## 1 STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE 2 SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE 3 June 7, 2023 - 10:16 a.m. (Electronically 4 Public Utilities Commission filed on 06-21-23) 21 South Fruit Street Suite 10 5 Concord, New Hampshire 6 7 SEC DOCKET NO. 2021-02 IN RE: SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE: 8 Investigation of Complaints Regarding Antrim Wind Energy 9 Facility. [Public meeting of the Full SEC Committee to receive public 10 comment and consideration of the 11 Recommendation of the Investigatory Subcommittee] 12 1.3 PRESENT: SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE: 14 Chairman Daniel C. Goldner Public Utilities Comm. (Presiding as Chairman of SEC) 15 Cmsr. Robert R. Scott Dept. of Env. Services (Vice Chairman of the SEC) 16 Cmsr. Carleton B. Simpson Public Utilities Comm. Cmsr. Pradip K. Chattopadhyay Public Utilities Comm. 17 Cmsr. William J. Cass Dept. of Transportation Joseph Doiron (Designee) Dept. of Business and 18 Economic Affairs Cmsr. Michael C. York Dept. of Natural and 19 Cultural Resources Susan V. Duprey Public Member 20 James Jalbert Public Member 2.1 2.2 23 Court Reporter: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52 24

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    APPEARANCES AS NOTED:
 3
                             Reptg. Antrim Wind Energy:
                             Thomas B. Getz, Esq.
 4
                             (McLane Middleton)
 5
                             Reptg. Counsel for the Public:
                             K. Allen Brooks, Esq.
 6
                             (N.H. Dept. of Justice)
 7
                             Reptg. the Subcommittee:
                             Jonathan A. Evans, Chair
 8
                             Thomas R. Eaton, Public Member
                             Mark W. Dell'Orfano, Esq.
 9
                             (N.H. Dept. of Justice)
10
11
    OTHERS PRESENT (as noted):
12
    Richard Block
1.3
    Fred Ward
14
    Lori Lerner
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    Eric Werme
16
    Shelley Nelkens
17
    Joe Wilkas
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    Carl Hanson
19
    Carroll Brown, Jr.
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## 2 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. I'll call the 3 meeting to order. Good afternoon -- or, good 4 morning, everyone. We're here for a meeting of

PROCEEDING

5 the Site Evaluation Committee. We have our

6 Meeting Notice and Agenda.

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Before we do anything else, I'll ask the members to identify themselves and their title. So, I'll begin with myself. I'm the Chairman, Dan Goldner, PUC.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Bob Scott, the

Commissioner for the Department of Environmental

Services, and Vice Chair of the Site Evaluation

Committee.

CMSR. CASS: William Cass, Commissioner at New Hampshire DOT.

CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Pradip Chattopadhyay, PUC Commissioner.

MS. DUPREY: Susan Duprey, public member.

MR. JALBERT: Jim Jalbert, public member.

1 CMSR. YORK: Michael York, representing 2. the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. 3 MR. DOIRON: Joseph Doiron, 4 representing the Department of Business and 5 Economic Affairs. 6 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. I'll also 7 note the presence of Andrew Biemer, on by left, the Site Evaluation Committee Administrator; and, 8 in the back, J.D. Lavallee, assigned Counsel to 9 the Committee, from the Department of Justice. 10 11 In the first order of business, have 12 the members had the opportunity to review the minutes from the March 9th, 2022, Committee 1.3 14 business meeting? And, if so, are there any 15 changes or corrections to those minutes? 16 [No verbal response.] 17 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay, hearing none. 18 Do I have a motion to approve these minutes? 19 MR. JALBERT: So moved. 20 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Do I have a second? 2.1 CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Seconded. 2.2 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: All right. Let's 23 take a voice vote. All those in favor say "aye"? 24 [Multiple members indicating "aye".]

1 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any opposed? 2. MS. DUPREY: I'm abstaining, because I wasn't a part of the meeting. 3 4 MR. DOIRON: I will be abstaining as 5 well, Mr. Chairman. 6 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Noted. Okay, 7 the minutes are approved. Okay. Now, that the meeting minutes 8 9 from the last general business meeting are final, 10 I'd like to take a moment to discuss how this 11 meeting will progress. The purpose of today's meeting is to 12 1.3 consider the Investigative Subcommittee's 1 4 recommendation concerning Charge 3. As I'm sure 15 all of you know, the Investigative Subcommittee 16 was appointed in April 2021 to investigate 17 complaints concerning the Antrim Wind facility 18 The Investigative Subcommittee was operation. 19 charged, in part, with investigating complaints 20 filed prior to December 31st, 2021, and then make 2.1 a recommendation to this Committee regarding how 2.2 to handle those complaints. 23 Today, we are here to review the

Investigative Subcommittee's recommendation

concerning this charge. That is the Subcommittee's recommendation on how to handle the complaints.

