

June 28, 2013

The Honorable Amy L. Ignatius, Vice Chairman
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
c/o New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

Re: Docket No. 2012-01 Application of Antrim Wind LLC

Dear Vice Chairman Ignatius:

The below signed residents and property-owners of the State of New Hampshire wish to express our thanks to you and the members of the Site Evaluation Committee for your time and commitment in evaluating the Antrim Wind LLC application. .

After eleven days of evidentiary hearings and three days of public deliberations, we believe the Committee arrived at the right decision.

The purpose of this letter is to respond to public comments submitted by Mr. Edward Miller on behalf of American Lung Association ('ALA') of New Hampshire.

The ALA letter states that "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. ...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."

Obviously, nobody wants dirty air, but the ALA's advocacy for Antrim Wind omits several important points that we feel compelled to highlight.

New England's electric generation has achieved significant reductions in power plant emissions in the last decade¹ due to increases in energy efficiency and a cleaner fuel mix. From 2001 to the end of 2011, NOx emissions have dropped by 58% and SO2 by 71%. Wind energy's contribution to these reductions was immaterial since, in 2011, wind generated only 0.6% of the energy to the New England pool.

The American Lung Association's own tables show a low incidence of high ozone days as well as low particle pollution levels for most of New England.² The one exception is southern Connecticut which is part of the densely populated tri-state area that also includes New York and New Jersey. Automotive emissions are likely the primary source of pollution in this area. Nonetheless, even areas of Connecticut that received poor grades from the ALA for air quality show precipitous declines in ozone levels and particulate matter in the last few years.

¹ http://www.iso-ne.com/genrtion_resrcs/reports/emission/2011_emissions_report.pdf - Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone and smog. It also reacts with other air pollutants to form small particles that can cause breathing difficulties, especially in people with asthma. Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) is a respiratory irritant associated with the onset of asthma attacks. Sulfur Dioxide is produced when coal and crude oil are burned.

² <http://www.stateoftheair.org/2013/states/new-hampshire/>

Under the best circumstances, Antrim Wind's 30 megawatts will contribute only 0.08% of the annual energy produced in New England. When it does operate, the project will most likely displace natural gas, not oil and coal, which in 2012, represented only 3% of the fuel used to meet New England's electricity demand³, (down from 40% in 2001). This is in contrast to the exaggerated claim by Antrim Wind LLC that the project would displace coal and oil 21% of the time for the 20-year life of the project⁴.

The debate surrounding energy policy in New Hampshire is complex and requires detailed analysis beyond simplistic assumptions that all wind projects are good and necessary. Wind power reduces power plant emissions by a miniscule amount and at a significant cost. Other clean fuel technologies offer much more cost effective solutions with far fewer adverse impacts.

Thank you again for your decision and your continued attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

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³ http://www.iso-ne.com/nwsiss/grid_mkts/engry_srcs/

⁴ http://www.nhsec.nh.gov/2012-01/documents/120131appendices10_11d.pdf

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cc: Mr. Edward Miller, The American Lung Association