

State of New Hampshire
Site Evaluation Committee

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April 23, 2021

Dianne Martin
Chairwoman
Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Docket No. 2021-02
Investigation of Complaints Regarding Antrim Wind Energy Facility

Dear Chairwoman Martin:

The Site Evaluation Subcommittee established by your April 2, 2021 Order Appointing Subcommittee (Order) held its first meeting on April 20, 2021. During this meeting the Subcommittee developed and approved the enclosed investigative plan. The Subcommittee intends to treat this plan as a living document, which may require modification as the investigation progresses.

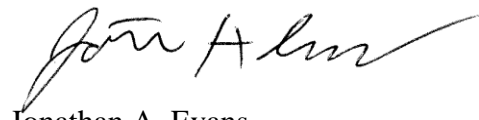
In reviewing your Order and developing the investigative plan, the Subcommittee identified that, while we do have a member with experience in transportation noise, none of the members have experience directly related to wind energy facility noise. As such, the Subcommittee respectfully requests your assistance in obtaining the services of an independent third party noise expert with experience specifically in the measurement and analysis of wind energy facility noise. Should you agree with this request, the Subcommittee anticipates the expert would be tasked with evaluating and providing guidance and training to the Subcommittee on the existing requirements, which have been placed on the Antrim Wind Energy Facility. We also anticipate tasking the expert with reviewing the requirements that have been placed on similar facilities, particularly out of state.

The Subcommittee acknowledges that numerous complaints have already been filed and that these complaints need to be addressed in a timely manner. However, in the process of developing the investigative plan and beginning to review the information noted in charge 1 of your Order, it is readily apparent the Subcommittee cannot properly provide a written recommendation by the April 23, 2021 deadline. As you can see from the attached plan, the Subcommittee also believes that it will be necessary to first consult with the above requested noise expert prior to providing our recommendation to the full Committee. As a result, the Subcommittee respectfully requests an extension of the April 23, 2021 deadline until such a time as the Subcommittee can consult with the above requested noise expert and prepare a written report.

The Subcommittee also discussed charge 2 of your Order, which directs the subcommittee to investigate complaints filed through December 31, 2021, but does not identify a beginning date of the complaints within the scope of our investigation. The Subcommittee respectfully requests clarification of the date of the first complaint received by the SEC we are to investigate. The Subcommittee understands it is responsible to investigate all complaints filed on or before December 31, 2021. In the event that a complaint is received in the later part of the year, or a complaint has not been completely investigated by December 31, 2021, the Subcommittee respectfully requests confirmation that it will have the opportunity to complete a full and thorough investigation as expeditiously as possible, extending into early 2022 if required.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,



Jonathan A. Evans
Presiding Officer,
Site Evaluation Subcommittee in Docket No. 2021-02
Email: jonathan.a.evans@dot.nh.gov
Phone: (603)271-4048

JAE:jae

cc: John Duclos, NHDES (Via E-Mail)
George Kassis, (Via E-Mail)

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**Antrim Wind Energy Facility Investigative Plan
April 20, 2021**

1. Review NH Statutes, administrative rules and procedures for the NH Site Evaluation Committee as they relate to noise.
2. Review the facility's certificate and all other relevant filings related to the noise metrics, limits, and sound measurement methodology.
3. As necessary, obtain the services of a third party noise expert with experience in wind energy noise to provide recommendations and assistance to the Subcommittee on both the existing standards in NH as well as what standards have been implemented in other states. If necessary, hold public meetings to hear from interested parties.
4. Provide a written recommendation regarding the appropriate noise metrics, limits, and sound measurement methodology as they relate to the Antrim Wind Energy Facility. This recommendation will identify any inconsistencies or gaps in the law, rules, procedures, and the certificate.
5. Coordinate with the full Site Evaluation Committee to receive input and concurrence on the noise metrics, limits, and sound measurement methodology which will be used to address the existing and future noise concerns.
6. Review existing written noise complaints, Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) complaints, and other related information.
7. Conduct public meetings to hear and identify any additional concerns. The subcommittee will hear from all interested parties.
8. Perform a site visit.
9. Make recommendations to the full Committee regarding the disposition of each complaint filed through December 31, 2021.