May 30th, 2013

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By

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 Chairman Ignatius and Members of the Committee:

I, the undersigned New Hampshire business owner, am concerned about the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee's ("SEC") recent denial of a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Antrim Wind Energy (AWE) project in Antrim, NH.

As a business owner committed to NH assuming a leadership role in developing clean, renewable sources of energy production, it's imperative that projects like this get due consideration consistent with prior precedents and current industry practice.

I care deeply about our natural environment and the effects of climate change on our economy, our communities and the natural capital unique to our state. I support clean, renewable energy due to the many benefits it brings our state and our region; improving air and water quality, reducing CO2 emissions and the amount of damage done by the extraction, processing, transport and combustion of the fossil fuels that currently power our economy. I also support the economic development benefits that renewable energy projects like AWE bring to our state and the long-term, stably priced power it brings.

As a business owner, I view the recent decision by the Site Evaluation Committee to deny the AWE project a certificate based on relatively short-term (and subjective) visual impacts, to be flawed and myopic. It departs from earlier precedents set by this committee related to the aesthetic impacts of wind energy projects, discourages much needed investment in this area and frustrates clear state policies designed to encourage renewable energy.

All energy projects carry a degree of undesired impacts, and I understand the charge of this committee to evaluate whether those impacts exceed acceptable limits. What is deemed palatable or reasonable, however, needs to be viewed in the context of our current energy and climate challenges, which pose the greatest risk to our long-term security and the integrity of our ecosystems.

After 11 days of evidentiary hearings and three days of deliberations, I 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. I 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.

I strongly encourage the Committee to reconsider and carefully evaluate all relevant facts and evidence to ensure that AWE is held to the same standards as previous wind projects. Otherwise, the Committee risks setting a new, disturbing precedent that I believe will seriously jeopardize future investment in renewable energy development in NH and adversely affect the business climate in our state.

Thank you for your attention to this request; your consideration is appreciated.

Respectfully Signed,

Richard Seeley