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Upon review of the recommendation, the Subcommittee is specifically recommending denying or taking no further action with regard to 15 noise complaints filed between January 7th, 2020 and March 19th, 2021.

So, first, the Committee will open the floor for public comments. Individuals who signed up will be allowed to comment. The Committee may have questions for commenters. If so, we will not count questions and answers with the Committee as part of that time limit.

Second, once the public comments have been heard, the Committee will deliberate on the Subcommittee's recommendation, with the goal of taking action on the Subcommittee's recommendation.

One last note, before beginning the public comment portion. If necessary, we may adjourn the meeting briefly to consult with our legal counsel. If we do need to adjourn, we will do so via a motion, and provide a time estimate

1 as to when we will resume. 2. Okay. Let's begin by taking public 3 comment. Has everyone had the opportunity to 4 sign in on the sign-up sheet that wish to 5 comment? 6 ADMIN. BIEMER: Yes. 7 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. I'll 8 recognize those who have signed up to comment, in 9 the order that they appear on the sheet. Per our 10 Meeting Notice, each person will be allowed two 11 minutes to address the Committee on the recommendation of the Subcommittee concerning 12 1.3 Charge 3. As two minutes goes by quickly, I'll 14 provide a warning to all commenters at the 15 two-minute mark, and cut off comments at three 16 minutes for the court reporter. 17 Okay. Let's begin. And first on the 18 list is Richard Block. Mr. Block, are you here? 19 MR. BLOCK: Yes. 20 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Very good, sir. 2.1 you'd please proceed. 2.2 MR. BLOCK: Thank you. 23 Members of the Committee, the May 15th 24 Subcommittee meeting, particularly the

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deliberations, was a complete travesty, and a blatant indication that the Subcommittee has been operating the entire time of their existence on the premise that they had no intention whatsoever of taking any action against Antrim Wind for any violations.

Public Member Thomas Eaton, even before the commencement of deliberations, dismissed my testimony about the constant violation of the radar-controlled nighttime lighting. He stated, and I quote from the transcript: "Our purview is only until December of 2021. And I know there had been problems with the ADLS system. We cannot address — there are still problems in '22 and part of '23, we don't have the ability to address those here today. That has to come from a further investigation."

He did say "I know there had been problems with the ADLS system", but ignored the fact that he knew that, because complaints in writing had been made in 2021, and testimony had been given in the past, that demonstrated constant violation of the lighting provision through 2021, and even in prior years.

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Why were those complaints and testimonies ignored by the Subcommittee? If the Subcommittee's purview was until December of 2021, then these complaints and testimonies were relevant, timely, valid, and germane to the question of AWE compliance. By consciously overlooking the issue of noncompliance with the lighting requirements, the Subcommittee has demonstrated that their entire recommendation cannot be deemed valid.

This body, the Site Evaluation

Committee, is tasked with overseeing the compliance of Antrim Wind with the conditions of their Certificate. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to assure this, not that of the Subcommittee. Thus, any serious noncompliance issue, whether it occurred during the purview of the Subcommittee's study, and certainly if it occurred before the Subcommittee's very existence, and continues constantly and unabated to this very day, as I have testified, must, by the laws and regulations under which the SEC exists, be addressed and enforced.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Mr. Block, --

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                    MR. BLOCK: Any action short of that by
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         the SEC --
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Mr. Block, one more
 4
         minute please.
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                    MR. BLOCK: I'm almost done.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you, sir.
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                    MR. BLOCK: Any action short of that by
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         the SEC constitute a severe dereliction of duty.
         The Subcommittee was formed for to issue
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         recommendations to the SEC; not to develop or
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         execute policy decisions.
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                    I urge this Committee to take the
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         decisive action and do your job in enforcing the
         terms of the Certificate you issued without
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         excuses or contrived loopholes.
16
                    Thank you.
17
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER:
                                       Thank you, sir.
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         next person, I'm having a hard time reading the
19
         handwriting, is -- I apologize, do you know who
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         signed up second, by chance?
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                    MS. NELKENS:
                                  T did.
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Oh. Very good.
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         Very Good. Please proceed, and please identify
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         yourself. I would, but I'm having trouble.
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MS. NELKENS: Okay. My name is Shelley Nelkens. I'm from Antrim.

And I started really paying attention to what your Committee was doing back when everything was under construction. And I would walk my dog up by the lake every day, almost every day, and I noticed that it didn't matter how tall those towers were, there were no lights on them, and nobody seemed to care, including the representative from the SEC that I contacted.

