

Wed 8/7/2013

Dear Director Hatfield,

As we understand SB99, OEP will be responsible for drafting safe siting guidelines for the future installation of industrial wind plants. Thank you for that.

As part of the siting guidelines, you will undoubtedly be considering turbine noise and the real world health impacts on residents in impacted communities who are relentlessly exposed to the noise industrial wind turbines generate.

The purpose of this letter is to request that OEP consider incorporating the following criteria into your siting guidelines:

- 1} All noise tests be conducted by independent firms that are unencumbered by any pre-existing client conflicts with industrial wind developers.
- 2} That industrial wind developers be required to set aside money in a fund controlled by the state to pay for semi annual sound tests over a twenty year period.
- 3} Both sound and infrasound should be covered.
- 4} The wind turbine owner must provide essential information to the independent testing firm, the state and the public during the testing period. This information will help verify that the wind turbine controls are set for normal operating mode and to document measurements of wind and operating conditions important to interpreting the sound measurements. This can be obtained from the historical SCADA data in a resolution no greater than one minute increments showing wind speed at hub & direction, nacelle orientation, blade pitch setting{s}, hub rpm and generator output or load.
- 5} The independent testing firm should have open access to any & all data needed to establish baseline annual sound and infrasound output for each and every turbine in any given industrial wind plant.
- 6} With regard to fairly and accurately testing for noise, the document prepared by Richard James of E-coustics Solutions does a fine job of establishing credible testing procedures and parameters.
- 7} That noise tests include interviews, recorded interviews, with any resident or business within a 1.5 mile radius of any turbine. These interviews should include specific questions on noise impacts as measured by real world experience{s} not just sound metering equipment.

In the absence of independent and transparent testing that includes credibly established baseline data, having industrial wind developers conduct their own noise studies seems analogous to having Major League baseball players conduct their own drug tests.

This request regarding Groton Wind does not come out of the blue. It is our understanding that Groton Wind was/is testing during a two week period that may likely still be in effect. The fact that they are testing in a low wind period, as we understand it, is measurable. Anectodally, a number of people have noticed the recent low activity of the Groton turbines.

Of course, the two items are likely correlated; but, then again, without independent testing and annual averages with reliable baseline data, it is difficult, we believe, to factually make that determination.

Noise problems with wind turbines are apparently translating into health problems, serious health problems, for residents in impacted communities throughout the Northeast. The taller the turbines get, and they are getting taller, the more pronounced these noise issues will be.

As you consider siting criteria, please include the need for transparent, independent and fully verifiable noise testing.

Thank you, Director Hatfield.

Sincerely,

Larry Goodman  
[www.nhwindwatch.org](http://www.nhwindwatch.org)