Susan S. Geiger
sgeiger@orr-reno.com
Direct Dial 603.223.9154
Direct Fax 603.223.9054

Orr&Reno
Professional Association
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550
Concord, NH 03302-3550
Telephone 603.224.2381
Facsimile 603.224.2318
www.orr-reno.com

March 23, 2009

Via Hand Delivery
Thomas S. Burack, Chairman
NH Site Evaluation Committee
c/o NH Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, P. O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Re: *Docket No. 2008-04 – Application of Granite Reliable Power, LLC, Responses to Subcommittee Data Requests*

Dear Chairman Burack:

Enclosed please find Granite Reliable Power, LLC's responses to oral data requests made by the Subcommittee of the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee at hearings held March 9, 10, 11 and 13, 2009 in the above-captioned matter. Petitioner Exhibits 42 through 49 have been reserved for these responses.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any questions about this filing. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Susan S. Geiger

cc: Service List
Enclosure
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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

Applicant's Responses to Oral Data Requests Made at the Site Evaluation Committee Hearings held on March 9, 10, 11 and 13, 2009

Petitioner Exhibit. 42: *Please supplement Appendix 28 of Volume 3 (Petitioner's Exhibit 1.3) with a map depicting the noise levels that are expected on the Cohos Trail. [Requested on March 9th.]*

See Attached Map. The Cohos Trail is depicted in red.

Petitioner Exhibit. 43. *Please explain the reason for the difference between the turbine height listed in Granite Reliable Power's Federal Aviation Administration applications (398 feet) and Mr. Decker's statement that the height of the turbines is 419 feet. [Requested on March 9th.]*

The total height of the Vestas V-90 turbine is 409.5 feet. The incorrect figure on the FAA applications is due to clerical error. GRP is correcting this clerical error with the FAA.

Petitioner Exhibit 44. *Please state how much ice may build up on a turbine blade before the turbine will automatically shut down. [Requested on March 9th.]*

The quantity of ice on the blade that will activate an automatic shut down is not specified in any documentation of which GRP is aware. However, GRP has contacted Vestas in an attempt to obtain more information on this particular issue. Any additional information will be provided to the committee when and if it becomes available.

Petitioner Exhibit 45(a). *Please state the current capacity of the Coos County transmission loop. State also the capacity of the Coos County transmission loop after the lines are re-sagged. [Requested on March 9th.]*

The following table provides the long-term emergency ratings and the net available capacity pre- and post-upgrade.

	Existing Rating (MVA)	Pre-project loading (MVA)	Current Net Available Capacity (MVA)	Upgraded Rating (MVA)	Post-project loading (MVA)	Net Available Capacity (MVA)
W179 Berlin - Pontook	60	6	54	139	43	96
W179 Pontook – Lost Nation	60	12	48	139		139
D142 Lost Nation - Whitefield	60	8	52	139	57	82
S136 Whitefield - Berlin	85	12	73	236	51	185

Petitioner Exhibit 45(b). *Please explain ISO-NE's opinion or policy concerning "special protection schemes" referenced on pages 3-2 to 3-3 in the Status Report of the Steady State System Impact Study contained in Appendix 54 of Volume 3 of the Application (Petitioner's Exhibit 1.6). [Requested on March 9th.]*

ISO-NE discourages reliance on "special protection schemes" in favor of upgrades that provide more fundamental integrity to the transmission system. The Steady State System Impact Study for Granite Reliable does not recommend the use of special protection schemes.

Petitioner Exhibit 45(c). *Concerning the projects listed on page 4-2 in the Status Report of the Steady State System Impact Study contained in Appendix 54 of Volume 3 of the Application (Petitioner's Exhibit 1.6), please state the potential for Granite Reliable Power to displace these facilities based upon the average annual capacity factor for the Project. [Requested on March 9th.]*

The GRP project was studied under the Minimum Interconnection Standard (MIS), ISO-NE's normal criterion for assessing the impact of new generation on system reliability. Following the MIS rule the generator under study is dispatched at maximum output -- 99 MW gross in the case of GRP -- against nearby generation of the same capacity. If GRP instead were dispatched at 35 MW with the lines in the Coos County transmission loop upgraded as recommended, it is reasonable to expect that the extent to which local generation would need to be dispatched off in order to respect potential (N-1) contingencies would be significantly reduced. However, this cannot be quantified without additional load flow analysis, which is not normally a part of ISO-NE's SIS.

