently conserve large tracts of forested land
- AWE has committed to use innovative technology to eliminate night time lighting on turbines
- AWE has reached agreements with the Town of Antrim, the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Harris Center for Conservation Education.

The American Lung Association in New Hampshire strongly encourages the Committee to reconsider its decision and carefully evaluate all of the relevant facts and evidence to ensure that the Antrim Project is held to the same standards as previous wind projects before the Committee. We are concerned that if this step is not taken the Committee may unintentionally set a new, disturbing precedent of unpredictability that could have a chilling effect on future investment in renewable energy development in New Hampshire.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of our request.

Sincerely yours,



Edward F. Miller
Senior Vice President of Public Policy