

PETER KAPLAN
513 Baldwin Road
Deering, N.H. 03244

September 30, 2016

New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
C/O Pamela Monroe, Administrator
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301
Reference to Docket 2015-02 –The Antrim Wind Energy LLC project

Commissioner Scott:

I am writing in opposition to the approval of the application of Antrim Wind Energy LLC regarding the above cited project.

As a resident of Deering and a member of the Deering Planning Board, I am deeply concerned about the cumulative visual impact of this project upon three critical viewsheds in the western section of the Town of Deering.

The proposed project will create a view of the 9 proposed turbines from three highly valued sites:

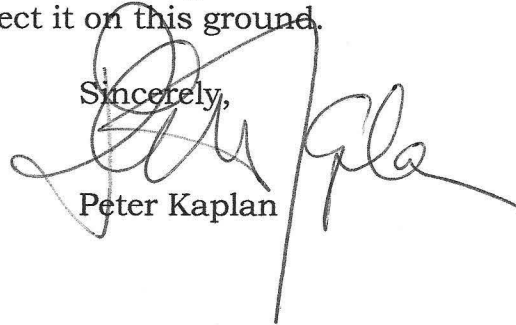
- Hedgehog Mountain
- High Five Reservation
- The Scenic Viewpoint at the intersection of Old County Road and Route 149 (Deering Center Road).

The first two sites are highly used public access recreational areas that are on lands owned by the Society for the Protection of NH Forests. Hedgehog Mountain has become a SPNHF site since the prior rejection of this project. The Scenic Viewpoint is privately owned but maintained by Deering residents to provide a western valley view not only to Deering residents, but also to the many travelers on Route 149. There are flowerboxes and a bench sited to provide an expansive view of the valley looking toward Hillsborough and Antrim – and beyond.

These sites are also among those identified in the most recent Master Plan (currently before the Planning Board for approval) as designated protected Viewsheds. Already they have been visually impacted by the construction of the Lempster LWES turbines. The addition of 9 more turbines much larger and much closer will severely affect the character and attraction and therefore the use of these public access areas.

In March of 2016 the Town of Deering adopted a LWES ordinance that included as a requirement in Section 3.C.12 that an LWES not cause adverse visual impact and not dominate views of designated protected viewsheds and cultural and recreational resources.¹ The three sites that would be further impacted by this proposal are among those so designated. Were the Antrim turbines proposed to be built in Deering in a manner that would impact these sites, their visual impact would likely result in the project's disapproval. We ask that the SEC consider this cumulative adverse impact on the Town of Deering and its viewsheds in your evaluation of this project and reject it on this ground.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Kaplan', is written over the typed name. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Peter Kaplan

¹ C. REQUIREMENTS

12. Visual Impact

a. An LWES shall be designed and located so as not to cause adverse visual Impacts, including Visual Clutter and Impacts caused by any lighting, and so as not to dominate views from residential areas, cultural resource areas including historic property and historic resources (see section 11 above), public recreational and scenic areas, trails used by the public, areas under conservation easement, open space within the Town, any public road right-of-way or any areas designated as protected viewsheds in the Deering Master Plan.