Petitioner Exhibit 46. *Please provide the alternatives analysis sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. [Requested on March 10th.]*

GRP provided the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with the alternatives analysis provided to the SEC found in Section H of the application. In addition, an outside project area alternatives analysis was provided to USACOE on February 26, 2009. Because that analysis contains competitively sensitive commercial information, confidential treatment of it is being requested.

Petitioner Exhibit 47. *Please provide documentation relating to whether the wind turbines contain fire suppression equipment. [Requested on March 10th.]*

The V90 does come equipped with smoke detection equipment (tower and nacelle) but does not have a fire suppression system. The smoke detection sensors are optical smoke sensors. If smoke is detected, an alarm is sent via the RCS (Remote Control System) and the main switcher is activated. The detectors are self-controlling. If a detector becomes defective, a warning is sent via the RCS.

Petitioner Exhibit 48. *Please provide a copy of any letter sent by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the Applicant subsequent to April 2008. [Requested on March 11th.]*

With the exception of the recent letter dated March 12th, 2009, a copy of which was provided to the SEC by USFWS on or about March 16, 2009, GRP has not received any letters from USFWS subsequent to April 2008.

Petitioner Exhibit 49. *Please provide a list of all post construction monitoring activities that will be performed at the project site and a brief description of the scope of work for each activity. [Requested on March 13th.]*

While we understand this question as requesting information about the applicant's postconstruction monitoring activities, the applicant wishes to note that there are several preconstruction monitoring activities that have been recommended by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in connection with the Section 401 Water Quality Certificate, Wetlands Permit and Alteration of Terrain Permit. *See* Petitioner's Exhibits 39, 40 and 41. The following is a list of the post construction monitoring activities anticipated to occur at the GRP Windpark:

Monitoring Plan: The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has required this plan as a condition to the Section 401 Water Quality Certificate. At least 90 days prior to construction, GRP shall develop and submit to DES for approval a monitoring plan, the purpose of which is to confirm that the project is not causing or contributing to violations of state surface water quality standards.

Inspection and Maintenance Plan: The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has required this plan as a condition to the Section 401 Water Quality Certificate. The purpose of the plan is to ensure the long-term effectiveness of approved stormwater practices. The I&M plan will approved by DES prior to construction.

Wetland mitigation monitoring: Wetland areas created as part of GRP's mitigation plan will require several years of monitoring to ensure successful establishment. As a condition relating to the issuance of a Wetlands Permit, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has required that a NH Certified Wetlands Scientist (CWS) be responsible for monitoring the vernal pools created by the applicant as mitigation for vernal pools impacted by the project. The CWS shall conduct follow up inspections during the first 3 consecutive breeding seasons to review the success of the vernal pool creations and to schedule remedial actions if necessary. The CWS will document conditions at the site and provide recommendations for corrective measures (if needed). Also, an invasive species monitoring program will be included in the wetland mitigation monitoring to ensure that no invasive plant species are introduced to the wetlands.

Avian and Bat Mortality monitoring: The applicant will conduct post construction avian and bat mortality studies at the project site. These studies will be similar to those conducted at other operational wind energy facilities in the United States and will be conducted by qualified professionals in accordance with industry protocols. This effort will likely consist of weekly ground searches at approximately 33% of the turbines (on average two turbines will be searched each day) in order to provide an estimate of bird and bat mortality at the Project. The searches will consist of walking predefined 6 meter transects under each turbine to document any bird or

bat carcasses. The monitoring will also include scavenging and searcher efficiency tests, used to further refine the estimates of total mortality.

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PETITIONER
EXHIBIT 42