So, I went to the selectmen. They had a meeting. They called in the people who were running the towers, and explained to them that we really needed lights. Well, we got lights. That was after they were fully constructed. They were in violation the entire time it was being built, the entire time. And I'm pretty nearsighted.

So, if I could see this?

Now, we're in the opposite. Those lights are on all the time. Well, I don't know if they're on during the day, I couldn't tell. But, at night, as soon as it gets dark, those lights are on, which is a total violation of their Certificate.

1 And I don't understand what you people

are doing, if you're not going to enforce the

3 most blatant, obvious, ridiculous, I mean, I

4 don't know how much slack you want to give these

5 people, the people who built these towers. But

it seems like the latitude is endless.

And, as far as the sound goes, I really

8 thought that the people who were complaining

9 about the sound, sure, it bothered them, but, eh.

I was on my way to the dentist, and I went by one

of the towers, it was around 8:00 in the morning.

12 I'm from Manhattan. That thing sounded like the

friggin' A train coming. I was absolutely

appalled, and I have total sympathy for the

people that live near those towers. I'm thankful

16 that I don't.

But what are you people doing? Why are

18 you here? I don't understand it. I honestly

19 don't.

23

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7

You all have really powerful positions.

21 Any one of you could say "It's like the Emperor

22 has no clothes. God, this is silly." And nobody

has the kahunas? I don't get it.

Anyway, I think I've been insulting

1 enough. Thank you. 2 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Let's move to 3 Carl Hanson. 4 MR. HANSON: Thank you. I'm been 5 working in the chicken coop all day, boys. So, 6 if I smell, --7 MR. DELL'ORFANO: That's fine. MR. HANSON: Is this on? I'll try to 8 fit what I can in two minutes. 9 First, I'd like to say I respect your 10 11 position, and thank you for upholding what you 12 If you're not given the right information, 1.3 you can't properly execute what you're doing, 14 what people are asking for. 15 I understand that the complaints, some 16 of the findings were that the forms didn't get 17 filled out properly. And one of the reasons I 18 haven't made a complaint yet is because the form isn't conducive to what I need to fill out. 19 What. 20 I'm citing is a seismic phenomenon. I'm an 21 ex-industrial wind turbine diagnostic technician, 2.2 and I am very aware of spacing requirements 23 between those machines.

And -- I'm sorry, it's a little -- it's

emotional for me. There's vibration mitigation 1 2. software for those wind turbines. Certain 3 acousticians have said that the seismic 4 phenomenon is prevented, allowing them -- this 5 vibration mitigation software supposedly prevents 6 the seismic phenomenon. It's a very complex and 7 vexing phenomenon that some people feel in here 8 [indicating], while others do not. That's a 9 resonance phenomenon, mechanical resonance. 10 vibration mitigation software is only applied 11 during short coupling periods, and it is meant to 12 mitigate over-torque to the inner mechanical 1.3 workings of the nacelle. That in no way 14 mitigates during operational times any 15 tower-to-ground vibrations in any way. Okay. 16 And it's a mitigation; not 17 cancellation, as they represent it. Cancellation 18 is different than mitigation. 19 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I'm sorry, sir, two 20 Another minute please. minutes. 2.1 MR. HANSON: All right. Thank you very 2.2 much. 23 They have misrepresented this software, 24 in a sense, where they have indicated to you that

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it runs during their production periods, and it does not. And, even during the time that it is applied, it only mitigates over-torque, it does not cancel, in any way, shape, or form, the tower-to-ground vibrations. And those machines are too close to each other, providing constructive interference within the upper lithosphere of the earth, and you're on a unique situation up there at the Antrim plateau. That's where the lower lithosphere pops up through the upper lithosphere. This makes this phenomenon so much worse.

There is an attenuation transparency being created in the earth. That means levels and rates of absorption are affected, overwhelmed, cannot absorb vibrations. And, in traveling through this — the structure—borne sound traveling through the earth is subject to dynamic magnitude amplification. You've heard of this in the air, the airborne phenomenon. When you put the turbines too close together —

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I'm sorry, sir.

You've reached three minutes. Any -
MR. HANSON: Thank you.

