

From: evaleriani@comcast.net
To: "Pamela Munroe" <Pamela.munroe@sec.nh.gov>
Cc: "Marissa Scheutz" <Marissa.scheutz@sec.nh.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2016 6:22:33 PM
Subject: Antrim Wind Energy Project-Docket No. 2015-02

To Ms. Pamela Munroe of the NH Site Evaluation Committee
From Kathleen E. (Cathi) Valeriani of East Falmouth, MA and summer resident of
Gregg Lake, Antrim, NH
Re: Antrim Wind Energy Project, Docket No. 2015-02

Dear Ms. Pamela Munroe:

We are writing to you in opposition to the Antrim Wind Energy (AWE) Project, Docket No. 2015-02. We were opposed to AWE's first proposal of ten wind turbines on the Tuttle Hill Ridge; and we are equally opposed to this current AWE proposal of nine turbines (which we will refer to as "the Project" for the remainder of this letter), which is not significantly different from the first proposal. Both proposals have the same negative effects on ourselves, our family, and our enjoyment of this pristine setting and environment. This email will include our reasons for opposing the Project and a cautionary tale of two wind turbines on Cape Cod and the effects that they have had here.

Let me introduce ourselves, we are Kathleen E. (Cathi) Valeriani and Edward A. Valeriani, we have lived in Falmouth, MA for 37 years and summered at Gregg Lake in Antrim, NH, for 47 and 55 years, respectively. We and our extended family own four cottages at the south end of Gregg Lake, with a direct front view of the Tuttle Hill Ridge over the former Camp Sachem/Camp Chenoa/current Camp Aranutiq (photo attached). Four generations of our family and friends have enjoyed the Lake and it's surrounding for over a half a century. We leave the commotion of the tourist-filled Cape Cod in the summer for the peace, quiet, and relaxing atmosphere of Gregg Lake.

We are opposed to the Project because we feel that it will negatively affect the pristine views, environment and it's systems, property values, and have concerns for our human health and that of the wildlife. If the Project is allowed, it will change our world forever. We speak with conviction because we live in a town that has made the jump to wind energy. We have seen the effects. I hope that the information to follow will be a crystal ball for you and help you and the SEC with this monumental decision that you will be making.

Where we live is important to this issue. Our town, Falmouth, MA, has been there; it is where you folks are right now. In 2005 the Feasibility process began. We went through studies, meeting, heard data about projected decibels, that the flicker won't bother

anyone, how much money could be made, how good it will be for property values, the benefits of wind energy, and no danger to humans and wildlife. In 2010, our Town erected two (not nine, like the proposed AWE Project) 1.65 MW, 400 foot turbines on town land (Wind I and Wind II).

Fast forward to 2016, and most of what the residents of the affected neighborhood were told, turned out not to be true. Currently, several families are suing the Town for not being able to live on their property or use it as intended, they are suffering ill health effects (will address later), the Town is suing itself and is in trouble with the courts because it didn't get the proper permits like local citizens would have to do, they are costing the taxpayers money (see below), In the summer of 2015 they have dead bats all over their neighborhood, and now the Town can't afford to decommission the turbines. Property values in their neighborhood has plummeted and no one wants to buy houses there. It's a royal mess. Here's a link to information that documents the Falmouth's history with their wind turbines: <http://www.falmouthmass.us/deppage.php?number=426>

We have not had the time to read all the testimony on the SEC website, so maybe what I am sharing with you now has been mentioned to the SEC already, but just in case, here's what we have learned here. All the professionals testifying about decibels are playing a "shell game," in our opinion. They say that you won't hear the turbines; most people in their neighborhood do, and especially when the wind blows. However, that is merely a nuisance compared to the REAL danger of the story of decibels, which are in the decibels that you don't hear, **the decibels that are below 20 Hz called infrasound*** (audible sound is between 15 and 20,000 Hz, then ultrasound is above 20,000 Hz). This infrasound penetrates the body and the walls of homes (regardless of insulation and special windows), causing Amplitude Modulation (pulsation)* of heard sounds. This cannot be measured on a meter. It affects the nerves in the inner ear stimulating the subconscious pathways*. The people suing that are suffering the effects of this infrasound have reported a feeling of unexplained nervousness or jumpiness. *taken from: <http://oto2.wustl.edu/cochlea/wind.html>

Then there is the flicker -- see link and video of the flicker at <http://www.falmouthmass.us/energy/presentation%20wt%20shadow%20flicker%20&%20safety%20-%20fal%20bos%20public%20meeting%202011-06-06.pdf>) that is affecting people on top of the infrasound. When the turbines were operating at night, some people slept in motels, some had to move, one gentlemen who suffers from PTSD was made worse, and one of my former all A students, was making what he called "a nest" (of blankets and pillows) in the middle of his bedroom floor to try to sleep; he would not sleep in his bed because he said his walls were vibrating. He had sleep deprivation and was now getting D's. The other thing that we later learned was that our wind turbines have an "ice throw" of between 2,000 feet and a half mile.

The quick story of Falmouth is now: after families getting sick, after a Town committee of pro/con residents that argued for years why we need to make money and that those sickened were either mistaken or collateral damage (my words) and pitting resident against resident, after the court accepted that people were suffering ill effects from the

turbines and legislated that the turbines could only operate better 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and not at all on Sundays and holidays and be shutdown when the wind reaches a certain speed (much to the Town's dismay because they needed them to run 16 hours a day/7 days a week to break even), after property values have dropped in that neighborhood, and after several families have their dates set in court, our Selectboard has decided that they made a mistake. It will cost millions to decommission these two turbines and the Commonwealth of MA is demanding their 2 million dollar grant be returned. The Town is now building Solar Farms on town land.

When we are at Gregg Lake, we know that sound travels because people can be out in a boat across the lake and we can hear every word being said, and we can hear the singing of the campers at Camp Aranutiq, while sitting on our beach. So you know that we will hear the turbines. Plus there's an excellent echo on the Lake. That will intensify everything. Ice--you know that the area experiences ice storms; they've had some doozies. Draw a half mile red circle on a map around each of the nine proposed turbines and see what is within those circles. That's the ice throw area. We have all these troubles and ruined lives with two wind turbines in Falmouth that are smaller and shorter than those proposed by AWE. In our opinion, this will be a disaster if it comes to be. The NH SEC could be opening itself up to future lawsuits, as well as AWE, and even the Antrim Selectboard for publicly supporting this Project. Antrim taxpayers may seek tax abatements due to losses of use and/or loss of pristine view. Our lives will never be the same, and there will be no turning back. Anything that I can do to help, or any information that you need, please let me know. You also have the Falmouth Wind Turbine website to assist you and to back up our information.

We apologize for our letter arriving so late in this process, but we had a house fire due to lightning over a year ago and all of our time and attention has gone to re-building our house and our lives. We hope that our letter and its information will be better late than never, and help you and the SEC make your decision on this Project. It's not whether wind energy is good or bad, it is all about location, location, location. Please deny the AWE Project. Thank you for the opportunity to share our information and opinions.

Respectfully,
Kathleen E. (Cathi) Valeriani (c) 508-274-8009
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