1	STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2	SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE
3	September 13, 2016 - 10:05 a.m. DAY 1
4	Public Utilities Commission
5	21 South Fruit Street Suite 10 Morning Session Concord, New Hampshire ONLY
6	NHPUC SEP19'16 PM12:51
7	
8	IN RE: SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-02 ANTRIM WIND ENERGY 1911 CF 112:51
9	Application of Antrim Wind Energy, LLC for a Certificate
10	of Site and Facility. (Hearing on the merits)
11	PRESENT FOR
12	SUBCOMMITTEE: SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:
13	Cmsr. Robert R. Scott Public Utilities Commission (Presiding as Presiding Officer)
14	Cmsr. Jeffrey Rose Dept. of Resources &
15	Dr. Richard Boisvert Dept. of Cultural Resources/
16	(Designee) Div. of Historical Resources John S. Clifford Public Utilities Commission/
17	(Designee) Legal Division Dir. Eugene Forbes Dept. of Environ. Services/
18	(Designee) Water Division Patricia Weathersby Public Member
19	Also Present for the SEC:
20	
21	Michael J. Iacopino, Esq. (Brennan Pamela G. Monroe, SEC Administrator Marissa Schuetz, SEC Program Specialist
23	COURT REPORTER: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 052



1		
2	APPEARANCES:	Reptg. Antrim Wind Energy (Applicant): Barry Needleman, Esq. (McLane)
3		Rebecca S. Walkley, Esq. (McLane) Henry Weitzner (Antrim Wind Energy)
4		Jack Kenworthy (Antrim Wind Energy) Eric Shaw (RWE)
5		Arthur Cavanagh (Reed & Reed)
6		Reptg. Counsel for the Public: Mary E. Maloney, Esq.
7		Asst. Atty. General N.H. Attorney General's Office
8		
9		Reptg. the Town of Antrim: Justin C. Richardson, Esq. (Upton) John Robertson, Chairman
10		Robert Edwards, Selectman
11		Reptg. Harris Center for Conservation Education:
12		Stephen Froling, Esq. James Newsom, Esq.
13		
14		Reptg. Audubon Society: Francie Von Mertens Carol Foss
15		Calor 1033
16		Reptg. Abutting Landowners Group: Barbara Berwick, pro se
17		Bruce Berwick, pro se
_ /		Reptg. Allen/Levesque Group:
18		Charles Levesque, <i>pro se</i> Mary Allen, <i>pro se</i>
19		Ponta Mataonalogista Croup:
20		Reptg. Meteorologists Group: Dr. Fred Ward
21		Reptg. the Wind Action Group: Lisa Linowes
22		
23		
24		

1		
2	APPEARANCES:	(Continued)
3		Wes Enman, pro se
4		Reptg. Non-Abutting Landowners Group: Richard Block, pro se
5		Annie Law, pro se Robert Cleland, pro se
6		Elsa Voelcker, pro se
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23
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24
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1			
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1		
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5	WA-02	Linowes Supplemental Prefiled Testimony
6	WA-03	Linowes Supplemental Prefiled Testimony {CONFIDENTIAL}
7 8	WA-04	Pro-forma scenarios {CONFIDENTIAL}
9	WA-05	Why NearField Measurements and noise model
10	WA-06	Wallace Noise Modeling Verification
11	WA-07	SWT-Acciona Compare
12	80-AW	AWE Response to Data Requests
13	WA-09	Andrew Timmins e-mail
14	WA-10	2016-06-Thurber Responses to WindAction Data Requests Updated
15 16	WA-11	Town of Antrim Responses to Tech Session Requests
17	WA-12	MassCEC Wind Turbines Acoustics Study
18	WA-13	Hessler-Buckeye Noise Analysis
19	WA-14	Noise Impact Assessment of the Proposed Hermanville Wind Farm
20	WA-15	09-15-15 Mason County Planning and Zoning Department to the SEC
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24		

1		
2		E X H I B I T S (continued)
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5		(May 24, 2016)
6 7	ASNH 2	First Supplement Pre-filed Direct Testimony of Douglas A. Bechtel on Behalf of ASNH with Attachments (August 15, 2016)
8 9 10	ASNH 3	Pre-filed Direct Testimony of Carol R. Foss on Behalf of ASNH with Attachments (May 24, 2016)
11 12	ASNH 4	First Supplemental Pre-filed Direct Testimony of Carol R. Foss on Behalf of ASNH with Attachments (August 15, 2016)
13 14	ASNH 5	Pre-filed Testimony of Frances Von Mertens on Behalf of ASNH with Attachments (May 24, 2016)
15 16	ASNH 6	Pre-filed Direct Testimony of Michael J. Buscher on Behalf of ASNH with Attachments (May 23, 2016)
17 18	ASNH 7	Visual Simulation Antrim Wind: Willard Pond Prepared by T.J. Boyle Associates (May 10, 2016)
19	COUNSEL	FOR THE PUBLIC:
20	CFP 1	Pre-filed Testimony Kellie Connelly,
21		including Attachments 1 through 22
22		
23		
24		

PROCEEDING 1 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. Good 2 3 morning. Good morning. 4 FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: I was testing 5 6 the microphone, not you all. But thank you. 7 My name is Bob Scott. I'm a 8 Commissioner with the Public Utilities Commission, and I'll be the Presiding Officer 9 10 for this docket. Again, this is Docket SEC 11 Number 2015-02, the Application for Antrim Wind 12 Energy, LLC, for a Certificate of Site and 13 Facility. This is the first day of the 14 evidentiary proceedings in this adjudicative --15 adjudicated matter, excuse me. 16 I've introduced myself. At this 17 point, I'd like to introduce the other members 18 of the Subcommittee. So, I'll start on my 19 left. MR. CLIFFORD: John Clifford, Staff 20 21 Attorney for the -- John Clifford, Staff 22 Attorney, New Hampshire Public Utilities 23 Commission. 24 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And,

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especially for the new members and members of
 1
 2
         the public, when you do speak, turn on the
 3
         microphone, the red light will come on. And
 4
         you have to actually get pretty close to the
 5
         microphone, closer than you think you may need
 6
         to.
 7
                   So, Mr. Rose.
 8
                   CMSR. ROSE: Good morning.
                I serve as the Commissioner of the
9
10
         Department of Resources & Economic Development.
11
                   DR. BOISVERT: Richard Boisvert,
12
         Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer with
13
         the New Hampshire Division of Historical
14
         Resources.
15
                   MS. WEATHERSBY: Good morning.
16
         Patricia Weathersby. I'm a public member.
17
                   DIR. FORBES: Good morning. I'm Gene
18
         Forbes, Director of the Water Division at the
19
         Department of Environmental Services. I'm here
20
         as a designee from Commissioner Tom Burack.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And I'd also
21
22
         like to introduce our attorney, Mr. Iacopino.
23
         I think most of you know him.
24
                   MR. IACOPINO: Good morning.
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PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And the Administrator for the SEC, Ms. Pam Monroe. Okay. Thank you.

I'll give a little bit of background for the record. On October 2nd, 2015, Antrim Wind Energy filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility with the Site Evaluation Committee. Antrim proposes to site, construct, and operate nine Siemens SWT-3.2-113 direct-drive wind turbines capable of generating 3.2 megawatts, for a total nameplate capacity of 28.8 megawatts, and associated civil and electrical infrastructure.

The Project is proposed to be located in the Town of Antrim on the Tuttle Hill ridgeline spanning southwestward to the northeastern slope of Willard Mountain. The Project will be constructed primarily on the ridgeline that starts approximately three-quarters of a mile south of Route 9, and runs south-west for approximately two miles. The Project will be located in the rural conservation zoning district on private lands owned by six landowners and leased by Antrim

Wind. Antrim Wind seeks the issuance of a

Certificate of Site and Facility approving the

siting, construction, and operation of the

Project.

On October 20th, 2015, a Subcommittee was appointed to consider the Application filed in this docket. On December 1st, 2015, the Subcommittee found that the Application contained sufficient information to carry out the purposes of 162-H and accepted the Application.

Assistant Attorney General Mary
Maloney is Counsel for the Public on this
matter. Maybe, Mary, you can raise your hand.
I think everybody knows you anyways. Thank
you.

On February 16, 2016, we issued an order granting the following petitions to intervene, combining intervenors into the following groups: The Town of Antrim Board of Selectmen; the Stoddard Conservation

Commission; the Harris Center for Conservation Education; the Audubon Society of New Hampshire; Windaction Group; the International

```
1
         Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; the
 2
         meteorologist group of intervenors, including
 3
         Richard Hendl, Joseph D'Aleo, Robert Copeland,
 4
         Bruce Schwoegler, and Fred Ward, Ph.Ds; the
 5
         Abutting Residents Group of intervenors,
 6
         including Bruce Berwick, Barbara Berwick,
 7
         Stephen Berwick, Brenda Schaefer, Mark
         Schaefer, Nathan Schaefer, Janice Duley
 8
9
         Longgood, and Craig A. -- Clark A. Craig, Jr.,
10
         excuse me; the Non-Abutting Property Residents,
11
         including Loranne Casey Block, Richard Block,
12
         Annie Law, Robert Cleland, Ken Henninger, Jill
13
         Fish, Elsa Voelcker, Mary Sherbourne, Joshua
14
         Buco, Katherine Sullivan, and Rosamund Iselin.
15
                   MS. VOELCKER: Can I make a
16
         correction?
17
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Please do.
18
                   MS. VOELCKER: His name is Clark
19
         Craig.
20
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Yes.
                                                  I tried
21
         to correct myself. But thank you very much.
22
                   Also in the intervening groups are
23
         Wesley Enman; also is a Levesque/Allen
24
         intervenors, including Charles A. Levesque and
```

Mary Allen; the Pratt/Giffin group of intervenors, including Benjamin Pratt and John Giffin.

We are here today for an adjudicative hearing, which, in other words, means a hearing on the merits of the Application. The issue to be considered is whether we should grant or deny the Application.

We're going to begin this morning by taking appearances. Following that, I'll deal with some pending motions, administrative items, and then we'll begin with the witnesses in the order that had been agreed to from the parties.

before the SEC, please note that these proceedings are transcribed. Mr. Patnaude here, for him to accurately take a record of what is said, it's important to speak into the microphone, talk clearly, not too fast, and only talk one at a time. So, you may hear me remind you of that during the proceedings.

