STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Docket 2021-02
Investigation of Complaints Regarding Antrim Wind Energy Facility
May 15, 2023
10:00 AM

Present: Jonathan Evans (Department of Transportation

Michael Fitzgerald (Department of Environmental Services)

Tom Eaton (Public Member)

Attendees: See Attached.

Staff: Andrew Biemer, Administrator, Site Evaluation Committee

Mark Dell'Orfano, Department of Justice

John-Mark Turner, Counsel for the Subcommittee

Presiding Officer Jonathan Evans called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM

10:06 AM: Presiding Office Evans calls public meeting to order, introduces members of the subcommittee, states purpose of public meeting and outlines meeting structure.

10:11 AM: Presiding Officer Evans introduces Chris Menge of HMMH, Inc.

Mr. Menge presents his professional background, explains purpose of investigation, methodology and presents visual maps of locations and tables of data.

10:32 AM: Michael Fitzgerald asks clarifying question regarding noise measurement. Chris Menge answers question.

Mr. Fitzgerald asks follow-up question regarding locations of sound measurement.

10:35 AM: Jonathan Evans asks question regarding line of sight between measurement location and wind turbines.

10:36 AM: Public Member Tom Eaton asks question regarding access to properties for sound monitoring.

10:38 AM: Presiding Officer Jonathan Evans asks question regarding turbine height.

10:41 AM: Presiding Officer Jonathan Evans opens public comment period.

10:43 AM: Comments of Mr. Eric Werme

10:45 AM: Comments of Dr. Fred Ward

10:50 AM: Comments of Attorney Barry Needleman

10:51 AM: Comments of Mr. Richard Block

10:54 AM: Comments of Ms. Lori Lerner

10:56 AM: Comments of Ms. Lisa Linowes

11:01 AM: Comments of Counsel for the Public, Alan Brooks (Department of Justice)

11:05 AM: Presiding Officer Jonathan Evans calls for a 15 minute recess.

11:05 AM – 11:34 AM: Subcommittee meets with legal counsel.

11:35 AM: Presiding Officer Jonathan Evans reconvenes meeting.

11:36 AM: Public Member Tom Eaton addresses the concerns of Mr. Richard Block, reiterating that subcommittee charge only includes complaints through calendar year 2021.

11:40 AM: Michael Fitzgerald asks clarifying question regarding methods and distance of sound measurements. Mr. Menge opines that the study conducted by HMMH is methodologically sound and consistent with industry standards and the relevant rules.

Mr. Fitzgerald asks question regarding the speed of wind turbines during measurements.

11:45 AM: Public Member Tom Eaton asks question regarding when/ if turbines were shut off for monitoring purposes.

11:46 AM: Public Member Tom Eaton moves that the Subcommittee accept the HMMH report. Michael Fitzgerald seconds. All three Subcommittee vote in favor. Presiding Officer Evans moves that the Subcommittee find based on the evidence presented to it, that the facility has not been out of compliance with its certificate and further to recommend to the full Site Evaluation Committee that it not institute any enforcement actions.

Mr. Fitzgerald seconded the motion.

The Subcommittee members conferred about the motion.

All 3 members vote yes on motion.

11:53 AM: Presiding Officer Evans opens discussion for advisory recommendations beyond the Subcommittee's charge to the full Site Evaluation Committee regarding the procedure for evaluation of complaints.

11:54 AM: Mr. Michael Fitzgerald states the need to have clear procedures and standards in certificates of operation.

11:56 AM: Presiding Officer Evans asks the Subcommittee if they would like him to draft the Subcommittees' recommendation to full Site Evaluation Committee. The Subcommittee members concurred with Presiding Officer Evans that he would author the Subcommittee's recommendation.

11:59 AM: Motion to adjourn approved unanimously.