

September 16, 2015

Chairman Martin Honigberg
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: NH Site Evaluation Committee Rulemaking, Docket No. 2014-04

Dear Chairman Honigberg and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SEC rulemaking process. I have testified in Senate and House Hearings, read the recent submitted recommendations from NHWW regarding shadow flicker, safety setbacks, property values, site controls and agree with them completely. Although I support green energy sources, their location and impacts are as important considerations as is the value of the energy produced.

The specific point I would like to comment on is the effect on the visual impact limit of ten miles. The effect of a project being sited on a ridgeline, such as the Groton project, has a much farther reaching impact. My home is in Plymouth, over 6 miles from the nearest turbine. One of our reasons for positioning our home where we did was the beautiful sunset views over the mountain ridgeline. Now that view has four turbines that flash red as the sun is setting, this destroyed that simple pleasure for us. In my business, views are as important a feature to property as waterfront. Why is it we in NH have not recognized that asset and developed similar regulations to protect them as we did in developing the Shoreland Protection Act?

Many homeowners in our area have expressed their concerns about expansion of these industrial wind projects. They all voice the same opinion is that they came up here to get away from that kind of thing and are troubled that we are destroying a natural treasure that cannot be reclaimed. I asked the NH Real Estate Commission to issue a declaratory ruling on the necessity for a licensee to disclose the potential visual impact. They declined to issue a ruling but advised that a licensee should disclose this information as it would impact a buyer's decision to purchase. I urge you to expand the visual impact limit to twenty miles and protect our ridgelines.

Respectfully,

Durward J. Miller, Jr.
Broker/Owner
Coldwell Banker Old Mill Properties