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FEBRUARY 26, 2016

Dear Chairman Honigberg  
The New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC)  
21 South Fruit Street  
Concord, NH 03301

RE: NHSEA-NHCTC Letter Regarding Docket DE 2015-02 Antrim Wind Energy, LLC 19Feb2016  
Electronic as '2015-02\_2016-02-19\_ltr\_nhsea.pdf'

Dear Chairman Honigberg,

I read the NHSEA-NHCTC letter with a great deal of apprehension. What I find in that letter are political statements and statements of belief that the writers want to pass off as the facts. I did my best to supply you with corrections, deletions, and additional information so that you may fix that letter in the proper frame. Secondly, they seem to be stating that the NH SEC is not doing a good job with "We are concerned that the SEC process has become less than predictable, and more focused on sentiment, however legitimate, rather than on objective policy, evidence, and the public interest." There is no way to fix such an insult except by political declaration...RUBBISH!

So as not to be overly burdensome, I pulled a quote from each paragraph in the NHSEA-NHCTC letter and responded **in red**. I hope this helps in the current deliberation.

Sincerely,

  
Patrick J. Leary

**PAGE 1**

Para 1

"...broadly supported by the public." **Did I miss the New Hampshire Survey on this?**

Para 2

"...it is important that the SEC's processes and decisions create regulatory certainty and avoid market confusion." **The SEC's processes and decisions do avoid market confusion. AWE is confused and just won't take no for an answer.**

Para 3

“..urge you to carefully consider the breadth and depth of statutory support for renewable energy resources evidenced in the statutes set forth below as you decide the future of AWE specifically, and wind siting generally.” I don’t understand this commentary as the SEC does this on a regular basis.

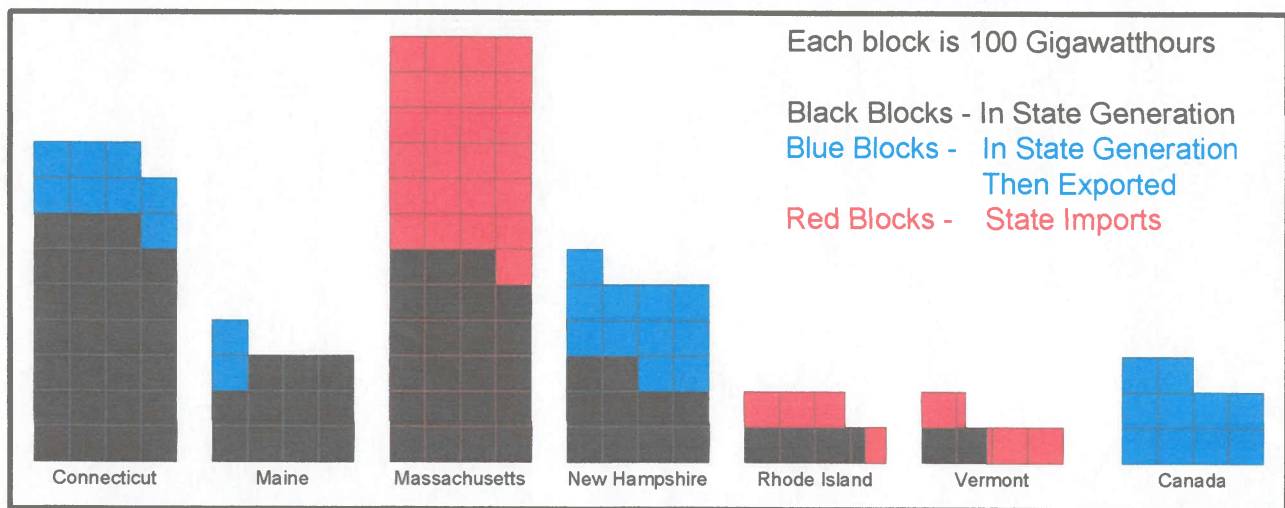
Para 4

“meet the energy needs of the citizens and businesses of the state at the lowest reasonable cost”. This project will fulfill one energy need and one energy need only – the expanding appetite of Massachusetts in the face of its continued efforts to shut down its electricity generating sector. Claims to the contrary are incorrect.

