

Town of Rumney
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March 12, 2012

Via Electronic Mail and Hard Copy
Site Evaluation Committee
Thomas Getz, Chairman
NH Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit St. Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Groton Wind, LLC Docket No. 2010-01

Dear Chairman Getz and Committee Members,

This letter comes to you at the request of the Rumney Board of Selectmen. As a part of the permit process for the Groton Wind Farm Project, Groton Wind, LLC signed an agreement with the Town of Rumney regarding road use and maintenance. Currently the Town is having issues with Groton Wind, LLC's ability to maintain Groton Hollow Road in a condition that allows our residents to safely access their homes over said road. Paragraph 7.3 of the agreement addresses the damage and how it must be repaired.

For background purposes, Groton Hollow Road is one of the Town's gravel roads. Typically each spring when "mud season" arrives, the road is posted with a 10-ton limit until conditions dry out enough to allow the heavier vehicles to travel the road without damaging it. This year's conditions made it necessary to post the road on February 17, and it was our position that Groton Wind, LLC was not exempt from the 10-ton limit. Groton Wind, LLC took exception to the road ban. Legal advice was sought by both parties; upon recommendation from the Town's attorney, we agreed that Groton Wind, LLC would be exempt from the road restrictions. Representatives from Groton Wind, LLC and their contractors met with us at our February 27, 2012 meeting. Upon our request, they agreed to take over the maintenance of the road with the understanding that they would stay on top of the conditions and make the necessary repairs, adding stone, grading or whatever it took to keep the road in a safe and passable condition for all.

On Thursday, March 8, with the onset of warm weather, the frost started to come out of Groton Hollow Road. Groton Wind, LLC made some patchwork repairs to the road after a number of resident complaints and phone calls and visits from members of our Select Board and the Road Agent. On Friday morning, March 9, Selectman Mark Andrew and Road Agent Frank Simpson met with Randy Stocks of Iberdrola, representing Groton Wind, LLC. Randy laid out a plan to gravel the road with 1 ½" stone from the end of the pavement the entire length of the road to the access gate onto Groton Wind's project. This did not happen. Some of the worst areas were filled with stone, but by the end of the day, those areas not treated were in deplorable condition, prompting more complaints. In past years, the town spends about two half days of labor and a small amount of gravel to get through "mud season" on Groton Hollow Road. We routinely get through the entire season with no resident complaints at all.

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We authorized Groton Wind to perform repair work on the road this Sunday, March 11. This request is in compliance with paragraphs 8.4.1 and 8.4.2 of the agreement. No work was done on Sunday.

With warm weather forecasted for all of the upcoming week, we anticipate a major problem with this road and our residents' access. The Selectmen have requested Groton Wind, LLC to attend our regular Selectmen's meeting on Monday, March 12 to reach a reasonable solution to this problem.

We are writing to you because this road agreement is an integral part of the permit you have issued. One possible solution is to close down Groton Wind, LLC's use of heavy vehicles on Groton Hollow Road until the road dries out. The Board of Selectmen is asking for your support in protecting our town road and our residents' rights and ability to get to their homes. Representatives of Groton Wind, LLC made assurances on Thursday and again on Friday of last week that this needed repair work would be done, but even after requesting permission to work on Sunday, this work has not been completed. We are hopeful that Groton Wind, LLC will have the necessary repairs done by the time of our meeting Monday evening. In the event this work has not been done, will the SEC:

1. Support our decision to enforce the road weight limit posted on Groton Hollow Road? Or
2. Support our decision to restrict travel on Groton Hollow Road to residents only while repairs are being made? Or
3. Suspend the project permit until Groton Hollow Road is restored to its pre-project condition with an approved maintenance plan in place?

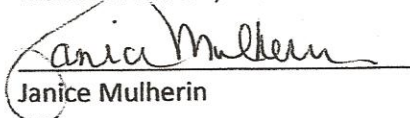
We would appreciate a rapid answer so we can adequately address the issue tonight. We hope that Groton Wind, LLC will step up and perform the necessary repairs and maintain the road to minimize the disruptions to our residents.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Mark H. Andrew, Chairman



Janice Mulherin

Cheryl L. Lewis

cc: Via Electronic Mail to Michael J. Iacopino, Esq., H. Bernard Waugh, Esq.; SEC Committee Members – R. Scott; B. Dupee; R. Boisvert; M. Harrington; S. Perry; E. Steltzer; C. Hood; D. Kent; E. Cherian;