Also, for those who are new to this process, we have blocked out several days to

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1
         ensure that the Committee -- the Subcommittee
         is available to hear these and deliberate on
 2
 3
         this matter. Today, we'll take a lunch break,
 4
         and probably a couple rest breaks for the
 5
         transcriptionist.
 6
                   With that, we'll begin taking
 7
         appearances. For the applicant?
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: Good morning.
 8
9
         Needleman, and next to me is Rebecca Walkley,
10
         from McLane Middleton, representing the
11
         Applicant.
12
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
13
                   MR. KENWORTHY: Jack Kenworthy, from
14
         Antrim Wind Energy.
15
                   MR. SHAW: Eric Shaw, from RWE.
16
                   MR. WEITZNER: Henry Weitzner, from
17
         Antrim Wind Energy.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
18
                                                        Ι
19
         think the Town is next.
20
                   MR. RICHARDSON: Good morning.
21
         Justin Richardson, with Upton & Hatfield, here
22
         for the Town of Antrim. With me here at
23
         counsel's table, I have the Chairman of the
24
         Board of Selectmen, John Robertson, and Bob
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1
         Edwards.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
 2
 3
         Next, please?
 4
                   MR. FROLING: My name is Stephen
 5
         Froling. I'm here representing the Harris
 6
         Center for Conservation Education, with my
 7
         colleague, James Newsom.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
 8
9
         Next?
10
                   MR. CAVANAGH: Arthur Cavanagh, with
11
         Reed & Reed.
12
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Sounds like
         we're on the other side of the room now.
13
14
                   MS. BERWICK: Barbara Berwick,
15
         abutter.
16
                   MR. BERWICK: Bruce Berwick, abutter.
17
                   MS. VOELCKER: Elsa Voelcker, North
18
         Branch.
19
                   MS. VON MERTENS: Francie Von
20
         Mertens, good morning. New Hampshire Audubon.
21
                   MS. FOSS: Carol Foss, New Hampshire
22
         Audubon.
23
                   MR. LEVESQUE: Charles Levesque, for
24
         the Allen/Levesque Intervenor Group. And with
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1
         me is Mary Allen.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
 2
 3
                   MS. LAW: Annie Law, abutter --
 4
         non-abutter, sorry. And I have with me Robert
 5
         Cleland, non-abutter.
 6
                   DR. WARD: Fred Ward for the
 7
         meteorologists.
 8
                   MS. MALONEY: Mary Maloney, Counsel
9
         for the Public.
10
                   MS. LINOWES: Lisa Linowes with Wind
11
         Action.
12
                   MR. BLOCK: And Richard Block,
13
         Non-Abutters Group.
14
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you
15
         all. As I mentioned, I'd like to address some
16
         administrative matters, and we do have a couple
17
         motions before us. I'd like to address --
18
         start with the Wind Action motion to compel
19
         regarding the Siemens agreements. Perhaps we
20
         could start with the Applicant.
21
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: Mr. Chairman, as you
22
         know, we received this motion yesterday. Ms.
23
         Linowes circulated a draft on Friday. We do
24
         intend to object. Frankly, given the short
```

notice and preparation for this hearing, we haven't had time to put that objection together.

If you'd like, I can spoke to you generally about our views on it?

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Perhaps you could do that.

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Well, first of all, as a procedural matter, we think it's problematic that this motion was filed at the last minute. As the Chair knows, we have motions to strike pending, and we endeavored to get those in early so that others would have an opportunity to object, and the Committee would have a reasonable amount of time to consider them.

Setting aside the procedural issue, substantively, what we will indicate in our objection is, number one, we still don't have a signed TSA or Service Maintenance Agreement.

And our commitment was to provide final versions of those documents. Mr. Weitzner will be able to explain the status of those negotiations. They are ongoing. We hope to

have them soon.

We certainly don't think under any circumstances that we should be required to provide draft versions of contracts. I think there is precedent at this Committee, and certainly substantial precedent at the PUC, against providing draft versions of documents. We also would argue that drafts are irrelevant.

And, finally, with respect to the kind of information that Ms. Linowes is seeking in those documents regarding cost, that information was provided in the proformas that we provided to her confidentially. And Mr. Weitzner and Mr. Shaw will be available to speak to that information and testify to it. So, to the extent she feels that she needs to explore that, she'll be able to do so in that context.

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.

So, just to reiterate, you said the proformas

-- proformas listed all the areas that the

contract is expected to cover, is that a

correct statement?

MR. NEEDLEMAN: I'm not sure they

```
1
         listed all the areas. But, I think, with
         respect to the sort of cost information that we
 2
 3
         expect to incur regarding those contracts, I
 4
         think that type of information is there
 5
         generally, and Mr. Weitzner can certainly speak
 6
         to it today.
 7
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Would the
         Applicant feel comfortable sharing the areas
 8
         that the contract is expected to cover?
9
10
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: I think Mr. Weitzner
11
         could speak to that generally. And we've
12
         already provided that information on a
13
         confidential basis to Ms. Linowes in the
14
         proformas.
15
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. So,
16
         I'm inclined to rule on this. Does anybody
17
         have any other? Ms. Linowes.
18
                   MS. LINOWES: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Can
19
         I respond back to what was just stated?
20
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Go ahead. I
21
         don't want to go back and forth all day here.
22
                   MS. LINOWES: Okay. I just want to
23
         say that the information that's in the proforma
24
         is merely an aggregate price that the O&M costs
```

will be. It is not broken out. And perhaps

Mr. Weitzner can speak to that today, I hope

that will be the case.

Number two, there was no expectation that the contracts had to be fully signed, and there was -- before -- or, executed before it be made available to me. Nor was it -- the fact being that the Applicant did not inform me until prompted last week that the contracts were even in his possession. And there was an ongoing discovery request, and I should have at least been informed of that.

So, I'm hopeful that the hearing today will deliver the information I'm looking for. But, when you're saying -- when Mr. Needleman is saying that it's generally available -- it's "generally available in the proforma", that word "generally" is a big word, and it's very difficult to tease out any information from that. Thank you.

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Mr. Chairman, two other points?

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Please.

MR. NEEDLEMAN: The status of those

documents has not changed since we first had these discussions back in May. They continue to be draft documents. They are under negotiation. They are not final. Number one.

Number two, these types of documents typically are not finalized until well after a proceeding like this is concluded. And, so, relative to other projects like this, we are well advanced in terms of preparations of these types of documents.

But I simply haven't had time to go back and look at other wind dockets that this Committee has considered. But I think, if I did, I would probably discover that these type of documents were not finalized at this point in the proceeding.

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Anybody else?

MS. MALONEY: Well, I --

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Ms. Maloney.

MS. MALONEY: This is Counsel for the Public. I just want to say that previously I think the information that you provided earlier was that these would be finalized as of May of 2016, and you'll be providing a copy to Counsel

So, now you're saying they're not finalized, and I assume I'll get a copy when

4 they're finalized?

for the Public.

MR. NEEDLEMAN: Absolutely. I mean, the whole point was to get them finished, but just it hasn't happened. And Mr. Weitzner, and I suppose Mr. Kenworthy, when he testifies, can explain the status of those negotiations and why they haven't completed them.

MS. MALONEY: Okay.

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: With the expectation that the areas covered under the contract will be discussed in oral testimony,

I'm going to rule against the motion to compel.

So, the next issue is we have a motion to strike from the Applicant for Mr. Block's, Mr. Law's [Ms. Law's?], Mr. Cleland's, Ms. Berwick, and Mr. Jones' supplemental testimony.

So, first, I'd like, hope you don't mind, Mr. Iacopino, I'm going to put you on the spot and hand you the microphone. So, if you could remind the Subcommittee on the applicable

rules of evidence under RSA 541-A, what applies here and what doesn't apply here.

MR. IACOPINO: Sure. RSA 541-A,
Section 33, II, defines the rules of evidence
for administrative proceedings. It essentially
says that the rules of evidence do not apply.
Evidence may be admissible if it is relevant
and is not immaterial, and will not unduly
delay, I believe is the language that is -- or,
"be unduly repetitious", which is the language
that is contained in the statute.

We don't have, with respect to the motion to strike, which is really based on sort of the practice before the Committee, we don't have a rule that specifically explains or defines what supplemental testimony is or what it should include. However, I did advise the parties at the, I believe, the first technical session that the practice before the Committee was that the supplemental testimony is something that is used in order to address issues that you learn about during the course of discovery, after you have filed your original prefiled testimony. Things that you

learn either from the filings of other parties or that you learn during the course of discovery. Could include issues that perhaps you weren't aware of before, it could include items of evidence that you might not have been aware of. Could include arguments that other parties have made or intend to make. And those are all fair fodder for supplemental testimony.

So, to the extent that there is a practice before the Committee, that practice has been that the supplemental testimony generally is based upon information obtained since the time of the filing of the initial testimony.

However, you are governed by RSA 541-A, Section 33, which says that the rules of evidence don't apply, and admissible evidence includes relevant evidence that is not immaterial and not unduly repetitious. So, "relevance" is the touchstone. The practice has been this -- that we have -- we do have this process where you file supplemental testimony in order to respond to new things that are learned.

```
1
                    I'm sorry if that was a long
         explanation.
 2
                    PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT:
 3
                                            Thank you.
 4
         That's helpful for me anyways.
 5
                    So, in reviewing the supplemental, I
 6
         do find that the Cleland supplemental is not as
 7
         relevant to this particular situation. So, I
         will grant the motion to strike as it applies
 8
9
         to the Cleland 2011 appraisal in their
10
         supplemental.
11
                    However, as I'm inclined to give pro
12
         se intervenors a little bit more latitude, I
         find each of the other filings do have
13
14
         plausible arguments that are relevant, I do
         deny the motion regarding the other
15
         submissions.
16
17
                         (Presiding Ofcr. Scott
18
                         conferring with Mr. Iacopino.)
                    PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Yes.
19
20
               And we'll issue a written order, probably
21
         tomorrow, but soon, with the details of that.
22
                    Ms. Maloney, you look like you would
23
         like to ask a question?
24
                    MS. MALONEY: No.
                                       Am I understanding
```

```
1
         that the -- an appraisal of property values you
         said is not relevant to the proceeding?
 2
 3
                   MR. IACOPINO: It's an appraisal from
 4
         2011 of a property in Brewster, Massachusetts.
 5
         It's a McCann Appraisal, it's attached to
         Mr. Cleland and Ms. Law's supplemental
 6
 7
         testimony.
                   MS. MALONEY: And that was sort of a
 8
         before and after a wind farm went up or --
9
10
                   MR. IACOPINO: I believe so. It does
11
         not relate to their property.
12
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: So, again,
13
         there will be a written order on that.
14
                   Are there any other administrative
15
         details? I'm aware of a few. Actually, let
16
         me, before we do that, I'm informed by
17
         Administrator Monroe that there's been a
18
         request for some time to be set aside for oral
19
         public comments. Is that correct, Ms. Monroe?
20
                   ADMINISTRATOR MONROE: Yes, by the
21
         Applicant.
22
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: In this case,
23
         by the Applicant. Given my understanding
24
         there's a fair number of commenters that would
```

