



TOWN OF DEERING

Board of Selectmen

762 Deering Center Road

Deering, NH 03244

October 10, 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:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Deering, as Chair, I am writing in opposition to the approval of the application of Antrim Wind Energy LLC regarding the above cited project.

The Board is deeply concerned about the cumulative visual impact of this project upon three critical viewsheds in the western section of the Town of Deering.

The Town of Deering has recently adopted an ordinance governing large wind energy systems (LWES). That ordinance included as a criterion visual impact and specifically addressed visual impact upon scenic, recreational and conservation areas in Section C.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.”

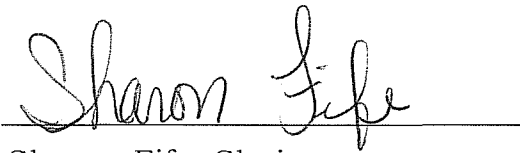
The proposed project will impact the viewsheds at Hedgehog Mountain, High Five and the scenic viewpoint at the intersection of Old County Road and Deering Center Road – all of which are already adversely impacted by the view of the LWES at Lempster.

Among the designated protected viewsheds that are in the Master Plan currently in final stages before the Planning Board are both High Five and Hedgehog Mountain, and the scenic viewpoint is highly regarded and heavily used, therefore, clearly falling within the above cited section.

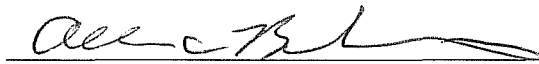
The addition of nine more turbines much larger and much closer than those at Lempster will severely affect the character and attraction and therefore the use of these public access areas. Where they proposed to be built in Deering in a manner that would impact these sites, their visual impact would likely violate the requirements of our Ordinance. Therefore, 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 the project on this ground.

Sincerely,

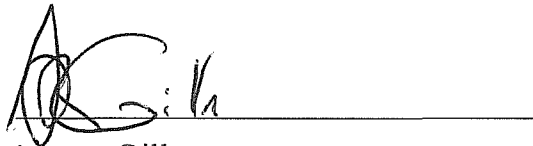
Town of Deering Board of Selectmen

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Fife". The signature is written above a solid horizontal line.

Sharon Fife, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allen Belouin". The signature is written above a solid horizontal line.

Allen Belouin

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aaron Gill". The signature is written above a solid horizontal line.

Aaron Gill