March 3, 2015

Robert Piehler

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New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee c/o David Wiesner, Staff Attorney

NH Public Utilities Commission

21 South Fruit St. Suite 10

Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Commission Rulemaking, Docket No. 2014-04

Mr. Wiesner,

I appreciate the opportunity to address the SEC group looking at rule changes.

I am concerned about property landowner rights involving potential Industrial Wind Turbine sites. The specific siting regulations have long term affects on property owners. The boundaries of a property owner are set; the SEC has the flexibility to permit site structures so they are far enough from property boundaries to ensure that no hazards or intrusions from falling debris, fire, or ice throw will occur.

As of now, in some instances one and a half times the height of a tower to property line has been accepted. However on steep slopes this presents a problem. Ice throw has far more travel potential than from a tower on more level terrain. As we know, tip speed can reach 180 miles an hour, enhancing the potential distance ice and blade parts could travel.

The landowner should be under no obligation to accept harm to people and property from such events.

Therefore I suggest that SEC rules respect these landowner rights at all times. Proper setback rules are needed to protect landowner rights. Rules should answer the question, how close is close enough?

The projects are usually placed on many thousands of acres, and then reduced to a smaller footprint. This should make it less of a problem for a wind company if they are required to have a specific setback assuring that set property lines will not be intruded upon under any circumstances.

Again, I ask that in developing your rule changes, you remember that people have the right to full use of every corner of their property, all seasons of the year.

The SEC is actually an end run around eminent domain; it could become eminent domain without due process. Rule adjustment is needed so that this is not the case in the future.

Thank you very much.