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Dear NH Site Evaluation Committee Member:

Our current energy policy is not working and while we are busy putting a new one in place, let's take a step back from allowing any new projects to go forward under outdated guidelines. There is too much at stake in the beautiful state of NH to let developers create industrial power projects without first making sure we protect what is important to us. If we have already recognized that the current policy needs to change, then a moratorium is clearly common sense while we bring the current policy up to speed.

There is a lot of misinformation put out by developers and their lobbyists but keep some important facts in mind:

-Currently NH generates two times the amount of power it uses and is a net exporter of energy. ISO New England studies show demand decreasing with projections for the next ten years. NH is already doing it's part on behalf of clean energy.

-Most current proposed projects are to sell the power out of state and do not benefit NH residents. The proposed wind projects do not factor in transmission which can have drastic unexpected effects and costs that run into the millions.

-Governor Hassan voiced her opposition to Northern Pass recently in a very detailed editorial submitted to the Boston Globe.

-Projects for wind power increase everyone's rates and hurt NH residents and businesses where we already have some of the highest rates in the country. Additionally they cost taxpayers billions in subsidies for power that is inefficient and intermittent always requiring backup power plants to fill the gap when the wind doesn't blow.

-States like CT have instituted a moratorium on wind power for some very good reasons.

-Industrial power projects are not compatible with the vision for NH and are not synonymous with what NH is known for as a scenic tourist and recreational destination.

-This is not the type of business we want to attract to the state. There are no long term benefits for us. Most of the construction and development work is given to out of state companies. The work is temporary and there are only a handful of full time jobs that remain.

-Existing wind power projects in NH have not been problem free. There has been frequent forced curtailment at Granite Reliable and multiple violations at Groton Wind that are still being addressed. All these issues strain our resources and cost NH taxpayers dearly. Additionally the violations put the health and safety of our public at risk. Around the country multiple complaints are flooding in and lawsuits are growing.

-Decommissioning costs are not accounted for by the state and small towns are left to fend for themselves against developers in negotiations. Planning is frequently inadequate and too quickly this legacy will be the NH's problem to deal with.

-Lastly but of major importance, an overwhelming majority of residents, voters, taxpayers, and business owners support putting a moratorium in place. This should come as no surprise given what we are currently up against. It only makes sense and is the right thing to do.

Please support HB-580 so that we can take the time to learn the facts and get a proper energy policy in place before we sacrifice what makes NH so unique and special.

Thank you.

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Hebron, NH