



Antrim Wind Energy – Cumulative Impacts

Russ Stevenson, Architectural Historian, A.D. Marble & Company

Cultural Resource investigations were conducted for both above-ground historic resources and below-ground archaeological resources for the Antrim Wind Energy project. These investigations were completed in consultation with New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources (NHDHR) to satisfy the Section 106 regulations that govern cultural resource work when Federal money or Federal permits are utilized. The only other known wind energy facility in the vicinity of Antrim is located in Lempster, New Hampshire, over 12 miles away from the proposed Antrim Wind Energy facility. There are no known additional proposed wind energy facilities in the vicinity at this time.

The results of the archaeological investigations concluded that no archaeological resources are present within the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE); therefore, there are no direct, indirect (visual), or cumulative impacts to archaeological resources from Antrim Wind Energy or other wind energy facilities within the vicinity (both constructed and proposed).

The results of the above-ground historic resource investigations resulted in the identification of four National Register-eligible resources that were concurred upon by NHDHR in 2012: the Dodge Family Farm, Antrim Center Historic District, White Birch Point Historic District, and Pine Haven. Assessment of Effects packages were prepared for the four above named resources within the 3-mile APE, and per NHDHR regulations an Assessment of Effects package was prepared for the Hillsborough Lower Village Historic District, a previously determined eligible resource located within the 5-mile APE. The NHDHR made "No Adverse Effect" findings for the Antrim Center Historic District, Dodge Family Farm, Hillsborough Lower Village Historic District, and Pine Haven as there is very little visibility to the wind turbines from these resources and the project does not have the potential to negatively affect the qualities that make them historically significant. However, NHDHR determined that there would be an "Adverse Effect" to White Birch Point, though it did not indicate that such adverse effect would be unreasonable. The United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACOE), which is the lead federal agency for the Section 106 review, has disagreed with NHDHR's determination with respect to White Birch Point. In a letter to the SEC dated December 28, 2015, the USACOE concludes "Due to the lack of view shed from White Birch Point historic district as the view relates to the three Corps permit areas, the discharge of dredged or fill material for this project has no potential for an effect on this district and does not appear to require further consultation by the Corps under Section 106. The Corps has no further recommendations for 106 historical reviews based on the historical resources identified and recommended for consultation over the last four years."

Due to the fact that: (1) all potential impacts to above-ground historic resources are indirect (visual) in nature; (2) none of the four resources identified by NHDHR have visibility of any wind energy facility other than the Antrim Wind project; (3) and USACOE has determined that there is no potential for effect on the White Birch Point district, there will be no cumulative impacts from the Project on above ground historic resources.