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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER:
                                       Thank you.
 2.
                    MR. HANSON: Any questions for me?
 3
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: There might be
 4
         later, sir.
 5
                    MR. HANSON:
                                Okay. Thank you.
 6
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Next is Lori Lerner.
 7
                    [Ms. Lerner distributing documents.]
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                    MS. LERNER: And, if I may ask, could I
         have another minute at the end? Lisa Linowes
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         could not be here, but she did provide me just a
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11
         brief statement to make.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I'm sorry, the rules
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         will apply to everyone today. So, two minutes,
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         plus one more maximum.
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                    MS. LERNER: Good morning. My name is
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         Lori Lerner.
                       I'll try to go as quickly as I can.
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                    [Court reporter interruption.]
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Start over.
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                    MS. LERNER: Good morning. My name is
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         Lori Lerner. Thank you for allowing us the
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         opportunity to speak regarding the investigative
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         Committee recommendation.
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                    It's plain and simple, HMMH didn't
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         follow the required SEC rules as defined by the
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SEC Statute, while the Subcommittee has either encouraged or turned a blind eye to their Rules' violations. These actions should lead to a denial of the recommendation. By HMMH's own admission, they were "following the Sec 103.18 [301.18?] noise rules, to the extent we could", a direct quote from them. HMMH dictated the testing protocol with their own "Task Orders", while the SEC Subcommittee took no action to publicly discuss or debate the Task Orders. These Task Orders ignored the plain language of the SEC rules. These actions, on behalf of HMMH and the Subcommittee, are egregious and not acceptable.

The following rules were violated, likely many others:

One of the rule is that the study was to be conducted "on property that is used in whole or in part for permanent or temporary residential purposes", although the Subcommittee apparently directed them to conduct their study on public property. What authority did the Subcommittee have direct HMMH to violate this rule?

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Next, "field studies should be conducted under the same meteorological conditions." There is absolutely no reference in HMMH's report to the meteorological conditions during the complaints or during the HMMH study period.

Next, the rule requires to determine the "background level". As stated by HMMH's expert, "We couldn't measure background sound levels without the turbines in operation. So, we didn't." Who authorized HMMH to disregard the requirement to measure background sound levels? This measurement could have been conducted at any time before or after the compliance test period.

Next, "where turbines are operating at full sound power", another rule. HMMH did not conduct any of their testing when turbines were at full power, violating yet another rule.

Who authorized the Subcommittee or HMMH to conduct the study in any way except through the use of the SEC rules?

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Two-minute warning.

MS. LERNER: Why was the public not made aware of these Task Orders? The public had

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minutes.

no knowledge of these Task Orders until just prior to last month's Public Meeting. The Task Orders document references communications between the Subcommittee and HMMH. Why haven't those communications been made public?

Another compliance issue, as mentioned previously, is the non-performing ADLS system, which has not functioned properly since the start There's been no site visit by the of operation. SEC to validate this ongoing complaint. living in view of the lights have repeatedly reported the red flashing lights visible at all hours of the night. According to an Antrim document filed with their application, and included in the Certificate, it states "This system will only activate the nighttime FAA obstruction lights in the event there's an aircraft flying at low altitude at night in close proximity to the Project, which will almost eliminate this nighttime light source." When will this compliance issue be addressed? CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: That's three

MS. LERNER: Thank you very much.

Thank you.

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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you.
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         move to --
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                    MS. DUPREY: Mr. Chairman, a point of
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         order.
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                    I would like to hear what Ms. Linowes
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         had to say. It seems to me that we aren't
 7
         overwhelmed with a number of people in the room.
         And I would ask that we let Ms. Lerner tell us
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         what Ms. Linowes would have said?
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I think to be fair
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         to all of the folks today, we've got a two-minute
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         limit, with a one-minute overage.
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                    MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: What I would suggest
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         is, after the public session, we can take a
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         recess and perhaps discuss further.
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                    Okay. Let's move to Mr. Wilkas, Joe
18
         Wilkas.
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                    [Mr. Wilkas distributing documents.]
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                    MR. WILKAS: Can you hear me now?
21
         Thank you for listening to my testimony. My name
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         is Joe Wilkas, from Bridgewater.
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                    The SEC Subcommittee appears to have
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         concluded that the Antrim Wind turbines are in
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sound compliance, using the results from the HMMH sound level tests, that have at least three glaring errors if the purpose of this testing was to test at maximum turbine sound level output at required measurement locations. The measurements were not made at the correct locations at affected homes, but on nearby public lands that were actually located further away from the turbine noise sources, thereby lowering the measured sound level.

These measurements were made when the turbines were not producing anywhere near their maximum power output resulting in lower sound levels. And wind turbines produce pulsed sound level outputs which were then integrated by HMMH, resulting in lowered reported sound levels when compared to the not-to-exceed SEC limits.

So, accepting three methods to insure lower sound level output results, the SEC Subcommittee has apparently incorrectly concluded that the lower sound levels reported actually tested the SEC's published limits.