```
like to be heard, what we'll do is, I'm going
 1
         to ask Attorney Monroe to explore finding a
 2
 3
         date where we can establish to hear more public
         comments, if anybody would like to do that.
 4
 5
         We'll make sure that's before we have our
 6
         deliberations.
 7
                   And, also, I'd like to remind
         everybody that if, at any time, during this
 8
9
         process people can submit written comments.
10
         that may be another way to be sure that we get
11
         comments.
12
                   So, first of all, is there any
13
         questions on that? So, again, we'll get back
14
         to you with a date where we can do that.
15
                   ADMINISTRATOR MONROE: And we'll
16
         issue a notice.
17
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Yes.
18
         there will be an order of notice issued on
19
         that, so you'll know when to advise anybody
20
         that asks you, or if you'd like to yourself.
                    So, any other administrative details
21
22
         would people like to bring up? Ms. Maloney.
23
                   MS. MALONEY: Just one, with respect
24
         to the procedural order that was issued.
                                                    And
```

```
it's relatively minor, and I don't know that we
 1
         need to take it up today. But there was the
 2
 3
         order of witnesses. And I think the Town of
 4
         Antrim was left off the order of inquiry.
 5
         Plus, the order of inquiry that dealt with the
 6
         second half. My understanding was that, other
 7
         than my own witness, who I would call first,
         that I was going to be the last questioner,
 8
9
         before the proponents of the wind farm. And
10
         that's what we discussed at the last hearing,
11
         so --
12
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay.
13
                   MS. MALONEY: But we don't have to
14
         get to that today. But I did notice the Town
15
         was left off both.
16
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: So, we'll
17
         correct the Town, and we noticed that also.
18
         And, for clarification, so, looking at the
19
         order for the sequence for those in opposition
20
         to the Applicant, are you saying you would like
21
         to be is it number 8, is that what you're
22
         saying you'd like to be?
23
                   MS. MALONEY: Correct, with the
```

{SEC 2015-02} [Day 1/Morning Session ONLY] {09-13-16}

exception of my witness, which I have to go

```
1
         first, but --
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Understood.
 2
 3
                   MR. IACOPINO: May I? You're not
 4
         looking to go after the Applicant?
 5
                   MS. MALONEY: No, no.
                   MR. IACOPINO: Okay.
 6
 7
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Am I correct
         there is no objection to that?
 8
                         [No verbal response.]
9
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Go ahead.
10
11
                   MR. IACOPINO: Ms. Maloney, the only
12
         thing I would point out, it's the order of
         inquiry that the Town was left off of.
13
14
                   MS. MALONEY: Right.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Not the order
15
16
         of witnesses. They are, in the order of cross.
17
                   MS. MALONEY: No, I know that.
18
         know that --
19
                   MR. IACOPINO: All right.
20
                   MS. MALONEY: -- that they were.
                   MR. IACOPINO: I have amended that
21
22
         prehearing conference report. I have copies up
23
         here. Maybe at the break we'll put them out
24
         and anybody who wants a copy can get it. I've
```

added the Town of Antrim. I haven't changed your order, but the Chair has done that.

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. Any other administrative details?

ADMINISTRATOR MONROE: We had a request to change the archeological on the Applicant's witness list.

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Administrator

Monroe is suggesting to me that the Applicant

would like to change -- make a change also

regarding the architectural and historical

resources order of presentation.

MS. WALKLEY: Yes. Yes, we had a couple of scheduling issues with regard to some of our witnesses, in particular, Matt
Magnusson, and then Richard Will and Russell
Stevenson. If possible, we'd like to change the order of witnesses, so that Matt Magnusson would actually go after Patrick Martin, on 9/20. And, then, the other request we had was with regard to the archeological panel, if we can schedule them for September 28th. One of them is flying in. So, we just want to make sure that we get to him on the day that he's

```
1
         scheduled.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: So, what's --
 2
 3
         to make sure I understand the first request,
 4
         so, right now Mr. Magnusson is listed as
 5
         Witness Panel 3, for the 15th, for three hours,
 6
         correct?
 7
                   MS. WALKLEY: Correct.
 8
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And you'd
         like him moved to the 20th?
9
10
                   MS. WALKLEY: Right. Right before
11
         Robert O'Neal.
12
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. Let me
13
         ask that. Are there any objections to that?
14
                         [No verbal response.]
15
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay.
                                                   All
16
         right. That looks like we can do that. And
17
         then the second request was to move, as I
18
         mentioned, Item Number 4, architectural
19
         [archeological?] and historic resources to the
20
         28th, correct?
21
                   MS. WALKLEY: Correct.
22
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And, again,
23
         you're only anticipating an hour and a half, is
24
         that correct?
```

```
1
                   MS. WALKLEY:
                                  Correct.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: So, I do note
 2
         that the Board of Selectmen had reserved that
 3
         date for Mr. Thurber, is that correct?
 4
 5
                   MR. IACOPINO: And for the panel,
 6
         too.
 7
                   MR. RICHARDSON: Correct.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And for the
 8
9
         panel itself?
10
                   MR. RICHARDSON: The selectmen panel
11
         could move to the 29th, but Mr. Thurber cannot
12
         move to the 29th.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Given that
13
14
         we're talking an hour and a half, do you think
15
         that will be an issue, Attorney Richardson?
16
                   MR. RICHARDSON: No.
17
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: So, any
18
         objections?
19
                         [No verbal response.]
20
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. Any
21
         other administrative issues, before we press on
22
         with the panel?
23
                         [No verbal response.]
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay.
24
                                                   Now,
```

```
1
         we'll begin with the presentation of the
 2
         witnesses sponsored by the Applicant. Would
 3
         the witnesses for the first panel please take
         the stand and be sworn in.
 4
 5
                         (Whereupon Henry Weitzner and
 6
                         Eric Shaw were duly sworn by the
 7
                         Court Reporter.)
                    HENRY WEITZNER, SWORN
 8
9
                       ERIC SHAW, SWORN
10
                      DIRECT EXAMINATION
11
    BY MR. NEEDLEMAN:
12
         Starting with you, Mr. Weitzner, could you just
13
         state your name and your business for the
14
         record please.
15
         (Weitzner) Henry Weitzner, Walden Green Energy.
    Α.
16
    Q.
         Where is that located?
17
         (Weitzner) Located in New York City.
    Α.
18
         And, Mr. Shaw, to you also?
19
         (Shaw) Eric Shaw, RWE Trading Americas, and
    Α.
20
         that's in New York.
21
         And I've handed you both a copy of Applicant's
    Q.
22
         Exhibit Number 20, which is your joint prefiled
23
         testimony. Do you both have that?
24
          (Weitzner) Yes.
    Α.
```

```
1 A. (Shaw) Yes.
```

- 2 Q. And do either of you have any changes you would
- 3 like to make to that testimony?
- 4 A. (Weitzner) No.
- 5 A. (Shaw) No.
- 6 Q. And do both of you swear to that testimony and
- 7 adopt it today?
- 8 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 9 A. (Shaw) Yes.
- MR. NEEDLEMAN: Mr. Chair, they're
- 11 available for examination.
- 12 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Helps to put
- the microphone on. Thank you. So, if I'm
- correct, we'll start with the Town of Antrim.
- MR. RICHARDSON: Thank you.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 17 BY MR. RICHARDSON:
- 18 Q. This is a question for the panel. Whoever is
- the most able to respond is fine with me. Do
- 20 you have in front of you the Decommissioning
- 21 Plan that's in Appendix 21 of the Application?
- 22 A. (Weitzner) I don't have it in front of me. I'm
- familiar with it.
- 24 Q. Okay. Well, I have a copy here, if you need

```
1
         it.
              But why don't I ask you the questions I'm
 2
         interested in and we'll see where this goes.
 3
         On Page 4 of the Decommissioning Plan, it says
         states that Antrim Wind shall "provide a
 4
 5
         decommissioning bond, letter of credit, or
 6
         other financial mechanism that provides for an
 7
         irrevocable guarantee to cover the estimated
         costs of complying with AWE's decommissioning
 8
9
         obligations." And then it states that the bond
10
         or the letter of credit will be "provided by an
11
         agency having a minimum credit rating of BBB
12
         from Standard & Poor's, or Baa2 from Moody's".
13
              And, so, my question is is has Antrim Wind
14
         gone any farther in identifying its preferred
15
         method for funding the Decommissioning Plan?
16
    Α.
         (Weitzner) We have not finalized the method for
17
         funding the Decommissioning Plan. But it will
18
         be in compliance with SEC regulations, either
19
         an irrevocable letter of credit, a performance
20
         bond or a parental guarantee, that would name
```

Q. Okay. So, let me ask you this. Assuming the

the decommissioning.

21

22

23

24

the Town as beneficiary, in the event that, for

some reason, Antrim Wind Energy cannot perform

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

```
SEC were hypothetically to approve the Project today, what's the likelihood that Antrim Wind would be able to exceed those minimum credit ratings? Where do things stand now?
```

- A. (Weitzner) So, I want to make a distinction.

 You're talking about for decommissioning,
 right?
- 8 Q. Yes.

5

6

- (Weitzner) When you say the "minimum 9 10 requirements for decommissioning"? The 11 decommissioning, those minimum requirements 12 aren't dependent on Antrim Wind Energy. An irrevocable letter of credit will be tied to 13 14 the credit of the entity that issues that 15 letter. A performance bond similarly will be 16 tied to the credit of the entity that issues 17 that performance bond.
- 18 Q. Understood. So, let's assume that the Project
 19 is approved, whether it's today or whenever
 20 that occurs.
- 21 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.
- Q. What's the likelihood that Antrim Wind would be able to obtain a performance guarantee with -from an entity that had a rating that exceeded

1 the minimums that is proposed in the plan?

- A. (Weitzner) I would say it is very likely, if
 we're talking to one of the letters of interest
 we provided for construction financing was from
 BLB, and they are an A- credit rating. KeyBank
 is another one. They are a BBB+ credit rating.
 And, then, I think we also supplied a letter of
 interest from State Street, that is a A credit
 rating.
- 10 Q. So, those are the organizations that are
 11 attached to your supplemental testimony, I
 12 believe?
- 13 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay.

- 15 A. (Weitzner) No. I think KeyBank and BLB are in

 16 our original testimony. Those are LOIs that we

 17 received fairly early on, I believe.
 - Q. Now, so, what happens once, if the Project is approved by this Committee, does that -- I think you've stated the financial capabilities of the Applicant as they exist today and the organizations that you have partnered with.

 Once the Project is approved, assuming this Committee does approve it, what then happens to

Antrim Wind's financial capabilities?

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

- 2 A. (Weitzner) I'm not sure I understand the
- 3 question.

- 4 Q. So, what I'm trying to get at is, is that
- 5 you've described in your testimony Antrim
- 6 Wind's plans going forward.
- 7 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.
- 8 Q. I assume that many organizations, such as the
- 9 organizations that you just referenced who have
- 10 submitted letters of intent, --
- 11 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.
- 12 Q. -- they're going to step forward. And is
- that -- what I'm trying to get a sense for is
- 14 how does that change the Project's financial
- health or viability, once the approval is
- 16 obtained?
- 17 A. (Weitzner) So, I don't believe it does change
- 18 our health or viability. We are able to
- construct the Project today, because we have
- 20 the first and key component for arranging
- 21 financing, which is project equity, which is
- 22 the first piece of money that goes into the
- capital structure, and it is the key linchpin
- for the rest of the capital structure to

