

October 31, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
12 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

RE: *Draft Site Evaluation Committee Rules*

Dear Mr. Wiesner:

The New England Clean Energy Council (NECEC) would like to indicate its support for the *Draft Site Evaluation Committee Rules (Draft Rules)* submitted by Cate Street Capital, EDP Renewables North America, Eolian Renewable Energy, Iberdrola Renewables, National Grid, Northeast Utilities and Public Service of New Hampshire on September 22, 2014. (See attached.) The *Draft Rules* were developed in response to the Site Evaluation Committee request for advance public comment on the rulemaking required by recently enacted legislation (Senate Bill 234 and House Bill 1602, as well as Senate Bill 99 of 2014. We recognize that we are submitting our letter past the advance comment deadline but hope that it will be helpful to you in your consideration.

NECEC is a clean energy business and policy organization. The NECEC mission is to accelerate New England's clean energy economy to global leadership by building an active community of stakeholders and a world-class cluster of clean energy companies. NECEC is the only organization in New England that covers all of the clean energy market segments, representing the business perspectives of investors and clean energy companies across every stage of development. Council members span the broad spectrum of the clean energy industry, including energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy, combined heat and power, energy storage, fuel cells and advanced and "smart" technologies. Our ranks also include venture investors, major financial institutions, universities, industry associations, utilities, labor and large commercial end-users.

NECEC participated on the SB99 Energy Facility Siting Project Coordinating Committee, assisting the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning on the projects required by SB99. In addition, several of NECEC's members are wind and transmission developers who have developed projects that are bringing competitively priced electricity to energy customers across the region. They and others are interested in developing future appropriately sited projects in order to bring the economic, energy and environmental benefits of clean energy to New England's citizens, businesses and industries.

NECEC would like to emphasize the importance of clear and consistent siting guidelines to developers to ensure appropriate siting of projects, balancing local, state and regional impacts. The *Draft Rules* provide a strong foundation for such guidelines.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Site Evaluation Committee rulemaking. Please do not hesitate to contact NECEC if we can provide additional information or assist in the rulemaking process.

Sincerely,



Peter Rothstein
President



Janet Gail Besser
VP, Policy and Government Affairs

CC: Kate Epsen, NHSEA
Attachment