For another, more accurate sound level report, please refer to the May 11th, 2021, Rand

1 Letter of Acoustic Tests submitted to the SEC on 2. May 14th, showing that the Antrim Wind turbines 3 exceeded the SEC limits when measurements were 4 correctly made near the Berwick home. 5 And the much easier to understand 6 lighting issue also seems to have been accepted 7 by the SEC Subcommittee. The flashing red lights 8 are only supposed to be on when airplanes are flying nearby, but instead they are on almost all 9 10 the time, violating the SEC Project requirements 11 and annoying the nearby residents. 12 There has been so much reporting and 1.3 documentation about these issues over the past 14 several years that it is totally --15 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Two-minute warning, 16 sir. 17 MR. WILKAS: -- it is totally 18 unacceptable that the SEC has done nothing yet to 19 insure that the corrections are made. 20 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you. Moving 2.1 to Tom Getz. 2.2 MR. GETZ: Thank you. Good morning, 23 Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee. My name 24 is Tom Getz. I'm an attorney with the law firm

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of McLane Middleton, and I'm here on behalf of Antrim Wind.

I believe you should have access to written comments we filed yesterday, in a letter from Mr. Needleman. I will try not to be too repetitive. I'd like to make just two points; one with respect to the law and one with respect to the facts.

Your charge today here is governed under RSA 162-H:12, which is the "Enforcement" section of the SEC statutes. The relevant section of that, of H:12, states that "Whenever the committee...makes a preliminary determination that any term or condition of any certificate issued under this chapter is being violated, it shall, in writing, notify the certificate holder of the specific violation and order the person to immediately terminate the violation."

The Committee formed a Subcommittee to look at the facts underlying the allegations with respect to Antrim Wind. That Subcommittee has thoroughly reviewed these issues, has hired a sound expert. They have provided you with a written recommendation. And we believe that

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that -- that order -- that report provided by the Subcommittee faithfully completes Charge 3, by providing you a record to determine that the noise complaints through 2021 are unfounded, and there's simply no evidence or no basis for any enforcement action.

As a result, Antrim Wind asks that you adopt the recommendation from the Subcommittee, determine that there is no need for an enforcement action, and close this proceeding.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you, Mr. Getz. Moving to Fred Ward.

MR. WARD: Okay. We're on. My name is Fred Ward. I'm a meteorologist. And I have to say up front, I am insulted personally and I am insulted professionally by the comments that have been made by this Subcommittee. Now, what's the problem?

Turbine noise is made by the weather.

Let me repeat that: Turbine noise is made by the weather. When the weather changes, the turbine noise changes. Almost nothing else affects the turbine noise. Now, we're not talking about the

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trucks and everything. The turbine noise is completely determined by the weather.

Now, the problem that we've had with these Committees is that there appears to have been a collective agreement ahead of time to avoid asking about the weather at the times when the exceedances in sound happen.

You cannot do anything unless you know the weather when it happened. Particularly, you cannot go and check to see what's going on, if you didn't know what the weather was when the complaint was made. It isn't a question about the "same meteorological conditions or not".

It's a matter of logic. You cannot determine whether something was excessive, when you don't even know what the weather was so that you can repeat it. Basically, that's what happened.

There was a report written, I won't belabor Mr. Menge, because I don't know whether he just doesn't know what the hell he's talking about, or whether he has other reasons for saying things that he knew were wrong. Now, why I am saying "he knew it was wrong"? He said that "there's no problem." He made -- three times he

1 went out there and made some measurements, didn't 2. give a damn what time it was, what the weather was or anything. And he said "There's no 3 exceedances." He couldn't know that. 4 5 Now, he acknowledges that that's a 6 concern, --7 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Two-minute warning, 8 sir. 9 MR. WARD: -- because he said "my 10 readings implied", or I don't remember exact 11 words, "that there was no exceedances." 12 Now, we'll turn to the three members of 1.3 your Subcommittee who were asked. They also knew 14 that Menge's report was wrong. Now, why do I say 15 There was not, over the course of many 16 hours of hearings, comments about the Menge 17 report. Not one of them, despite the fact that I 18 had given them questions ahead of time to ask Mr. 19 Menge, not one of them asked Mr. Menge "did he 20 know, did he care what the weather was at the

They had to know that they should have, and they didn't dare. And the reason they didn't dare was

time of any one of the complaints?" Not one

member of the Committee asked that question.