```
1
         follow.
                  So, we have that money available to us
 2
         today, and we have that money available --
 3
         we'll have that money available to us after we
         receive a permit. A permit is certainly a
 4
 5
         condition precedent for banks to provide the
 6
         debt on the Project. But our financial
 7
         viability is the same today, before the permit
         and after the permit, and it is really based on
 8
9
         our ability, based on the quality of the
10
         Project and based on the fact that we have that
11
         project equity.
12
                   MR. RICHARDSON: Thank you.
13
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: Mr. Chair?
14
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Please.
15
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: I forgot to give them
16
         a copy of their supplemental testimony. It's
17
         also Applicant's Exhibit 20. So, I believe
18
         it's marked already.
19
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
20
         Mr. Enman?
21
                   MR. ENMAN: No questions.
22
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
23
         The Giffin/Pratt intervenors, anybody?
24
                         [No verbal response.]
```

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

```
1
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay.
                                                   We'll
         move on to the Harris Center?
 2
 3
                   MR. FROLING: No questions.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: How about the
 4
 5
         Abutting Landowners?
 6
    BY MS. BERWICK:
 7
         Would this Project be financially possible
    0.
         without federal and state subsidies and
 8
9
         production tax credits?
10
         (Weitzner) This -- state? No. This Project,
11
         as it is now, will rely on the Production Tax
12
         Credit, and will benefit from the RPS -- the
13
         RPS requirements throughout New England states.
14
         Can you explain to me where the money to
15
         decommission this Project will be? I know you
16
         just said you haven't finalized it, but could
17
         you give a basic?
18
    Α.
         (Weitzner) Yes. So, there's two possibilities
19
         for how -- there's really two likely
20
         possibilities for how we will fund the
21
         decommissioning. Possibility, you know, Number
22
         1 is what's called an "irrevocable letter of
23
         credit", Number 2 is a performance bond.
```

An irrevocable letter of credit works in

the following way: We are required to provide money to a financial institution that will issue this irrevocable letter of credit. And it is money that can always be drawn upon for decommissioning, and it can be drawn upon either by us, Antrim Wind Energy, or, in the event that we are not there, the Town is named the beneficiary. So, if decommissioning needs to occur, and for some reason Antrim can't do it, then the Town will have access to that \$2.5 million.

And the second way, a performance bond is just like that, a bond. We need to fund a certain amount of money. And the mechanics are really the same as an irrevocable letter of credit. And, so, that will be \$2.5 million that we can always draw on, in the event that we need to decommission, or the Town can draw on, in the event that we're not there.

- Q. Okay. So, who would have -- and there would be no way that this money could be taken out prior to decommissioning?
- A. (Weitzner) Correct. It is separate from the Project entity. We can't use it for anything

```
1
         other than decommissioning. And it is not
 2
         affected by the performance of the Project.
 3
    Q.
         Okay. In the agreement between the Town of
 4
         Antrim, New Hampshire, and Antrim Wind Energy,
 5
         LLC, developer/owner of Antrim Wind Power
 6
         Project dated as of March 8th, 2012, which is
 7
         Appendix 17a, 14.2.2, it states "Before
         commencement of construction of the Wind Farm,
 8
9
         the Owner shall provide Decommissioning Funding
10
         Assurance in an amount equal to the greater of
11
         Site-specific Decommissioning Estimate plus
12
         25 percent, or $200,000. The Owner shall
13
         adjust the amount of Decommissioning Funding
14
         Assurance to reflect the updated
15
         decommissioning costs and salvage value after
16
         each update of the decommissioning estimate, in
17
         accordance with Section 14.1.1."
18
              $200,000 is like a drop in the bucket of
19
         how much it would cost to decommission this.
20
         just wondered where this $200,000 -- why it
21
         says $200,000 in this contract?
22
         (Weitzner) So, that contract has been
    Α.
23
         superseded by SEC regulations. And SEC
24
         regulations require that we have a
```

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

```
decommissioning plan, and that the full funding
```

- 2 is immediately available.
- 3 Q. Okay.
- 4 A. (Weitzner) So, that no longer applies. And our --
- Q. Although, this contract is still good, from what I understand?
- 8 A. (Weitzner) I'm not exactly sure what contract 9 you're referring to. But we have --
- 10 Q. It's the contract between the Town of Antrim
 11 and Antrim Wind.
- 12 A. (Weitzner) Right. Which was signed --
- 13 Q. 2012.
- A. (Weitzner) Yes. So, that was in the previous
 docket, and it was before the new SEC
 regulations. So, now, we're required to comply
- with the new SEC regulations, and that will be
- that the approximately \$2.5 million required to
- 19 decommission the Project is available
- immediately.
- 21 Q. Okay. So, are you saying that this contract is
- 22 not valid? Because we were told last night by
- 23 the selectmen that this was valid?
- 24 A. (Weitzner) I don't know about that entire

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

contract. I don't want to say. But I can tell
you what we what we are obligated to do under

SEC regulations.

- 4 Q. Okay.
- A. (Weitzner) And we will comply with that. In regards to decommissioning, it would be an irrevocable letter of credit, performance bond, parental guarantee for the full \$2.5 million.
- 9 Q. Okay. And I won't ask you --

[Court reporter interruption.]

11 BY MS. BERWICK:

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- Q. Can we be assured that the Town would use the money properly? I just got passed this question.
 - A. (Weitzner) Yes. That, that's up to the Town.

 I can't speak to that. But I can speak to that
 the Town will have access, in the event that
 we're not there to decommission, the Town has
 access to that money to perform the
 decommissioning.
 - Q. Now, in that same document, at the end of, if
 the Town were to end up taking the
 responsibility to decommissioning, which means
 that Antrim Wind has stepped away from their

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obligations, any out-of-pocket expenses
incurred for performing decommissioning that
were in excess of the funds, they would have to
return to the Antrim Wind. So, you don't know
if this is still valid or not, this contract,
because that's what it says. It basically says
that they could have the salvage money for any
of their expenses. But, if there was any money
left over, it had to go back to Antrim Wind.
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- A. (Weitzner) Well, the principle of this decommissioning requirement is that, no matter what, Antrim Wind Energy needs to fulfill its obligation to make sure that the Project is properly decommissioned. So, if there is excess money, you know, I don't know who should get it or who will get it. But the key is that the money will be there to return the area to its preexisting condition.
- Q. Is it true that the money would be there, but I would just -- I would wonder why this was put in that contract, that "any remaining salvage value for the decommissioned materials shall be paid to the owner", which is Antrim Wind.
- A. (Weitzner) Which is Antrim Wind.

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Q. And I just thought that was a little bit much to be asking the Town to do the decommissioning, plus anything left over, give it back to Antrim Wind.
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Okay. What would happen if your company or if Antrim Wind failed financially and declared bankruptcy?

(Weitzner) It's very hard to imagine a Α. situation where a project company, like Antrim Wind, would fail. And that's because, as a business, it is a very conservative and stable business. Its revenues are generally under long-term contracts, from highly creditworthy entities. Its costs are generally fixed for a relatively long period. So, you have very stable revenues generated by highly creditworthy entities. You have costs that are fixed. And then the debt on the Project is applied with a very, very conservative approach to the wind resource that you would expect to And, lastly, that wind resource is calculated in a, you know, tried and true, you know, industry-tested manner to ensure, again, its conservative nature.

1 So, it's very hard to imagine a project 2 company going bankrupt or defaulting. And, 3 then, there's sort of a lot of levels that would have to happen, a lot of things would 4 5 have to happen in order for the project company 6 to default. Not just the failure of the 7 company, but also the lenders to the Project making a stupid decision, and it's very hard to 8 9 imagine.

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Q.

But, if it did, then to your point about decommissioning, that decommissioning bond or irrevocable letter of credit is always there to remove the Project.

- Q. Okay. Are there any circumstances -- okay, never mind. You've answered that one. What is the longest possible lifespan for this Project before decommissioning?
- A. (Weitzner) The longest possible? I don't know.

 The turbines, I believe, have a -- are

 certified for 20 years. We certainly expect

 them to last longer than that, I think,

 certainly, 25 years. And is it possible that

 it goes longer than that? It's possible.

. Isn't there a contract that does limit the

1 length of time that this Project can continue?

- 2 A. (Weitzner) I believe that that is -- I need to
- 3 check. Yes, I believe there is. I think it's
- 4 40 years.
- 5 Q. That's what I thought.
- 6 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And what to you think would be the likely lifespan?
- 9 A. (Weitzner) I think the likely lifespan is 25 to maybe 30 years.
- 11 Q. Has land that is to be put in permanent
 12 conservation after decommissioning on this
 13 Project already been purchased?
- A. (Weitzner) I don't know -- no, I don't know if
 it's already been purchased. And I'm not -- I
 would need to defer to Mr. Kenworthy on the
 exact status of the mechanics for conserving
 that land. I know that, with the Project,
 roughly 900 acres will be conserved.
- 20 Q. Do you know at what point it will be purchased?
- 21 A. (Weitzner) I would imagine -- no, I'm not 22 entirely sure. No.
- 23 Q. All right. I will ask that later of Mr.
- Kenworthy. Are there -- Antrim Wind has

entered into a conservation letter of intent to

donate land for permanent conservation. Are

there any contingencies tied to this letter of

intent? You might not know that.

- A. (Weitzner) I don't know. Again, you should ask
 Mr. Kenworthy on those details.
- Q. Antrim Wind states that "the turbines will have an average 37 percent net capacity factor". In coming up with that figure, were there times that the turbines must be -- were there times that the turbines must be stopped, to comply with flicker regulations, common nighthawk safety, icing, strong winds taken into consideration?
- A. (Weitzner) In that net capacity factor, there are assumptions for curtailment, for bat curtailment. There are assumptions for maintenance downtime. And, yes. So, I would say bat curtailment and maintenance downtime, are the assumptions that factor into when those turbines will be turned off.
- Q. So, what percentage of time was used to calculate the presumed operating time of the turbines?

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

- 1 A. (Weitzner) I'm not sure what your -- can you --
- I don't quite understand your question.
- 3 Q. Well, in order to get this calculation, --
- 4 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. -- you presume that they are operating
- 90 percent of the time, 98 percent of the time,
- 7 94 percent of the time, do you know?
- 8 A. (Weitzner) Well, --
- 9 Q. 70 percent of the time? I'm just asking.
- 10 A. (Weitzner) I don't know. I don't know.
- 11 Q. Okay. Isn't it true that overestimating net
- capacity factors has been frequently done in
- the planning of wind planning -- wind energy
- 14 projects?
- 15 A. (Weitzner) No, I don't think so. I think the
- industry is extremely good at estimating net
- capacity factors. It has a lot of experience
- 18 with it. It's done very rigorously, quite
- 19 conservatively. This Project has more than the
- 20 sort of industry norm requirement data for
- 21 measuring a project. Normally, banks require
- 22 two years of data; this Project has four years
- of data, with a LiDAR campaign. So, I think we
- have a very robust measurement that has reduced

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1 uncertainty on our meteorological measurements 2

significantly.

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And, then, important to understand is that, in terms of financial viability, the financial viability of the Project is predicated on a much lower capacity factor than 37 percent. Banks lend money to this Project not at a 37 percent capacity factor, but roughly at a 26 percent capacity factor. So, they're only assuming that the Project is going to produce 26 percent. And that's what's called, and we describe in our Application, the "P99 case". So, they take a very conservative approach to how much debt they will give us. And what that means is there are almost no circumstances where the Project can't meet all its operating costs and service the debt, so that it can maintain -- so that it can continue to operate in a financially positive, you know, financially positive.

How were they able to even come up with any net Q. capacity figures, when they did not gather data from the actual -- the wind meteorological --Α. (Weitzner) Met tower.

1 Q. -- tower, thank you, --

2 A. (Weitzner) Yes.

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- Q. -- was not in the heighth that these wind turbines are going to be?
- 5 (Weitzner) I'm not a meteorological expert, but 6 I can tell you that the tower was placed in an 7 area that our meteorological experts felt it was very representative of the region, number 8 9 one. Number two, based on terrain, they're 10 able to, you know, they'll be able to very 11 accurately estimate what the different wind 12 speeds will be at slightly different altitudes 13 and slightly different heights. And, then, on 14 top of that, this Project used a LiDAR 15 campaign, which is a laser that measures --16 effectively allows you to measure wind speeds 17 at different heights. And that LiDAR was moved 18 into -- in various areas of the Project. So, 19 there's an excellent sampling of what the wind 20 speeds were at different locations along the 21 ridge.
 - Q. This is a quote from Jack Kenworthy's testimony. "Antrim Wind Energy has also come under new ownership since the 2012-01

Application was filed. The original developer of the Project, Eolian Renewable Energy, LLC, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, has been acquired by Walden Green Energy, LLC, (Walden), out of New York, which now owns 100 percent of the membership interests in Antrim Wind Energy.

Walden is, in turn, majoritively owned by RWE Principal Investments, the Principal Investment arm of RWE, one of Europe's five largest electrical and gas utilities."

So, my question is, are the profits that -- from this wind energy going to a European utility company?

- A. (Weitzner) Some are staying with Walden Green Energy, which is a U.S. company, and some are going to RWE Principal Investments, which is a U.S. subsidiary of a European utility, yes.
- Q. What arrangements have you made in regard to compensation to homeowners, such as ourselves, who cannot continue to live in their homes due to noise, flicker, etcetera, is Antrim Wind going to be willing to purchase our properties and pay for our moving expenses?
- A. (Weitzner) There are a couple of questions in

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[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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1 there. Can you give them to me one at a time?
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- Q. Okay. What arrangements have been made in regard to compensation for the homeowners who cannot continue to live in their homes due to noise, flicker, etcetera?
- A. (Weitzner) We believe that the SEC requirements on noise and flicker are extremely protective of residents, and we will comply with those requirements. So, we have not made any arrangements. We are the arrangement is that we are going to comply with what are very rigorous and strict noise and flicker requirements under the SEC regulations.
- Q. And how, as a homeowner, am I to document if you are not compliant?
- 16 A. (Weitzner) There will be a post construction

 17 sound -- we're required to do post construction

 18 sound monitoring.
- 19 Q. For how long and at what locations?
- A. (Weitzner) I'm not entirely -- I'm not

 100 percent sure about what that sound

 monitoring is. But there will be that post

 construction sound monitoring that will make

 sure that we've complied with SEC regulations.

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And, if not, we will need to cure that for both noise and flicker. And I also believe -- I'm pretty sure, in Antrim's agreement with the Town, there's a fairly clear and straightforward complaint process, where residents can bring forward their complaints, and Antrim will respond to them.
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- Q. That complaint process says that -- that Antrim will -- Antrim Wind will provide to the selectmen once a year a listing of the complaints and what their status is. As a person who's living there, a year is a long time to wait if I'm having migraine headaches from my eyes constantly adjusting or if the noise level is high, I really don't think that once a year -- and I don't really see, and I read their contract, there is nothing in there that explains exactly what we, as homeowners/landowners would do to --
- A. (Weitzner) My understanding of that contract, that once-a-year report is not that we're required to respond to complaints once a year.

 We're required to respond to complaints. We're required once a year to provide the Town with a

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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summary of what the complaints were, and our responses to those complaints. That's my understanding.
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- 4 Q. There's nothing in that contract about what you're required to do for complaints.
- 6 A. (Weitzner) Okay.
- 7 Q. Other than give them a report of them.
- A. (Weitzner) Okay. Well, then -- then you have
 the -- if you believe that we're violating the
 regulations, then I think that that's something
 that you can address with the SEC, and the SEC
 can and will force us to comply with their
 regulations.
- Q. Which means going through another whole thing like this?
- 16 A. (Weitzner) I don't know. I'm not sure.
- 17 Because, for an average person, this process Q. 18 is -- it's very overwhelming. If I had not 19 taken -- I retired earlier so that -- to take 20 care of my mom, who died in November, there's 21 no way I could have participated in this 22 process. There's no way I could have had these 23 days off. So, to say "you can do this, and you 24 can hire more experts at major expense", I

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         mean, that's really not much of an answer for
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         the homeowners.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: You're doing
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         well, but I want to ask a couple things.
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                   MS. BERWICK: Yes.
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                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: A couple
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         times you've almost talked over each other, and
         that makes --
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                   MS. BERWICK: I'm sorry.
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                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: -- Mr.
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         Patnaude not be able to get it all down.
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         Second of all, if you could speak closer to the
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         mike, because I know not everybody can hear
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         greatly, we want to hear what you have to say.
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                   MS. BERWICK: I feel like I'm eating
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         it.
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                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Un-
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         fortunately, that's required. And, third, try
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         to ask questions, if you can please.
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                   MS. BERWICK: Okay.
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    BY MS. BERWICK:
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         Do you have any plans for water testing in the
23
         private wells after blasting?
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         (Weitzner) I am not familiar with the blasting
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plan. I believe that's a question that you
should ask Mr. Cavanagh, from Siemens -- from
Reed & Reed. But there are -- but blasting is
a -- from what I understand, is a regulated
process.

Q. And can you tell me, if you had a choice
between one house with a constant noise level,
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- between one house with a constant noise level,
 whoop, whoop, whooping, hours of flicker, and
 views of turbines, versus the very same type of
 house in a very similar setting without those
 factors, which would you choose?
- A. (Weitzner) I -- well, I'm not sure how this relates to financial viability. But I will answer that I find wind turbines quite attractive myself.
- Q. And the noise and flicker would not bother you?
- A. (Weitzner) I live in New York City, so --

MS. BERWICK: God bless you. Okay.

19 That's all. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.

Again, I'll ask the next speaker to speak close to the microphone, so we can all hear well.

And, again, questions at this point should be about financial capability. So, we'll move on

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

1 to the Non-Abutting Landowners.

2 MR. BLOCK: Yes. Richard Block of 3 the Non-Abutting landowners.

4 BY MR. BLOCK:

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- Q. This is a question for Mr. Weitzner. On March 2nd of this year, an article appeared in Renewable Energy World magazine entitled "Siting a Wind Farm in the Most Challenging Place in the U.S." Early in that article you're quoted as saying "Walden has looked at about 15 different projects. We have looked at Texas, Minnesota, North Dakota, Utah, and California, but this is overwhelmingly the most difficult." Can you elaborate on what you meant by this statement?
- A. (Weitzner) The SEC process sets a very high and rigorous bar for permitting wind projects in this state.
- 19 Q. Is that your entire reason for saying why this
 20 is difficult? Do you find this process more
 21 rigorous and more involved than processes in
 22 some of these other states, in general?
- 23 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. Does the additional work required by the SEC,

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw] 1 the additional hoops you need to jump through, 2 make this Project any more or any less feasible 3 in the long run? 4 (Weitzner) In the long run, no. It doesn't Α. 5 change anything. 6 MR. BLOCK: Okay. Thank you. 7 further questions. WITNESS WEITZNER: Yes. 8 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you for 9 10 We'll now move on to if the Stoddard that. 11 Conservation Commission has any questions? 12 [No verbal response.] 13 FROM THE FLOOR: He's not here. 14 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Nobody's here 15 from them? Okay. Then, we'll move on to Mr. 16 Levesque and Ms. Allen. 17 MR. LEVESQUE: Thank you, Mr. 18 Chairman. Charles Levesque, for the 19 Allen/Levesque intervenors. Mr. Weitzner, I 20 have probably just a question, and thank you 21 for taking my question. 22 BY MR. LEVESQUE: 23 So, on Page 7 of your supplemental testimony,

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you talk about power purchase agreements. And,

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[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

in it, you reiterate that you have secured a

PPA for 25 percent of the output of the Project

or the potential output of the Project. You

allude to negotiations on further PPAs. Have

you successfully signed any additional PPAs
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A. (Weitzner) We have not signed any additional
PPAs. I would say we have about four detailed
conversations ongoing, and one very probable

over the 25 percent over which you've signed to

conversation. So, we have not signed any more,

12 though.

date?

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- Q. Can you tell us who those parties are that you're under negotiation with?
- 15 A. (Weitzner) No. That's confidential, seeing as
 16 we're still in negotiation.
- MR. LEVESQUE: Okay. Thank you. Mr.
- 18 Chairman, no further questions.
- 19 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
- Mr. Ward.
- 21 BY DR. WARD:
- 22 Q. Mr. Weitzner, --
- [Court reporter interruption.]
- 24 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: You need a

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

1 microphone.

DR. WARD: I know. My apology.

BY DR. WARD:

- Q. Mr. Weitzner, as part of the overall question of money, whether you have some PPAs or not, that's, of course, relevant. But let me ask a more general question, which is what are the big factors which go into your calculation of the price that you're going to get for your energy? None of the -- the big factors to start with. What goes into them? You don't have to tell me how you've valued them at all, I'd just like to know what they are to start with.
- A. (Weitzner) The two -- there are three revenue streams for this Project. Number one is electricity, number two are renewable energy credits, and then number three are capacity payments. And I would say the order that I listed them is --
- 21 Q. What was the third one, I didn't hear?
- A. (Weitzner) Capacity payments. So, as an energy project that, in the New England ISO, we qualify to receive capacity payments, in other

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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        words, basically saying "we will be there to
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        generate electricity when there is a particular
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        need for it." All energy projects above a
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        certain size qualify to participate in New
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        England ISO capacity auctions. That's the
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        third revenue stream. And the order that I
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        listed them are sort of, I would say, order of
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        importance of the amount.
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- Q. Okay. Well, let's start with the third one, and then we'll back up to the others. There will be times when you won't be producing any energy at all, right?
- 13 A. (Weitzner) Yes.

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- 14 Q. How does that factor into being -- the idea of

 "being there"? Or does that mean you can or

 not, explain to me a little bit about what that

 means to "be there"?
- A. (Weitzner) It means to generate electricity
 during a critical period in -- on the New
 England ISO grid.
- 21 Q. What kind of periods would those be?
- A. (Weitzner) Generally, when electricity prices are high.
- 24 Q. High?

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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A. (Weitzner) So, it would be, for instance, to be specific, a critical period would be when it is extremely cold or when it is extremely hot.

That would be two examples of critical periods.

And it would be when the grid is under a certain amount of stress.
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- Q. Now, would there -- I'm sorry, change that.

 Would the fact that the wind speeds and the temperature, for example, you said heat or cold, would there be a correlation, for example, between those, and particularly have you looked at the number of occurrences of very cold weather with no winds?
- A. (Weitzner) I would say, by and large -- well,

 no, I haven't looked at it. But I would say -
 yes, I haven't looked at it. I'm sorry.
- Q. Well, how is that being there? You noted the cold. I assume there are other factors that go into it, but you noted the cold, so it must be up in your mind.
- 21 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.

Q. If it turned out that there was a -- there were many cases, maybe the usual case, of the coldest weather would come with the least wind.

Would that be a problem for you? Or, I guess
maybe change that. Have you worried about
that? Have you factored it in?

A. (Weitzner) We absolutely have. In the way the
capacity functions, you receive a fixed payment

capacity functions, you receive a fixed payment automatically for just qualifying as capacity, we receive that fixed payment. If we are unable to deliver during a critical period, we pay a penalty. If we are able to deliver during a critical period, we receive a bonus.

And we've done extensive calculations in scenario analysis on what that means for us.

And, doing that, the -- receiving those capacity payments is still attractive.

- Q. So, you've done an analysis, I'm not asking what it is.
- 17 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.

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- Q. I'm just -- you've done an analysis to

 determine that these payments will be net

 positive?
- 21 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. And let me just be sure, and maybe I've asked
 this a different way, but "being there" is a -not a regular event, that's being there for

- somewhat unusual events, is it not? Or am I mistaken on that?
- A. (Weitzner) I don't know if I'd call them

 "unusual". But it's being there when

 temperature, you know, at critical events, at

 critical events for the grid, which is going to

 happen generally when temperatures are very hot

 and very cold.
- 9 Q. Very hot or cold, which?
- 10 A. (Weitzner) Both.
- Q. So, in your list of the things that you consider the "being there", at least in your mind, I don't know whether it's true or not, and I'm not disagreeing with you. But, in your mind at least, we're talking about extreme temperature events?
- 17 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. And that would imply that there would at least be no correlation or a positive correlation between these events and the wind speed?
- A. (Weitzner) Not necessarily. I think you can
 have very, very cold events and critical
 periods when there are high winds, for
 instance, storms. Winter storms will often

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          cause the grid to be in stress. I think, in --
 2
          certainly, in summer temperatures, less likely
 3
          to see high winds and extreme heat, because the
 4
          wind will cool things down. But what
          compensates for us \ensuremath{\text{--}} that for us is that we
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 6
          have only, of a 28.8 megawatt project, we only
 7
          have 5.5 megawatts of a capacity allocation in
          summer, when winds tend to be lower in the
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 9
          heat, versus nine megawatts of a capacity
10
          allocation in the winter.
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- 11 Q. These are average numbers, are they, you're
 12 quoting? When you say "5" and "9 megawatts",
 13 these are average?
- 14 A. (Weitzner) No. This is the amount of capacity

 15 we are expected to be able to generate during

 16 those critical periods.
- 17 Q. Five in summer and nine in winter?
- 18 A. (Weitzner) Five and a half, I believe, and nine.
- 20 Q. Well, I'm not --
- 21 A. (Weitzner) Yes. Okay.
- 22 Q. I wouldn't know the difference.
- 23 A. (Weitzner) Okay.
- 24 Q. Now, if it turns -- well, the "being there"

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requires that you have to know, in order for 1 2 this to be financially reasonable, to "being 3 there", you have to know that either there's no 4 correlation between the wind speed and the 5 temperatures or a positive correlation in the sense that, when it's cold it's more windy or 6 7 warm it's more windy. But the one thing you couldn't stand would be that it would be the 8 opposite, which would be there would be a 9 10 correlation which would show that, when you're 11 most needed, you don't have it?

A. (Weitzner) We don't have to be there. If we are not there, then we pay a penalty.

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- Q. But, if that were more common, if that were more likely the case, than the reverse, which is you would be there when they needed it, you would take a hell of a hit, wouldn't you, on that, financially?
- A. (Weitzner) No. We've done the analysis on capacity, and it will be a -- it is designed to be, you know, financially positive for us, and we're confident it will be.
- 23 Q. So, you have done a meteorological analysis?
- 24 A. (Weitzner) No. We've made no assumptions about

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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meteorology. We've just assumed that, you know, that these critical periods happen randomly.
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- Q. Okay. Well, that gets back to my original. I said "either it had to be random, there was no correlation, or it was positive in your favor."

 But I asked the question, it could be negative, against you, unless you've done an analysis?
- 9 A. (Weitzner) We've assumed events are random.
- 10 Q. You assumed it, but you have not done an analysis?
- 12 A. (Weitzner) I'm not sure, maybe we're talking at cross purposes.
- 14 Q. Let me try again.
- 15 A. (Weitzner) Yes.

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16 Q. And I'll apologize if I'm too tricky -- I'm not 17 trying to be tricky, I'm merely asking a 18 straightforward question. You have, in your 19 mind, an idea of what they would call "critical 20 periods" for the ISO-New England, isn't that 21 true? You have in your mind, I'm not asking 22 what it is at the moment, but you have 23 something in your mind that says "these kinds 24 of things are critical to ISO-New England"?

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1 A. (Weitzner) Okay.
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- 2 Q. Yes? Is that what you said?
- 3 A. (Weitzner) I'm --
- 4 Q. Let me try it again.
- 5 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. And I'm not asking you what they are yet, I may ask you.
- 8 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 9 Q. But, right now, in order to be financially
 10 responsible, and you said that this was one of
 11 the three things that you're hinging on, one of
 12 the three legs of the stool of financial input,
 13 that you're expecting to get more payments for
 14 being there when necessary than you're going to
 15 lose by not being there when necessary?
- 16 A. (Weitzner) Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. Am I reading that right?
- 18 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Okay. I'm not asking how much and all of that
 or the numbers. What I'm saying is, if you
 have done -- if you have made that assumption,
 and there's probably millions of dollars
 involved, I don't know what kind of money we're
 talking about.

1 A. (Weitzner) No. As I said, it's the smallest of

- 2 the three.
- 3 Q. Well, but --
- 4 A. (Weitzner) By a long shot, yes. It's quite small.
- 6 Q. Okay. I'll say "some amount of money".
- 7 A. (Weitzner) Okay.

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- 9 I'll retract the "millions". In order for you
 10 some data or expectation that there's data
 11 which you could say "we're going to come out
 12 net positive on this"?
 - A. (Weitzner) Yes. We looked at previous critical periods. We looked at how many critical periods there are over New England, you know, over some -- I can't remember how long, but over the past few years of data at New England ISO. And we made assumptions about, "if we produce zero at a certain number of these critical periods, what is our worst case scenario?"
 - Q. No. But that wouldn't be the analysis. It would be, "for those critical periods, how often were you there versus not there, and

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1 what" --
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- A. (Weitzner) I said that we assumed that we'd produce zero under a certain number of those critical periods.
- Where did you get the zero -- where did you get the number of critical periods of zero? That had to come from meteorological data, didn't it?
- 9 A. (Weitzner) We looked at the number of critical
 10 periods that occurred on the New England ISO
 11 grid over the past, I can't remember if it's
 12 two or five years.
- Q. No, I can understand there would be those things. But then you had to compare it with what the wind --
- 16 A. (Weitzner) And we assumed zero production.
- 17 Q. Through all of those --
- 18 A. (Weitzner) So, in other words, we took --
- 19 Q. Through all of those periods?
- 20 A. (Weitzner) We took the penalty. Yes. We took
 21 the penalty on a certain number of critical
 22 periods.
- Q. Oh. Only on some of them, and others you took the benefit?

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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A. (Weitzner) No. We looked at what the worse

case scenario was, and there's also a maximum

penalty that we are ever exposed to under

these, under the capacity auction. So, we

can't just keep losing and losing and losing.

At a certain point, our loss is capped.
```

- Q. Well, but you said that this thing, this "be there" thing I'll call it, I don't know what you want to call it, but the "be there" thing, you're saying, because you said very early on, that you're expecting a net positive from that, is that not true?
- 13 A. (Weitzner) Yes.

- Q. And I'm not arguing it's millions, thousands, whether it's \$5.00, it doesn't make a difference. You're expecting it to be a net positive?
 - A. (Weitzner) Yes.

DR. WARD: Okay. If I talk a little loud, I'll apologize. In order to know whether it was a net positive or a net negative, I agree it would be nice to go in, and I would love to see the ISO data on the dates of when there were critical periods over the last two

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1
         to five years.
                   And I would now make a request. I
 2
 3
         would love to see that data. That's got to be
 4
         public data.
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: Well, it may be
 5
         public data, but I think, if you wanted it, it
 6
 7
         should have been requested during discovery.
         So, we'll object.
 8
9
                   DR. WARD: Well, I'll try again.
10
    BY DR. WARD:
11
    Ο.
         I'd like to see the data. It seems it's very
12
         critical for this to get that data. You're
13
         using that as one leg of your stool. And I can
14
         certainly compare that to the wind data pretty
15
         quickly. And I'd be quite happy to do that
16
         very publicly and produce the data within 24
17
         hours after I get the dates. No? Yes? No?
18
         Can I get that data?
         (Weitzner) I'll defer to my -- to
19
    Α.
20
         Mr. Needleman.
21
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: I would say,
22
         Mr. Ward, if it's publicly available, you
23
         should have accessed it and had it prepared for
24
         today. I would also say that, based on what
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{SEC 2015-02} [Day 1/Morning Session ONLY] {09-13-16}

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1
         Mr. Weitzner has just said, I'm not sure it's
 2
         relevant.
 3
                   DR. WARD: You don't believe the last
 4
         part of it. But let's say that I never heard
 5
         of this as one of the factors. I've been to
         all of these meetings. I don't think I've
 6
 7
         missed anything, and I'm certainly not that
         hard-of-hearing. I don't ever recall that this
 8
9
         was ever brought in. And, if it was, I would
10
         love to see the reference to it. I never heard
11
         of this, the "be there".
12
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Hold on,
13
         Mr. Ward. Mr. Richardson.
14
                         [Court reporter interruption.]
15
                   MR. RICHARDSON: I just wanted to
16
         object, because we've all had the opportunity
17
         to request this information through the various
18
         technical sessions. Go on the ISO's website,
19
         you can look at their capacity auctions, how
20
         they're performing. All of this thing can be
21
         done to prepare for cross-examination today.
22
         It's too late to request it now, and then have
23
         this witness come back to answer the questions
24
         later.
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83 [WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw] 1 So, I think we should move on from this issue. I think we've covered it. 2 3 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Anybody else? DR. WARD: Well, I'll disagree that 4 5 we covered it. This is the first time it's 6 come up. 7 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Understood, Mr. Ward. 8 9 MR. NEEDLEMAN: I actually don't 10 think it's the first time it came up. I'm 11 pretty sure that somewhere in our materials we 12 disclosed that we participated in the capacity 13 market auctions. 14 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: I'm going to 15 sustain the objection. You can move on, 16 Mr. Ward. 17 DR. WARD: You're saying I can't get 18 the data? PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: I'm asking 19 20 you to press on, correct, on a different topic. 21 MR. FROLING: Next question. 22 BY DR. WARD:

{SEC 2015-02} [Day 1/Morning Session ONLY] {09-13-16}

Okay. Let's move a little bit. You have done

then a study comparing these "be there" times,

23

- as you said you have them, isn't that correct?
- 2 You said you have those over the last few
- 3 years?
- 4 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 5 Q. Yes or no?
- 6 A. (Weitzner) Yes. But it sounds like this --
- 7 Q. And, in order to -- and, in order to be
- 8 financially reasonable about this, you must
- 9 have compared them with some kind of wind data.
- 10 Would you care to say what wind data you
- compared them to?
- 12 A. (Weitzner) I think I already answered that
- question, when I said we looked at the critical
- 14 periods and assumed that we produced zero, so
- 15 that there was no wind.
- 16 Q. No, that's not what you said. You said you had
- some fraction of them, and you took a fraction
- of the days and said "we're going to have zero
- here, and we're going to be getting positive on
- another thing"?
- 21 A. (Weitzner) We looked at --
- 22 Q. Did I misunderstand?
- 23 A. (Weitzner) Yes. We looked at how many of
- these, if we produce zero on a certain number

of these critical days, how much could we lose?

- Q. And, so, how did you get that certain number of critical days? You had to pick -- obviously, it wasn't 100 percent of them, and I guess it wasn't zero percent. There was some percent?
- A. (Weitzner) Yes. I don't remember.

- Q. Where would you get it from? I'm not asking what it is right now, I'm just saying where would you have gotten that from? What data or whatever --
- A. (Weitzner) As I said, the mechanism comes with a worst case scenario, a maximum loss. And, in the ISO regulations, there's a maximum loss that we can suffer, after which we don't suffer any more losses. So, that's our worst case scenario. We looked at that. And then we looked at various scenarios of how many times we would, if we produce zero at these critical days, how much money would we lose.
- Q. There is then something that I can find that says that the maximum loss that you would have to pay back to ISO is some number, I can presumably find that some place, is that true?

 A. (Weitzner) I think so, yes.

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[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

Q. Pardon?

- A. (Weitzner) I think so, yes. I'm not

 100 percent certain if you can find it. But we

 looked at that, yes.
 - Q. Well, I mean, I haven't done the analysis that
 I'm assuming you did. But, from my general
 meteorological background and a lot of
 experience, many years of experience, I would
 expect a negative correlation between the wind
 speeds and the occurrence of these critical
 times. But I don't know that to be true. But,
 on that basis, I would expect it.

So, I guess I'm asking, since the Chairman doesn't want to let me get the data, let me ask the overall question. You have made a study, based on some data, which shows you that you are going to have a net positive on the "be there" payments, is that true? You are going to make a net positive out of that?

- A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. And, if that were not -- if that didn't happen, that would be a substantial hit financially?
- 23 A. (Weitzner) No. That's not correct.
- 24 Q. Okay. Let's turn to the next question I have.

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[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]
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- 1 You're going into the -- you're going to be
- 2 bidding on the day-ahead market, aren't you,
- from ISO-New England, amongst a whole mess of
- 4 other bidders?
- 5 A. (Weitzner) We can sell into the day-ahead
- 6 market or we can sell LMP, real-time.
- 7 Q. You can sell in what?
- 8 A. (Weitzner) Into the real-time market. We
- 9 don't --
- 10 Q. I don't know what that means.
- 11 A. (Weitzner) We can sell day-ahead or we can sell
- on the day.
- 13 Q. Okay. But, either day, you're going into the
- 14 market?
- 15 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 16 Q. Whether you sell it on a day-ahead or year
- ahead or the same day or same hour, you're
- 18 still going into a market?
- 19 A. (Weitzner) Yes. But the cash flows of the
- 20 Project are not -- are secured through a
- 21 power -- will be secured through a power
- 22 purchase agreement, a financial hedge, or
- possibly a revenue swap.
- 24 Q. What kind of a financial hedge could you use?

- 1 A. (Weitzner) A financial hedge. A financial
- 2 hedge is a --
- 3 Q. You get somebody else to take the risk?
- 4 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 5 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And, again,
- 6 one at a time.
- 7 DR. WARD: I'm sorry.
- PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: We want to
- 9 get this all down.
- DR. WARD: I apologize again.
- 11 BY DR. WARD:
- 12 Q. But, either way, when -- if you want to use a
- financial hedge, let's say you've got some --
- some sucker who wanted to buy it when you
- didn't -- when you wanted to sell it, but
- somebody else didn't, that person has to take
- the -- has to take the risk. So, it ends up
- 18 becoming a market price, does it not? Because
- what they're going to pay you for it is
- depending on their assessment of what's going
- 21 to happen, is it not?
- 22 A. (Weitzner) The energy ultimately does get sold
- into the New England ISO grid, of course.
- 24 Q. That's correct. And, so, if, for example, I

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1
         came along and said "hey, I've got this whizbo
 2
         thing and I can, tomorrow, boy, I can generate
 3
         10 percent of your total energy." Would that
         affect the market?
 4
 5
         (Weitzner) Could you ask me that -- I don't
         understand the question.
 6
 7
         Let me try it. I come along with some way of
    Q.
 8
         generating energy, and I found a way that
9
         tomorrow, I'm going into the tomorrow market
10
         now, that I could generate, I don't know, a
11
         thousand megawatts pretty cheap. That would
12
         affect the market, wouldn't it?
13
                   MR. NEEDLEMAN: Mr. Chair, I'm going
14
         to object. I don't think this has anything to
15
         do with the financial capability of this --
16
                   DR. WARD: It has everything to do
17
         with it. I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. And I
18
         apologize again.
19
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Are you ready
20
         to move on to --
21
                   DR. WARD: No, I'm not prepared to
22
         move on.
23
    BY DR. WARD:
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{SEC 2015-02} [Day 1/Morning Session ONLY] {09-13-16}

There's a market for energy. Your energy is

1 very weather-dependent, is it not?

A. (Weitzner) Yes.

2

- Q. And you have no control over how much energy that's going to be, is that not true?
- 5 A. (Weitzner) Correct.
- Okay. So, you are at the mercy of the weather, as to how much money you're going to get for your energy?
- (Weitzner) Not how much money Antrim Wind 9 10 Energy is going to get for the energy. Antrim 11 Wind Energy will lock in the cash flows from 12 the energy that we produce through power 13 purchase agreements, financial hedge, revenue 14 swap, over a long period. So, Antrim Wind 15 Energy's financial viability or our 16 profitability is not dependent on what's 17 happening in the market day-to-day.
 - Q. And you expect to have this fully covered?
- A. (Weitzner) We expect to have a lot of it

 covered. We would like to have it 100 percent

 covered. If we don't have 100 percent of it

 covered, if we have less than 100 percent of it

 covered, we may need -- we will need to put in

 more equity than we expect, than we're

Weitzner~Shaw]

91

1 forecasting right now, maybe. But not 2 necessarily. So, we don't need to have 3 100 percent of it covered.

[WITNESS PANEL:

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- Well, but somebody is taking the risk on the Q. weather, isn't that true? If you say you're not, you're still dumping it off on somebody is doing it?
- (Weitzner) Entities that want to buy power at Α. attractive market prices are willing to take that -- are willing to take that risk, need to take that risk, because they have -- because they have energy that they need to buy, and they are happy to buy it from wind projects.
- But wouldn't that price that this other person, this other entity pay, would again come back, whether it's you or them, the price that you're finally going to get, from a PPA or otherwise, depends on what people value that energy in the market, what the value they put on that, does it not? Whether it's you or someone else?
- (Weitzner) Yes. There is a market for that energy. And, yes.
- 23 So, the market price, though, would depend on 24 how it compares with other sources?

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1
   Α.
        (Weitzner) We've demonstrated that we've
        entered into a PPA for 25 percent of the
2
3
        Project. We expect -- we expect soon we'll be
        entering into another or, you know, one or two
4
5
        more PPAs for almost all of the remaining
6
        energy of the Project. So, once we enter into
7
        those PPAs, our revenue is no longer dependent
8
        on that.
```

- Q. But the person who's the PPA that is buying it is merely substituting for you in the market, it doesn't change the market price that your energy has?
- 13 A. (Weitzner) That's right.
- 14 Q. You're shifting --

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- 15 A. (Weitzner) We are the willing sellers of energy 16 and they are the willing buyers of energy.
 - Q. Right. So, whether it's you or this PPA, we still have the exact same problem. That is, the value that you're going to get out of it, whether it's on the day-to-day market or from a PPA, it's still going to depend on the market and the value of your energy, is that --
 - A. (Weitzner) No. No. Once we enter into a PPA, then the revenue we get for the production is

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

1 fixed.

8

- Q. I understand that. What I'm saying to you is,
 the value of your energy, in the final
 analysis, comes down to what the market is
 going to make it look like, isn't that true?
 Whether you take the risk or whether you get a
 PPA to do it?
 - A. (Weitzner) I don't understand what you mean by "value of our energy"?
- 10 Q. Well, there is going to be some value with 11 somebody, I assume ISO-New England or somebody 12 is going to pay for whatever number of 13 megawatts you generate, at some rate per 14 megawatt-hour, or however you want to define 15 it. There's going to be a value to that, 16 right?
- 17 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. And that's going to depend on a lot of factors,
 one of which is the frequency and the
 variability and other factors of the wind
 itself? Yes or no?
- 22 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. If it turned out that, for example, when you're selling your power, and I will say "you",

also selling it, is it not?

meaning you or the PPA or whoever it is that's

going into the market with it, when they are -
when that entity is selling power into the

market, it's going to be selling it when most

everybody else in the wind energy business is

A. (Weitzner) Yes.

- Q. So, in general, when wind power goes into the market, it's always going to be going -- it's almost always going to be going into a buyer's market, not a seller's market?
- A. (Weitzner) No. I don't agree. Because I think wind is a fairly small -- wind is a fairly small percentage of the New England ISO grid.

 So, I think there are many other factors that -- many, many more much larger factors that are going to influence price, versus whether the wind is blowing or not.
- Q. Well, as I showed in my prefiled testimony and the exhibits, which you all have, generally, when wind is blowing at one place in New England, it's blowing everyplace else and vice versa?
- A. (Weitzner) Yes.

```
Q.
 1
         Which means that there's always going to be a
 2
         competition between every windmill with every
 3
         other windmill, or wind turbine, there's always
         going to be that. Which is always going to
 4
         make so that, when you're trying to sell,
 5
 6
         everybody else that has wind energy is also
 7
         going to try to sell. Doesn't that -- and, you
         know, when I see things like that, I always
 8
9
         assume then that's a buyer's market, not a
10
         seller's market. And you're the seller.
11
         (Weitzner) Again, I think wind energy in the
    Α.
12
         New England ISO is a very, very small
13
         percentage of the total stack of generation.
14
         So, it does not have a big effect on the grid.
15
         Well, to the extent that it's irrelevant, I
    Q.
16
         guess we could probably not worry about it.
17
         But I thought we were here because we were
18
         talking about the fact that wind energy was
19
         relevant, and we certainly have a lot of talk
20
         about how it's going to replace things and
21
         such. Now, you're saying "it's so small it's
22
         irrelevant", I don't know where I want to go
23
         with that.
24
              But I will end that part of my questioning
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1
         by saying that, to the extent that it's there,
 2
         small, large, medium, whatever it is, it will
 3
         always be competing with itself, and hence will
         always be going into a buyer's market. I don't
 4
 5
         have no idea how much that's going to affect
 6
              But it would always be going into a
 7
         buyer's market, wouldn't it?
         (Weitzner) But everything, in that sense,
 8
    Α.
9
         everything is competing with itself. Natural
10
         gas, a natural gas plant is going to generate
11
         when other natural gas plants are generating.
12
         A nuclear plant is going to generate when other
13
         nuclear plants are generating. So, in that
14
         sense, everything is competing against itself.
15
         Yes. But I'm concentrating on one particular
    Q.
16
         thing, which is that, when you have wind energy
17
         any place in New England, you got it
18
         everyplace, and vice versa. Which means that
19
         we're always going to be going in, once we get
20
         above some level of irrelevancy, I guess, then
21
         it becomes more and more relevant. I don't --
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factors or anything like that? Has that idea

I'm just asking. Has that been put into

your -- factored into your price, capacity

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23

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

- ever entered in any of your calculations?
- 2 A. (Weitzner) What idea?

- Q. That when one wind seller has lots of energy to sell, all the other wind sellers will have it.
 - A. (Weitzner) It does not need to be factored into our calculations, because we plan on fixing long term the revenues from this wind project. So, it doesn't matter that, if other wind projects are producing when we are, maybe that affects prices, it doesn't matter, because we'll have the majority of our revenue secured through a PPA. So, it's irrelevant.
 - Q. So, somebody else is taking the hit then?

 Isn't that going to affect what the PPA is doing and things like that? I mean, let's assume that people know this, if you don't have the -- taking the chance with it, that means somebody else is. And one assumes they're reasonable people, does it not?
- 20 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- Q. And, then that, if they're reasonable people,
 then they're going to offer you a little bit
 less, because they're taking the risk, does it
 not?

[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

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A. (Weitzner) We've already entered into one PPA.

So, that's a signed legal agreement, those revenues are fixed. We expect we'll be entering into more. The PPA price doesn't change once you sign the agreement.
```

- Q. Well, supposing that one of them hired me as an expert before they signed the agreement, and I said to them "hey, be careful"?
- A. (Weitzner) I think there is a lot of experience with wind in this country, and there are a lot of wind PPAs in this country, and people are very familiar with whatever risks are out there. And, yet, still there is tremendous appetite, as we are seeing in New England and around the country, to enter into PPAs with wind farms.

DR. WARD: Okay. Let me just -- Mr. Chairman, I have just one line, one more line of questioning.

20 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Please.

21 BY DR. WARD:

Q. Supposing that you don't -- the Committee approves this and you build it, and it turns out that, for example, it doesn't meet, let's

{SEC 2015-02} [Day 1/Morning Session ONLY] {09-13-16}

- 1 say, let's talk about the shadow flicker thing,
- 2 and you have to shut the thing down on certain
- days to meet your thing in the Application.
- 4 Would that substantially affect the capacity
- factors that you're expecting?
- 6 A. (Weitzner) No.
- 7 | O. It would not?
- 8 A. (Weitzner) No. It would have a very, very,
- 9 very small effect on the capacity factor, if we
- need to do any kind of additional curtailment
- 11 to meet the shadow flicker requirements.
- 12 Q. And you know that from?
- 13 A. (Weitzner) Doing some analysis.
- 14 Q. And, so, we'll get a chance to talk to
- Mr. O'Neal about that, your meteorologist?
- 16 A. (Weitzner) Mr. O'Neal I don't think did the
- financial analysis. I think that those are --
- is the analysis that we did.
- 19 Q. Well, but he is in here to do shadow flicker
- 20 things?
- 21 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 22 Q. Isn't there a question? Because I've seen at
- various places that, if shadow flicker becomes
- 24 much more problem, you just shut the thing

1 down?

- 2 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 3 Q. Isn't that the plan?
- 4 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 5 Q. So, I mean, I'm not saying it's going to be.
- I'm just saying, if it were a problem, that's
- 7 the plan, is to shut it down?
- 8 A. (Weitzner) Yes. Absolutely.
- 9 Q. Okay. What would happen if it exceeded the noise things on certain days, same thing?
- 11 A. (Weitzner) If we were in violation of the SEC
- noise requirements, we would need to curtail
- the turbines to comply, yes.
- 14 Q. Has that been factored into your analysis, the
- financial analysis?
- 16 A. (Weitzner) We're very confident that we will
- comfortably meet the SEC requirements for
- 18 noise.
- 19 Q. So, you've said it's not factored in, you just
- assumed you're going to meet them?
- 21 A. (Weitzner) Yes.
- 22 Q. And the same holds true for shadow flicker?
- 23 A. (Weitzner) We have a rough idea, seeing as we
- 24 may need to do some curtailment, some very

```
1
         small curtailment, to comply with shadow
 2
         flicker requirements. We know -- we have a
 3
         very good idea of what that's going to cost,
 4
         and it is absolutely irrelevant, in terms of
 5
         the revenue of the Project. Curtailing the
 6
         turbines that need to be curtailed, in order to
 7
         comply with the SEC shadow flicker requirement.
         And icing, the same thing would apply?
8
    Q.
9
         (Weitzner) Icing is, things of that nature, are
10
         factored into the SEC report, in terms of --
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factored into the SEC report, in terms of -excuse me, factored into our meteorological
report, in terms of availability. So, yes.
That's been factored in as well.

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- Q. Okay. So, if I, and tell me if I'm summarizing this wrong, you have some meteorological factors. Some of which you feel you've taken quite comfortable care of. But, if things happen, there could be further curtailments, which would affect your capacity factors, and hence your financial dealings, your financial results on this? I'm not saying they are. I'm just saying, if it turned out, then that's the way it's going to be handled?
- A. (Weitzner) I can say that we've looked at this,

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1
         and I cannot see a situation where the
 2
         curtailment that we might need to do for sound
 3
         or shadow flicker could have any kind of
 4
         material financial impact on this Project.
 5
    Q.
         But, if it turns out that, and later on in the
 6
         proceedings we're going to be discussing some
 7
         of these things, and if it turns out that these
         are going to be a problem, your answer to that
 8
9
         is going to be curtailment?
10
         (Weitzner) Yes.
11
                   DR. WARD: That's all I have.
                                                   Thank
12
         you.
13
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Thank you.
14
         Ms. Linowes. And, before you start again, I'll
15
         ask, again, people one at a time, speak close
16
         to the microphone, so everybody can hear, in
17
         addition to Mr. Patnaude, of course. And,
18
         again, please keep your questions on topic
19
         right now, again, we're going through, as you
20
         see in the sequence of different topics, right
21
         now we're on financial capability.
22
                   And, Ms. Linowes -- and hold on a
23
                  We'll go off the record.
         second.
24
                         [Brief off-the-record discussion
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[WITNESS PANEL: Weitzner~Shaw]

1 ensued.] PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Ms. Linowes, 2 back on the record, how much time do you think 3 you have? 4 5 MS. LINOWES: Mr. Chairman, we had requested an hour and a half. But, before you 6 7 respond to that, I also have a portion of my 8 questions that are tied to nonpublic, and I know that Counsel for the Public also has 9 10 questions that are tied to nonpublic. So, 11 perhaps this is a good time to decide how to 12 arrange that. 13 And, one thought, and I'm not sure if 14 Counsel for the Public agrees with this, but 15 one thought is to do all the public portion 16 between myself and Counsel for the Public 17 first, and then come back, then do the 18 nonpublic, when we have to clear the room. But 19 I just wanted to put that out there. 20 PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: And how much 21 time, I will ask Attorney Maloney here in a 22 second, how much time do you think for the 23 nonpublic session?

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MS. MALONEY: For me, not a lot.

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         Just a few questions.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Ms. Linowes?
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                   MS. LINOWES: I have three categories
         of -- or topics to address. And I'm thinking
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 5
         each one will be about a half an hour. But,
         ideally, that would work out -- they will work
 6
 7
         out that way.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. So,
 8
         you're saying about an hour and a half?
9
10
                   MS. LINOWES: So, the -- I'm sorry,
11
         the confidential portion will be about a half
12
         an hour.
                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: About a half
13
14
         hour, okay. Thank you. All right.
15
                   It sounds like right now might be a
16
         good time to take a lunch break, so we don't
17
         have to interrupt your flow. And we'll -- how
18
         much time will you need? So, the lunch is
19
         here, right?
20
                   So, if we were back, do we think an
21
         hour is enough? Anybody have any -- is that
22
         too much time?
23
                         [No verbal response.]
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                   PRESIDING OFCR. SCOTT: Okay. We'll
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          try an hour and see how that goes. Thank you.
 2
                          (Lunch recess taken at 11:48
 3
                          a.m. and concludes the \textit{Day 1}
 4
                          Morning Session. The hearing
                          continues under separate cover
 5
 6
                          in the transcript noted as Day 1
 7
                          Afternoon Session ONLY.)
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