



Temple Energy Committee
Temple Municipal Building
Route 45
Temple, NH 03084

Dear Members of the Site Evaluation Committee,

As you consider the application of Timbertop Wind for installing wind turbines in the town of Temple, it may be constructive for you to have a clear perspective on the town's investment in the integrity and beauty of our natural, wild environment and its resources. Through the years, our Conservation Commission has actively and consistently worked to preserve the town's open spaces and protect our water resources, wetlands, farms and unfragmented, wild woodlands.

At Temple's 2007 Town Meeting, our citizens voted to approve the NH Climate Change Resolution. Along with requesting the federal government to work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and invest in renewable energy resources, the resolution asked our Select Board to create a voluntary Energy Committee to recommend steps for the town to take to lower our energy usage and reduce our GHG emissions. Since its inception, the Energy Committee has honored its mission and commitment to manifest the goals of that resolution.

In the interest of offering you a fuller picture of the choices and will of our townsfolk, below is a list of some of the Energy Committee's endeavors and accomplishments, representative of the expressed interests of our citizens and the approval of Temple's Select Board. The committees' actions have also been supported by the Planning Board, Library Trustees, Historical Society, Village Green Committee and Conservation Commission. Similarly, our workshops and events are well attended and valued by

residents. In other words, the actions of our committee are illustrative of the attitudes and desires of our citizens, boards and committees, and they are successful because of their support.

A glimpse at our efforts and accomplishments:

- We procured the **installation of energy efficient lighting for 4 municipal buildings**
- We conducted a thorough **municipal energy inventory**
- **We procured professional grade energy audits for our Municipal Building, FD and Library**
- **We procured an energy audit of our Master Plan and Zoning Ordinances**
- We created a **Recycling Program** for town events and a **Recycling Program for Temple's Elementary School**
- We held three free **Weatherization Workshops** for residents and initiated a **Free Home Weatherization Program** for fuel assistance-qualified residents.
- **We were awarded the "2009 Climate Champion Award" by Clean Air- Cool Planet for "modeling a path of energy conservation for others to follow"**
- **We were awarded a \$332,000 RGGI Grant, principally to conduct a deep energy efficiency retrofit for three of our municipal buildings as an energy conservation project that would serve as a model for other NH towns.**
- We worked with the Planning Board for 1 year to **create an Energy Chapter for Temple's Master Plan, adopted into the Master Plan on May 5, 2010**
- We conducted and won a **"Carbon Challenge" Competition** with 3 other towns, having encouraged the largest number of residents (15%) to take new steps to reduce their household energy usage and carbon footprints
- **We maintain active educational outreach to residents on the importance of reducing fossil fuel usage and the value of installing sustainable sources of energy**--on our Energy Committee's website, www.teec.info; at our booths at town events; in Temple's Newsletter; at special events we organize; and in our book discussion groups using NWEI manuals
- **We held an special event to present a group bulk purchasing opportunity for solar electric installations .**

- We brought a **barn-raiser style solar hot water installation to a home in Temple with many residents volunteering their labor.**
- With business oversight from our Select Board, the **successful construction of the RGGI funded, deep energy efficiency retrofit for our Library, Municipal Building and FD was completed. A 2011 in-depth analysis of its results determined that the energy efficiency of the library was vastly improved and the Municipal Building/FD complex attained an exceptional 88% reduction in CO2 loading and in its heating fuel usage.**

Each of these actions, along with the substance and recommendations of our Energy Chapter for the Master Plan, reflects the goals of the NH Climate Action Plan and the interests and sincere desires of our citizenry and municipal boards, committees and commissions to support efforts to reduce our town's energy usage, lower the output of its carbon emissions, and preserve the health and beauty of our natural environment.

A similar attention to the will and interests of our citizens has been honored by the Planning Board in their willingness to listen to the voices of residents expressing both their overall support for renewable energy resources, but their concerns about the well-being of our local wildlife and migratory raptors, the potential health effects from various sound pressures, and the potential disruption of the aesthetic value they treasure in seeing natural objects rather than machines of any kind.

Thank you,

Bev

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Chair, Temple Energy Committee
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2/20/2013