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         because Antrim had some worries of --
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: That's three
 2.
 3
         minutes.
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                    MR. WARD: -- violating the darn
 5
         thing -- I'm almost finished.
 6
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: That's three
 7
         minutes, sir.
                    MR. WARD: That they found --
 8
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: That's three
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10
         minutes, sir. Thank you.
11
                    Okay. Let's move to the final person
12
         on the public sign-in sheet, and I apologize if
         I'm mispronouncing your name, but it looks like
1.3
          "Eric Werme".
14
                    MR. WERME: "Werme", very good.
15
16
                    Today I expect to hear the SEC accept
17
         the report from its Subcommittee. I'd like to
18
         spend this time on what you did not hear from the
19
         Subcommittee, and what you will hear in the
20
         future from the public.
2.1
                    You heard about the HMMH sound survey.
2.2
         You did not hear about the Rand Acoustic Survey,
23
         which appears to me better in almost all ways.
24
         In particular, it recorded two events so loud
```

2.

1.3

2.1

2.2

that they awakened the property owners after midnight. Weather maps and temperature trends during both events were very similar.

You heard references to testimony from the public disagreeing with parts of the HMMH Survey. You heard nothing about my testimony about the weather maps on the three partial days HMMH studied; they are not at all similar to the problem periods of the Rand survey.

You heard that residents denied access to their properties. You did not hear the residents' strong objections to that characterization.

You did not hear about a survey of the ADLS operation, because the Subcommittee didn't request one. You did not hear about Richard Block's survey of the system. The Subcommittee essentially ruled that that was a complaint made after 2021, and, therefore, not their concern. You did not hear Public Member Tom Eaton say "Mr. Block might want to talk to Mr. Needleman or Antrim Wind about that." Mr. Needleman is an attorney, he is required by the Bar to represent his client, and not the complainants.

1 All that you will hear from the 2. Subcommittee is how well they did their job. will not hear from them what we think of their 3 4 We think the Subcommittee failed. 5 In the future, you will hear more 6 complaints about noise, and you will deny that it 7 exceeds the Certificate, even though HMMH did not 8 sample similar conditions. 9 In the future, you will hear more 10 complaints about the ADLS system. 11 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Two-minute warning, 12 sir. MR. WERME: It may now be completely 1.3 nonfunctional. I don't know; the Subcommittee 14 didn't bother to hear about it from Antrim 15 16 residents or anyone else. 17 Please don't accept the Subcommittee's 18 failure. Thank you. 19 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you. 20 Okay. Having heard public comment, it 2.1 may be wise to provide the Committee the 2.2 opportunity to consult with legal counsel under 23 RSA 91-A:2, I(b), "Consultation with legal

counsel", is exempted by Right to Know law from

```
1
         the definition of a "public meeting".
 2
                    Is there a motion to temporarily
 3
         adjourn the meeting for the purposes of
 4
         consulting with legal counsel?
 5
                    MR. JALBERT: So moved.
 6
                    MR. DOIRON: Second.
 7
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Let's take a
         voice vote.
 8
                    All in favor say "aye"?
 9
                    [Multiple members indicating "aye".]
10
11
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any opposed?
                    [No indication given.]
12
1.3
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. The motion
14
         passes.
                    We'll now adjourn this public meeting
15
16
         for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel.
17
         The public must leave the meeting room, and the
18
         door will be closed. We expect this to take
19
         about 15 minutes. So, we'll readjourn [sic] at
20
         11:00.
2.1
                    Thank you.
2.2
                    (Recess taken at 10:46 a.m., and the
23
                    public meeting resumed at 11:02 a.m.)
24
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER:
                                       Okay.
                                               We're back in
```

