

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Docket No. 2008-04

Re: Application of Granite Reliable Power, LLC, for a Certificate of Site and Facility to Construct and Operate the Granite Reliable Power Windpark

Order and Notice of Public Information Hearing, Site Inspection Visit and Pre-Hearing Conference

The Application

On July 15, 2008, Granite Reliable Power, LLC, (Applicant) filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Granite Reliable Windpark (Application). The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Site and Facility (Certificate) for the construction and operation of a renewable energy facility in Coos County, New Hampshire. The renewable energy facility is proposed to be located in the Town of Dummer and in the unincorporated places known as Dixville, Erving's Location, Millsfield and Odell. The Applicant seeks authority for the construction and operation of thirty-three (33) wind turbines, each having a nameplate capacity of three (3) MW for a total nameplate capacity of ninety-nine (99) MW, and associated facilities.

Nature and Location of Proposed Facilities

The renewable energy facilities and associated facilities are proposed to be located on private property located in Coos County, New Hampshire. The proposed facilities for the most part are located on two private tracts of land identified as the Phillips Brook Tract and the Bayrooot Parcel. The wind turbines will be installed in groups or "strings" located along Dixville Peak in Dixville, Mt. Kelsey and Owlhead Mountain in Millsfield and along an unnamed ridgeline, sometimes referred to as Fishbrook, located south and east of Owlhead Mountain in Millsfield. Each of the thirty-three proposed wind turbines will consist of a tubular steel tower approximately 262 feet tall, three rotor blades with an approximate diameter of 295 feet, and a nacelle that measures thirteen feet in height, twelve feet in width and thirty two feet in length. The Applicant proposes to construct twelve miles of new roads connecting turbines within the strings and connecting the strings to existing access roads. Nineteen miles of existing access roads located in Dixville, Erving's Location, Odell, Millsfield and the Town of Dummer would be upgraded as part of the proposed associated facilities. The Applicant proposes the construction of a new 34.5 kV electric transmission line for the collection of electricity from the turbines and delivery to a proposed substation on Dummer Pond Road in the Town of Dummer. The Application also proposes the construction of a new 115 kV electric transmission line which will run for 5.8 miles along Dummer Pond Road and interconnect with an existing 115 kV line owned and operated by Public Service Company of New Hampshire in the Town of Dummer. A new interconnection switching station will be constructed at the point of interconnection. In addition, the Applicant

proposes the construction of a maintenance building and a lay down yard adjacent to the sub-station to be constructed in the Town of Dummer.

Various maps depicting the exact location of the components of the proposed facilities are contained within the Application.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the duly designated Sub-Committee of the Site Evaluation Committee for the State of New Hampshire shall hold a Public Information Hearing, a Site Inspection Visit, and a Pre-Hearing Conference at the times and places as set forth below.

Public Information Hearing and Site Visit

Pursuant to R.S.A. 162-H: 6-a, IV, and R.S.A. 162-H:10, I, the Sub-Committee, designated pursuant to R.S.A. 162-H:4, V (b) shall hold at least one Public Information Hearing in the county in which the proposed facility is to be located. The hearing shall be for public information on the proposed facility with the Applicant presenting the information to the Sub-Committee and the public. The proceedings shall be recorded and members of the public will be permitted to submit questions and give public comment. The Public Information Hearing may be followed by a site inspection visit, weather permitting.

The Public Information Hearing will be held jointly with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which shall be in attendance to receive public comment consistent with the extent of its jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The Coos County Public Information Hearing shall commence on **October 2, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Groveton High School, 65 State Street, Groveton, New Hampshire.**

On **October 3, 2008 at approximately 9:00 A.M.**, weather permitting, the members of the Sub-Committee may commence a site inspection visit at various places within or adjacent to the location of the proposed Renewable Energy Facilities.

Pre-Hearing Conference

A Pre-Hearing Conference shall commence on September 18, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission, 21S. Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire. The purpose of the Pre-Hearing Conference is to consider petitions to intervene, determine contested issues, prepare a proposed discovery schedule and discuss proposed hearing schedules for the balance of this docket.

Intervention

Any person who may be interested in participating as a party to the Committee's consideration of the Application shall file a Motion to Intervene on or before September 18, 2008. Motions to Intervene should be addressed to the Chairman of the Committee at the following address:

Thomas S. Burack, Chairman
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
c/o New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95,
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095.


Written public comment is welcome through the conclusion of the proceedings in this docket.

Inspection of the Application

The aforementioned Application and all other correspondence and records regarding this matter are available for public inspection at the Office of the Chairman listed above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Applicant shall cause this Order and Notice of Public Information Hearing to be published, on or before September 1, 2008, in a newspaper of general statewide circulation. The applicant shall also cause this Order and Notice to be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in Coos County as soon as practicable consistent with such newspaper's publication schedules. The Applicant shall file an affidavit attesting to said publications of notice with the Chairman of the Committee on or before September 26, 2008.

By **ORDER** of the Site Evaluation Committee, this 27th day of August, 2008.



New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
Thomas Getz, Vice-Chairman
Sub-Committee Chairman