**PAGE 2**

Para 1

“The most compelling reason to restructure the New Hampshire electric utility industry is to reduce costs for all consumers of electricity by harnessing the power of competitive markets.” Given that New Hampshire exports over ½ the electricity it generates, New Hampshire should be the OPEC of New England electricity.



“bring electricity costs down for consumers” What consumers? Massachusetts consumers? If we charged 40 cents per kWh for the electricity we export to Massachusetts – our New Hampshire electricity bills would be zero.

“to fluctuating fuel costs, such as we are seeing currently in the natural gas-fueled electric supply prices.” The natural gas market is skewed by the fact that Massachusetts depends on natural gas – even when it doesn’t exist like in the winter – because they don’t want natural gas resources like the Northeast Energy Direct project to run through their state – preferring that it run through New Hampshire. Massachusetts failed electricity policies are the reason our electricity bills are higher in the winter than in the summer.

Para 2

“It is therefore in the public interest to stimulate investment in low emission renewable energy generation technologies in New England and, in particular, New Hampshire, whether at new or existing facilities.” This conclusion simply cannot be drawn based on what is written herein – it is illogical.

Para 3

“To meet the objectives of this chapter, and with due regard for the renewable energy goals of RSA 362-F, including promoting the use of renewable resources... the general court finds that appropriately sited and conditioned wind energy systems subject to committee approval have the potential to assist the state in accomplishing these goals. Accordingly, the general court finds that it is in the public interest for the site evaluation committee to establish criteria or standards governing the siting of wind energy systems in order to ensure that the potential benefits of such systems are appropriately considered and unreasonable adverse effects avoided through a comprehensive, transparent, and predictable process.” The SEC, in a very fair and detailed process ruled that AWE did not meet the siting criteria. Why are they back? From what I read of your writings – you want to change or at a minimum slant the rules to fit your idea of a good preconceived notion of what should happen and therefore how the SEC should operate.

“Yet the SEC’s recent decisions regarding actual projects that further these statutory goals have been seemingly at odds with such policy goals.” The SECs job is to evaluate each project on the merits – not a bunch of blather on whether it passes some hypothetical criteria such as “by the pound”. On a need basis – the great state of New Hampshire doesn’t need electricity projects. <period – please note the period at the end of that sentence.> As far as going and stay green – New Hampshire customers, on average, use the output of the Seabrook Power station. <period - please note the period at the end of that sentence too.> New Hampshire of course generates a lot more than just that – and then on average ships it all to Massachusetts.

**PAGE 3**

Para 1

“We are concerned that the SEC process has become less than predictable, and more focused on sentiment, however legitimate, rather than on objective policy, evidence, and the public interest.” Legitimate public interest? We don’t need it. Further – I have been to SEC meetings and their ability to dissect the evidence, and form links to both policy and public interest is second to none.

“Aesthetics, while important to a state of scenic beauty like New Hampshire, is but one factor among many that must be considered.” Given that projects like these are simply not needed in New Hampshire – I think your approach at downplaying aesthetics as one factor is simply an attempt to downplay the idea that tourism is a major economic factor in New Hampshire’s economy.

Para 2

It can be developed responsibly, with community input, and while also maintaining an emphasis on the value we place on scenic landscapes, tourism, and environmental stewardship. This is a truly suspect statement – once the industrial turbines are in place, hulking over the Willard-Tuttle area of the Monadnock Region in New Hampshire. Then what? More will follow?? Be serious.

Para 3

AWE is a sound project that will contribute to the diversity of New Hampshire’s portfolio of clean, renewable energy resources. This conclusion is not even remotely supported by the facts. If anything it will damage another section of New Hampshire’s scenic beauty by turning it into an industrial scale wind complex further damaging the New Hampshire Tourism and Second Home industries.

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PJL; February 26-2016