```
1
         public meeting, after consulting with legal
 2.
         counsel.
 3
                    We'll allow two more minutes for anyone
 4
         that wants additional time, and we'll go through
 5
         the same sequence. So, we'll begin with
 6
         Mr. Block. If you'd like additional time, sir?
 7
                    MR. BLOCK:
                                No.
 8
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: You're good? Okay.
         And Ms. Nelkens?
 9
10
                    MS. NELKENS: "Nelkens".
                                              Yes.
                                                     Just --
11
         is it on? Hello?
12
                    [Court reporter interruption regarding
1.3
                    the microphone.]
14
                    MS. NELKENS: Oh. Okay, got it.
                                                     Hi.
                                                           Ι
15
         just forgot to mention one thing.
                    I know how difficult it is to check on
16
17
         whether the lights are on or not, or whether
18
         they're in violation or not. So, I just wanted
19
         to recommend, you might want to contact the --
20
         he's a licensed pilot, and he flies around Antrim
2.1
         a lot. He happens to be the Police Chief in
2.2
         Greenfield, and also a U.S. Marshal, who has
23
         mentioned quite a few times, at least to me,
24
         about the lights being on.
```

1 So, it really is a no-brainer, if you 2. guys really want to do your yob and look out. Go 3 out and look for yourself. And then, you can 4 see, the Subcommittee is not to be taken 5 seriously. 6 Thank you. 7 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: All right. We'll 8 move to Mr. Hanson. If you'd like additional 9 time? 10 MR. HANSON: Yes. Thank you. 11 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Uh-huh. MR. HANSON: How much time do I have? 12 1.3 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Two minutes, sir. 14 MR. HANSON: Thank you. 15 I quess what I should say is that 16 this -- this issue that I'm speaking of is really 17 not -- I don't think you guys are privy to it. 18 If you've never heard of "spacing requirements", 19 or the debate involving that, or that the 20 manufacturer of the turbines has a meeting with 21 the site developer about spacing requirements, 2.2 and that conversation is only held between them. 23 Obviously, without knowledge, if you

guys know anything about this, all I can say is

2.

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that this is a fundamental problem with the configuration of the site, and that the software was misrepresented to cover up the creation of this seismic phenomenon. This extends out into this entire region, many miles.

Sound and vibrations travel through the ground at a much faster rate than in the water or in the air. And you can change the absorption qualities of the earth. The bedrock is frequency-dependent or frequency-independent. So, when the levels of rates of absorption are hit with a broadband migrational signal, so to speak, those levels and rates of absorption get overwhelmed, so that the attenuation or the absorption, which is done through thermal dispersion, is -- it's really not there, it's negligible.

So, what ensues is a seismic resonance phenomenon, mechanical resonance, where there are seismic couplings, very far out, away from the sites, and this is a direct result of the emissions.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: One more minute, sir.

2.

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2.2

MR. HANSON: And you do have, it's my opinion, I know this to be true, I'm convicted in this, but you figure it out any way you want, or accept it or not, there are quite a few people suffering from this seismic resonance phenomenon, and it's causing some very mysterious maladies.

I can't say that many of these people know what's happening to them, if any of them do. They go towards the other explanations.

I've been working with a lot of these people. There are victims to this that pop up every week. There are certain things that I can say to people, or I know that they're suffering from this phenomenon. One of them, and I just want to get this out there, I know I don't have a lot of time, is "auditory pareidolia". When you're listening to interference patterns or your vestibular system is feeling these interference patterns, some people, at certain intensities, can hear infrasound sound, feel it.

What causes auditory pareidolia, your subconscious mind hears these interference patterns, your conscious [sic] isn't aware of this, and it tries to make sense of the missing

```
1
         information, and inserts its own interdialogue or
 2.
         intermonologue. So, we do have a lot of people
 3
         that are getting diagnosed with schizophrenia at
 4
         later ages in life, out of nowhere. They don't
 5
         show any other symptoms, except hearing voices,
 6
         songs, things like that. So, they're being
 7
         diagnosed with schizophrenia.
                   CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Sorry, sir. We're
 8
 9
         out of time.
                       Thank you.
10
                   MR. HANSON:
                                 Thank you.
11
                   CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you very much.
12
                   MS. DUPREY: Mr. Chairman, when do we
1.3
         have a chance to ask questions of the people who
14
         are testifying?
15
                   CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I was planning on
16
         letting everyone go through and add their
17
         additional time, and then, at that time, asking
18
         any questions, if --
19
                   MS. DUPREY: Terrific. Thank you.
20
                   CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Very good.
2.1
         And Ms. Lerner is next.
2.2
                   MS. LERNER: Thank you for this
23
         additional opportunity to speak. I'll use my
24
         time just to share with you a communication from
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2.

1.3

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2.2

Lisa Linowes. Unfortunately, she couldn't be here today. She has submitted this electronically, but I just wanted everyone here in the room to be aware of it.

The purpose of her letter is to notify the Site Evaluation Committee that she will be filing a formal complaint in reference to the post-construction sound survey conducted by HMMH, under the auspices of the SEC's 2021-02 Subcommittee.

The complaint centers on certain statements made by HMMH, in their written report and sworn testimony, that appear to be false, or that HMMH has been unwilling or unable to substantiate. The 2021-02 Subcommittee relied on these statements by HMMH in arriving at its conclusions about noise complaints, thereby depriving those experiencing Project sound levels to a full and honest review.

Respectfully, Lisa Linowes.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you. And we'll move to Mr. Wilkas, if there's anything else?

MR. WILKAS: No, I'm fine. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: All right. Very good. Next is Mr. Getz.

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MR. GETZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to address briefly the issues that have been raised about ADLS and lighting.

And I would refer the members of the Committee to a filing that Antrim Wind provided on February 1, 2023, in advance of the public meeting that was held on February 3. That filing provides a full roadmap and background history to all of the lighting issues. And it -- the upshot of it is is that, under the Certificate, the only requirement really is that the Antrim Wind would install ADLS. They installed the best available technology. They have provided countless updates to the Committee, and showing that the operation of the lighting has improved from 43 percent in the early months, when the technology was being accommodated to the terrain, and the report shows that the -- as of -- that the data request that we provided showed that it had improved to 20 percent.

