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To whom it may concern:

In 2007 I purchased ~270 acres in the Northwest portion of Antrim to build a home. Since that time I have worked continuously to improve the land including the installation of swales and water bars, in cooperation and consultation with the NH extension service, to begin mitigating the uncontrolled runoff from improperly constructed logging roads. I have been paying property taxes on the full current use value of that property and, once my home was completed, the increased taxes on homestead property.

When Antrim Wind approached me to put a portion of my property into a perpetual conservation easement I was understandably hesitant. As a younger land owner I was fiercely protective of my rights to use the land as I saw fit. In further discussions with Antrim Wind and with their understanding of my reservations in granting an easement, we came to an agreement to conserve the upper most portion of my property; ~125 acres. Even now I'm still somewhat concerned with the easement but my support of the project exceeds those concerns. The reserved right to build a home at the top of Tuttle ensures that my original plan and goal in purchasing the property almost ten years ago is secure. The entire reason I chose Tuttle Hill as my home was due to the beauty and remoteness of the area in order to build a family home to be passed down to future generations. I only regret that I cannot build a hilltop home there now to be able to take in the wind turbine view. But for Antrim Wind, there is NO chance that I would place those kinds of permanent restrictions on my property.

I am also friends with two of the other landowners involved in the Antrim Wind project and I know firsthand their reservations in the granting of these conservation easements. Without the Antrim Wind project I find it very hard to believe that any of Tuttle Hill will be conserved. Furthermore, if the project was to be denied, and I didn't have to put that land into conservation, considering the loss in income I would definitely consider other potential development options for that acreage.

The fact that abutting and non-abutting neighbors believe they have a right to dictate what a landowner can and cannot do with their land is infuriating. Tuttle Hill is private property owned by individual citizens who have the right, if they so choose, to put their land in conservation but by no means do they have the responsibility to do so.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Michael Ott