

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE
Docket No. 2015-02

APPLICATION OF ANTRIM WIND ENERGY, LLC
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF SITE AND FACILITY

INTERVENER'S POST-HEARING BRIEF

NOW COMES the Law/Cleland Interveners and respectfully submits this Final Post-Hearing Brief.

AWE's proposed wind project is essentially the same as the project that was denied by the SEC in 2012 and again in 2013, when they appealed the SEC's decision, minus turbine 10 and the reduction in height of turbine 9.

AWE claims that the majority of Antrim residents are in favor of the proposed project, which is not true! After reviewing the letters submitted to the SEC via email and/or statements made at public hearings we have found the following results:

A total of 59 people in FAVOR of the project ~

- a.) 9 letters from people who will potentially work on the project
- b.) 19 letters from non-residents of Antrim
- c.) 25 letters from actual Antrim residents
- d.) 6 Antrim Interveners, including Antrim Board of Selectmen

A total of 160 people OPPOSED to the project ~

- a.) 50 letters from people who do not reside in Antrim
- b.) 83 letters from concerned Antrim residents
- c.) 17 Antrim resident Interveners
- d.) 10 Interveners who are non-residents of Antrim

That shows a STRONG opposition to the AWE proposed project!!!

Those of us who live in the North Branch of Antrim will be directly affected in many ways by: Noise, Shadow Flicker, potential Health Issues, unreasonable Aesthetic/Visual Impacts, our property values will be GREATLY reduced and our taxes will increase to finance the wind farm (with the current PILOT agreement) in the event that it is approved.

There is no mitigation that could possibly compensate anyone for the destruction of the Rural Conservation District in the North Branch of Antrim, or the disruption of the lives of the many residents who have built our lives here for 28 years or more and would be subjected to either live with the adverse effects or forced to uproot our lives and relocate to a less invasive part of the country.

At the SEC Public Hearing on 10/3/16:

Justin Lindholm's (a land owner in Lempster) letter and Google Earth photo of properties that went up for sale in Lempster after the wind farm was constructed, clearly shows that 47 properties placed on the market for sale, lost significant value and most homes that were located near the turbines did not sell.

State Rep. Duane Brown also stated that the property values declined in Groton and surrounding towns since the wind farm was constructed there.

William Jolly, a landowner in Groton, has been unable to sell 86 acres of his land at \$500 per acre due to the visibility of wind turbines after 100 inquiries. He also hears the noise from the turbines at his home 7 miles away.

We designed and built our dream home ourselves from the ground up in 1988 on Windsor Mt. because of the beauty, privacy and solitude the land we bought provided. We are now retired and planning on enjoying the fruits of our labor because we love what we've created here. We enjoy the wildlife and raptors that we see on a daily basis and the views of ridgeline of Tuttle Hill and the other gorgeous vistas this area provides.

The last thing we want to witness is the destruction of the ridgeline from Tuttle Hill to Willard Mt. that would be caused by the construction of an industrial wind farm, which is out of scale in context of its setting, destroying the natural habitat of all of the animals and raptors that live there and the fragmentation of one of the most pristine wildlife corridors in the heart of the Quabbin-to-Cardigan Initiative (Q2C).

We are very much in favor of alternative energy when it is NOT going to destroy land that has been preserved for conservation, especially on the forested ridges in New Hampshire. Proposing an easement for the conservation of 908 acres is pointless, when the land that is ALREADY in conservation is going to be destroyed and industrialized, which is defeating the purpose of conservation, isn't it!

After having actively participated in this process for the past 7 years, since AWE first came to Antrim, we have read volumes of information about different sources of alternative energy and we've learned that wind energy is a marginal energy source with 30% efficiency/reliability, and that solar energy is much more cost effective and less destructive or invasive than wind energy.

We are pleading with the SEC members to honor the decision that the committee members (who came before you) made after months of careful consideration in 2012 and 2013 to DENY the permit that AWE is asking for once again, since this is the same project, on the same site with the same unreasonable adverse

aesthetic/visual effects that would impact treasured gems in Antrim, i.e. Willard Pond, Meadow Marsh, Gregg Lake, etc., as well as the region surrounding the area within a 10 mile radius of the proposed project.

In the United States we all have freedom of choice. Some people choose to live in cities and industrialized areas, while some people choose to live in more rural settings. Those of us in the North Branch have all chosen to live in a remote area for all that it has to offer. When we built or bought our homes many years ago, none of us expected to have to face the threat of an industrial wind farm to disrupt our peace of mind and we expect that you will respect our choice of wanting to maintain our way of living here. Please consider the health and public safety of the residents who live in close proximity to the site and how it is going to affect all of us.

We trust that you will make the right decision for the well being of all residents in the North Branch of Antrim's Rural Conservation District and DENY the permit that AWE has applied for. There are plenty of other sites in NH and other states that would be much more compliant to their proposed industrial wind farm.

In the event that you do give them a permit, we ask that you make a stipulation that AWE/Walden Green is obligated to buy the properties of anyone who is directly affected and wants to sell at fair market value, BEFORE the project's construction.

Respectfully,

Annie Law & Bob Cleland