

December 4, 2016

Mr. Robert Scott, Chair

Site Evaluation Committee

21 South Fruit Street

Concord, NH 03301-2429

Dear Mr. Scott: Re: 2015-02 Brief

On reading the Antrim Wind Energy, LLC Post-Hearing Memorandum, I was struck by the comment on page 3 “all four State Representatives and the State Senator support the development of the project”.

As the newly elected State Senator for Antrim and surrounds, the victor over a vocal supporter of the project, I am against this project. The proposal has many problems, not the least of which is that AWE ignored Site 310.18 (c) 3 which requires “predictions ..... that would result in the worst case wind turbine sound emissions during the hours before 8:00 a.m. and after 8:00 p.m.”. I see no attempt by AWE to determine the loudest noise levels to be expected from these turbines, and must assume these predictions were omitted because they exceed the SEC limits.

The shadow flicker information was also treated with studied neglect. Did their own calculations show them also exceeding SEC limits? AWE used “industry models” for which their expert meteorologist made claims of accuracy. Yet the record shows that there were serious assumptions made about critical parameters in the models, one of the most blatant being the use of epilepsy studies to determine the levels at which AWE neighbors would find flicker intolerable.

Many issues were brushed under the rug by claiming that they were fixable after the fact, with a fancy computer and sensor program. However, this program would still require the very same information as is missing pre-construction, such as the cutoff levels for the solar brightness and the depth of the shadow which defines flicker. How can they claim to know these critical parameters after the fact if they don't know them before the fact. If these parameters would cause the facility to exceed allowable limits after the fact, then the approval should fail before the fact.

The casual AWE approach to the question of the visual impact of this huge facility on its neighbors ignored the most obvious of issues. Its huge size, its constant motion, its noise and flashing lights, would be impossible to ignore. All these “oversights” should justify the SEC denial of the application.

For the record, I am in favor of clean and renewable energy, provided it is reliable, and without undue consequences to the general welfare of its neighbors.

Sincerely,

Ruth Ward, Senator-elect District 8

386 Route 123 South

Stoddard, NH 03464