

May 25, 2011

Mr. Thomas S. Burack, Chairman  
Mr. Thomas Getz, Hearing Officer  
NH Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Committee  
Department of Environmental Services  
29 Hazen Dr., P.O. Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Re: Antrim Wind Energy, LLC (SEC Docket #2011-2)

Dear Chairman Burack, Mr. Getz, and members of the SEC,

I am writing to you to reinforce the need for the NH Site Evaluation Committee to take jurisdiction over the Antrim Wind Energy project without hesitation. As a resident of Antrim for 16 years and a business person in Antrim for four years, I am deeply disturbed by the actions of a small number of people misrepresenting themselves as a majority in the Town of Antrim, and in my opinion misrepresenting their personal opposition to the wind energy project as a desire for the Planning Board to have "local control". I have never before seen such a disregard for process and such a lack of transparency as that which has been shown by several elected members of the Antrim Planning Board with regard to the Antrim Wind Project. It is clear to me that those members of the Antrim Planning Board, despite their statements to the contrary, have no desire to see a properly drafted zoning ordinance, but rather seek only to erect obstacles to proper consideration of the project.

Following town elections in March, two new members of the Planning Board were elected: Martha Pinello and Charlie Levesque. These two individuals along with Jesse Lazar (current planning board member) immediately set about dismantling and undermining all of the previous work by the Planning Board to date toward the wind energy project. This came in the form of hand-picked committees convening without knowledge or approval of the entire Planning Board, as well as holding several meetings unbeknownst to other Planning Board members. This group continues to work against- instead of with- the entire Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen of Antrim, disregarding town counsel, the Planning Board chairman, and the Selectmen.

Board members Martha Pinello and Charlie Levesque suggested an ad hoc committee to draft a wind ordinance with regards to the Antrim Wind Energy project. This committee was to be made up of two Planning Board members, four residents, and a member of the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Pinello provided a list of names for the committee, most of whom had applied for intervener status to the SEC regarding the wind energy project. The only solicitation of residents of Antrim interested in serving on the committee came in the form of text imbedded in a newspaper article and reportedly on the Town website, where no such notice could be found.

The committee has so far held three "public meetings" - Wednesdays at 6:30 am, which is hardly conducive to convenient public attendance. The initial committee was made

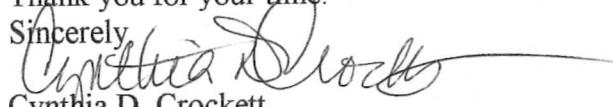
up of Martha Pinello- PB member, Eric Tenney - Selectman, Andrew Robblee - PB Chair, Mr. Ben Pratt - resident, Barbara Gard -resident, Mary Allen - resident, and Bob Edwards - resident. Mr. Levesque as well as I attended the first two meetings as members of the public, however, Mr. Levesque is a Planning Board member. Members of the public were permitted to ask questions and participate as such. Immediately following the first meeting, Mr. Pratt resigned over concerns with the committee and the charge of the committee. At the next meeting, Mr. Levesque gave a prepared presentation at the behest of Martha Pinello. The current ad hoc committee is now formed of four Planning Board members - three who are leading the charge against the wind project with the majority of the remaining members being those who applied for intervener status against the SEC taking jurisdiction of the project.

The Planning Board - again, led by Ms. Pinello and Mr. Levesque, followed by Mr. Lazar asked the Selectmen for \$10,000 to hire their own attorney, stating in the newspaper that town counsel was not trustworthy. At this public meeting, the townspeople of Antrim were vehemently opposed to giving the Planning Board any money at all to hire its own attorney. This request was also unanimously voted down by the Board of Selectman. Many residents in attendance at the meeting loudly and clearly admonished the Planning Board for forming committee after committee and going beyond their bounds by ignoring town council, fighting the Selectboard, and continuing their disregard for policy and procedure. This Board has yet to work together as a Board since the March elections. Ms. Pinello and Mr. Levesque hired their own attorney for the Planning Board anyway and proceeded to meet with Atty. Silas Little - again, without the knowledge of the other members of the Planning Board. Mr. Lazar went so far as to say he would not go out of his way to share information with Board members who are in support of the SEC taking jurisdiction of the wind project (as stated in the May 24 edition of the Monadnock Ledger Transcript).

The point of this letter is to illustrate the improbability of a fair process toward drafting a wind energy ordinance in Antrim that is non project-specific nor free of spot zoning. The Antrim Planning Board is not capable of functioning within its own procedures in what any reasonable person would consider appropriate or impartial fashion. How can the residents of Antrim hope that the Board could appropriately and impartially manage an issue as complex and contentious as the wind energy project? Furthermore, Attorney for the Public - Mr. Peter Roth - has only spoken and taken action on behalf of those opposed to the Antrim Wind Energy project. At least three separate surveys of various types have been conducted with a clear majority of the residents of Antrim in support of the wind energy project. Is one to infer that those in the majority are then left without representation on this very important issue? I urge you to take jurisdiction over the Antrim Wind Energy project without hesitation in order to ensure a fair and impartial process.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

  
Cynthia D. Crockett  
Antrim, NH