

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Docket No. 2010-01

**Application of Groton Wind, LLC, for a Certificate of Site and Facility
for a Renewable Energy Facility in Groton, New Hampshire**

**ORDER AND NOTICE OF FINAL PREHEARING CONFERENCE
AND PUBLIC ADJUDICATIVE PROCEEDINGS**

Issued October 12, 2010

I. The Application

On March 26, 2010, Groton Wind, LLC, (Applicant) filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Application). The Applicant petitions the Site Evaluation Committee (Committee) for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Certificate) in order to construct and operate a renewable energy facility (Facility) in the Town of Groton, Grafton County, consisting of 24 wind turbines each having a nameplate capacity of 2 megawatts (MW) for a total nameplate capacity of 48 MW. The Vice-Chairman of the Committee accepted the Application as administratively complete on April 26, 2010, and a Subcommittee was appointed to review the Application as provided in RSA 162-H:6-a, III and RSA 162-H: 4, V (Subcommittee).

II. Nature and Location of the Facility and Ancillary Facilities

The Facility does not yet have a formal street address but is accessible from an access road off of Groton Hollow Road, Groton. The proposed site for the Facility consists of 4,180 acres, which is bounded by Route 25 to the North, Tenney Mountain Ski Resort to the East, the Forest Society's Cockermouth Forest to the South, and Halls Brook Road to the West. The area comprises two distinct ridgeline features known as Tenney Mountain and Fletcher Mountain, which are separated by a valley known as Groton Hollow. Both ridges are northeast/southwest oriented and range in peak elevation from 1,850 to 2,300 feet.

The Applicant proposes to develop a wind energy facility. As proposed the Facility will consist of twenty-four (24) Gamesa G87 wind turbines. Each turbine consists of a four section tower that will be approximately 256 feet tall; a nacelle containing a drive train, gearbox and generator measuring 28 feet in length, 10 feet in height, and 11 feet in width; and a rotor consisting of three fiberglass composite blades each measuring 139 feet in length. The overall height of each wind turbine is proposed to be approximately 399 feet. In addition, the Applicant proposes to construct an operation and maintenance building, a 34.5kV electrical collection system, and a collection switchyard. The Applicant proposes to upgrade 2.4 mile of roads on the proposed site and to construct 9.3 miles of new roads within the site. The Applicant

proposes to interconnect the Facility to the Beebe River Substation owned by Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH). The Applicant proposes to deliver the Facility's output via the existing distribution system, consisting of 13 miles of distribution lines within existing right of ways from the switchyard at the proposed site to the Beebe River Substation. The Application contains a series of site plans, maps, figures, photographs and drawings that detail the nature and location of various aspects of the Facility.

III. Parties to the Adjudicative Proceedings

The public will be represented in these proceedings by duly appointed Counsel for the Public, Peter Roth, Senior Assistant Attorney General. The parties to the adjudicative proceedings are: the Applicant, Groton Wind LLC; the Town of Groton; the Town of Rumney; the Town of Plymouth; James M. Buttolph; Cheryl Lewis; Carl Spring; Richard Wetterer; Kathleen Park, Lawrence Mazur, MD; Christine G. DeClerq-Mazur; Sarah Mazur and Theodore Mazur.

IV. Public Comment

The Subcommittee shall reserve time on Thursday, November 4, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. to hear oral comments from the public pertaining to the Application and the proposed facility. Written public comment may also be filed with the Subcommittee, until the conclusion of the proceedings, at the office of Jane Murray, Secretary to the Committee located at the Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, N.H.

V. Time, Date and Place: Final Pre-Hearing Conference

A final Pre-Hearing Conference shall be held on Friday, October 29, 2010, at 10 a.m. at the office of the Public Utilities Commission, 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord N.H. At the Final Pre-Hearing Conference all parties shall have final exhibit lists and exhibits with sufficient copies for all other parties and the Subcommittee. Argument on any outstanding motions or requests may be heard at the final Pre-Hearing Conference. Michael J. Iacopino, Counsel to the Committee shall serve as presiding officer at the Final Pre-Hearing Conference.

VI. Time, Date and Place: Commencement of Adjudicatory Proceeding

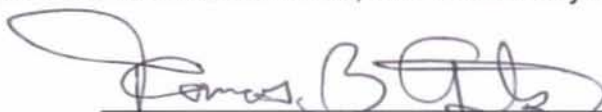
The adjudicatory hearing shall commence on Monday, November 1, 2010, at 10 a.m. at the office of the Public Utilities Commission, 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord N.H. and shall continue each day thereafter at such times and places as determined by the Chair of the Subcommittee. In addition, the hearing may be recessed subject to the call of the Chair.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the duly designated Subcommittee of the Site Evaluation Committee for the State of New Hampshire shall hold a Public Adjudicative Hearing on November 1, 2010, commencing at 10 a.m. at the Offices of the Public Utilities Commission, 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire and each day thereafter and at such further times and places as the Chairperson of the Subcommittee may announce.

FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order and Notice of Public Meeting shall be served via First Class Mail to each of the parties and that the Applicant shall cause this Notice of Public Adjudicative Proceedings to be published on or before October 18, 2010, in a newspaper of regular statewide circulation and also in a newspaper of general circulation in Grafton County. The Applicant shall file an affidavit attesting to said publication of notice with the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on or before October 29, 2010.

By **ORDER** of the Site Evaluation Committee, this twelfth day of October, 2010.



Thomas B. Getz, Presiding Officer
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee