



The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**



**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**

February 08, 2019

Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
21 South Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Application of Antrim Wind Energy, LLC  
Motion to Modify Certificate of Site and Facility  
Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) Docket No. 2019-01

Dear Ms. Monroe:

This letter is to notify you that the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Water Division staff have completed their technical review of the application and have made a final decision on the parts of the application that relate to DES permitting or regulatory authority relative to a Wetland Permit. NHDES recommends approval of the application with the conditions that are enclosed with this letter.

This concludes NHDES review of the project which we hope will assist the SEC to complete its project evaluation process and render a final decision. If you have any questions, please contact me at 271-2951 or email at: [Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov](mailto:Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov)

Sincerely,

Rene Pelletier, Assistant Director  
Water Division

cc: Michael Iacopino, Esq., Brennan, Lenehan  
Robert Scott, Commissioner  
Clark Freise, Assistant Commissioner  
Collis Adams, Wetlands Bureau Administrator  
Jack Kenworthy, Antrim Wind Energy, LLC

**ANTRIM WIND PARK, NHSEC DOCKET #2019-01**  
**WETLANDS BUREAU**  
**FEBRUARY 8, 2019 FINAL DECISION**

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL WITH THE FOLLOWING PERMIT CONDITIONS:**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Temporarily impact 10,000 square feet of palustrine scrub shrub wetland to place timber matting within an existing cleared utility right-of-way for installing a tap into the electrical transmission line which will connect the Antrim Wind project to the grid.

**PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:**

1. All work shall be in accordance with revised plans by TRC dated January 04, 2019, as received by the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) on January 11, 2019.
2. Prior to construction, any plan revisions or changes in construction details or sequences shall be submitted to DES for review and approval.
3. Any further alteration of areas on this property that are within the jurisdiction of the DES Wetlands Bureau will require a new application and further permitting by the Bureau.
4. No construction activities shall occur on the project after expiration of the approval unless the approval has been extended by the New Hampshire Energy Facility Site Evaluation Committee (SEC).
5. Appropriate siltation/erosion/turbidity controls shall be in place prior to construction, shall be maintained during construction, and remain in place until the area is stabilized. Silt fence(s) must be removed once the area is stabilized.
6. Work shall be conducted in a manner so as to minimize turbidity and sedimentation to surface waters and wetlands.
7. Discharge from dewatering of work areas shall be to sediment basins that are: a) located in uplands; b) lined with hay bales or other acceptable sediment trapping liners; c) set back as far as possible from wetlands and surface waters, in all cases with a minimum of 20 feet of undisturbed vegetated buffer.
8. Within three days of final grading or temporary suspension of work in an area that is in or adjacent to wetlands or surface waters, all exposed soil areas shall be stabilized by seeding and mulching during the growing season, or if not within the growing season, by mulching with tackifiers on slopes less than 3:1 or netting and pinning on slopes steeper than 3:1.
9. Where construction activities occur between November 30 and May 1, all exposed soil areas shall be stabilized within 1 day of establishing the grade that is final or that otherwise will exist for more than 5 days. Stabilization shall include placing 3 inches of base course gravels, or loaming and mulching with tack or netting and pinning on slopes steeper than 3:1.
10. The contractor responsible for completion of the work shall utilize techniques described in the New Hampshire Stormwater Manual, Volume 3, Erosion and Sediment Controls During Construction (December 2008).
11. To prevent the introduction of invasive plant species to the site, the permittee's contractor(s) shall clean all soils and vegetation from construction equipment and matting before such equipment is moved to the site.
12. The permittee shall control invasive plant species by measures agreed upon by the NHDES Wetlands Program if any such species is found in the stabilization areas during construction or during the early stages of vegetative establishment.
13. A certified wetlands scientist or qualified professional, as applicable, shall monitor the project during construction to verify that all work is done in accordance with the approved plans and narratives, adequate siltation and erosion controls are properly implemented, and no water quality violations occur. A follow-up report including photographs

of all stages of construction shall be submitted to the NHDES Wetlands Program within 60 days of final site stabilization.

14. Restoration of temporary wetland impact areas shall have at least 75% successful establishment of wetlands vegetation after two (2) growing seasons, or they shall be replanted and re-established until a functional wetland is replicated in a manner satisfactory to the DES Wetlands Program.
15. The permittee or permittee's contractor shall conduct a follow-up inspection in October or November following the first and second growing seasons to review the success of the restoration areas and schedule remedial actions if necessary. Follow-up inspection reports shall be submitted to NHDES by the end of each calendar year.
16. Restoration of temporary impact areas shall not be considered successful if sites are invaded by nuisance species such as common reed or purple loosestrife during the first full growing season following the completion of construction. The permittee shall submit a remediation plan to DES that proposes measures to be taken to eradicate nuisance species during this same period.

#### FINDINGS:

1. This project is a Minor Project per Administrative Rule Env-Wt 303.03(h), as temporary wetland impacts are less than 20,000 square feet to complete the project.
2. The applicant identified an area where temporary wetland impacts are necessary to install timber mats and allow equipment access to install a tap into the existing electrical transmission line.
3. Per discussions with NHDES, the applicant submitted a wetland restoration plan on January 23, 2019 which details the methods for restoring the temporary wetland impact areas.
4. The applicant has provided evidence which demonstrates that this proposal is the alternative with the least adverse impact to areas and environments under the department's jurisdiction per Rule Env-Wt 302.03. The applicant worked directly with Eversource to minimize wetland impacts from construction equipment, and the wetland impacts requested are temporary in nature, with wetland areas being restored upon completion.
5. The applicant has demonstrated by plan and example that each factor listed in Rule Env-Wt 302.04(a), Requirements for Application Evaluation, has been considered in the design of the project.
6. The NHDES wetland application recommendations and the Motion to Modify the SEC Certificate will be reviewed and decided by the SEC.