As you may or may not know, there is no

specific numerical requirement under the

Certificate, only that the -- that an ADLS

technology be installed. This was something new

that was available, and it's been approved by the

FAA.

So, Antrim has taken all reasonable steps to comply with the Certificate, and takes the position that there is no violation of the Certificate.

Thank you.

2.

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CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you. And, now, we'll move to Mr. Ward, if you have any additional comments?

MR. WARD: I just had two, two quick comments.

Number one, the HMMH report is a disgrace. The reason I say that is that Mr.

Menge, who wrote the report, took some time to go out and make some measurements. He ensured that, when he went out, he would never get an overage on the 40 dB. He selected his time. One of them was in the middle of the day, where there's no chance of ever getting a 40 dB. He had one at twilight, where there's no chance. And he did it

1 in -- the third one was during the night, and he 2. did it in weather that would never get it. 3 knew, when he went out, and before he wrote the 4 report, that he wasn't going to get a serious 5 measurement. 6 And he said, at the end of it, he waved 7 his hands and said "Well, I must have gotten 8 something here. If there was anything there, I 9 got it." That's Item Number 1. Item Number 2, which is even more 10 11 serious, is that the Committee -- your Subcommittee never asked him about this question 12 of "Did he ever know, did he care, did he measure 1.3 14 the weather when any of the complaints came in?" 15 Not one question from your Committee. Why not? 16 Thank you. 17 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you. And, 18 finally, we'll move to Mr. Werme. 19 Thank you. I was going to MR. WERME: 20 pass on this, but I do want to address some of 2.1 the comments that Tom Getz made. 2.2 The original reason for the ADLS was

actually pushed by the AMC, and in response to preventing bats flying around the turbines and

23

injuring a bat. That always seemed rather weak to me. But the promise for the ADLS system was not to satisfy the FAA requirements, but to install a system that would nearly never have the lights on at night.

2.

1.3

2.1

2.2

I did not see this February 1st, 2023, report that Tom referred to, and I will have to hunt it down. But Antrim Wind did provide some reports in 2021, between September and October, I believe, of the frequency that the lights were off. That seems to be completely at loggerheads of what Rich Block has reported, where he has said that they appear to be on essentially all the time now.

So, there is some major disconnect here. And I will just blame it off on that Mr. Getz is an attorney, he is paid to represent Antrim Wind and TransAlta, and not us.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Thank you.

## DELIBERATIONS

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: We'll now move to our final agenda item, which is to deliberate and take action on the Subcommittee's recommendation.

```
1
         Does anyone -- does anyone want to kick off the
 2.
         discussion, and including any questions?
 3
                    MS. DUPREY: I have a couple of
 4
         questions.
 5
                    First, to Carl Hanson, --
 6
                    MR. HANSON:
                                 Yes.
 7
                    MS. DUPREY: -- if you could come up to
 8
         the microphone please.
 9
                    MR. HANSON:
                                Sure. Yes. Thank you.
10
                    MS. DUPREY: So, a number of the points
11
         that you made, I'm not really understanding how
12
         they're relating specifically to the rule. And,
1.3
         also, you're way over my head, in terms of the
14
         science.
15
                    What I'd like to understand, in as
16
         concise terms as you can tell me, is what causes
17
         these turbines to be heard by people?
18
                    MR. HANSON: Seismically speaking or
19
         ambiently?
20
                    MS. DUPREY: Neither. If I'm just a
21
         person standing out there by the site, what
2.2
         causes me to hear those turbines?
23
                    MR. HANSON: If they're too close
24
         together, dynamic amplification.
```

```
1
                   MS. DUPREY: No.
                                      Still not what I'm
 2.
         getting at.
 3
                   MR. HANSON:
                                Okay.
 4
                   MS. DUPREY: So, unless what you're
 5
         saying to me, if --
 6
                   MR. HANSON:
                                Vibrational cochlear
 7
         stimulation possibly?
 8
                   MS. DUPREY: -- if they're too -- no.
 9
         If they're too close together, does it amplify
10
         the sound?
11
                   MR. HANSON: Yes.
12
                   MS. DUPREY:
                                Okay.
1.3
                   MR. HANSON: That's dynamic
14
         amplification.
                   MS. DUPREY: Yes. Well, you know,
15
16
         still you're over my head. But, okay.
17
                   MR. HANSON: And I appreciate that
18
         you're asking the question. Thank you.
19
                   MS. DUPREY: Okay. Thank you.
20
         about the weather? We've heard from Mr. Ward
         that "the weather affects the sound." What is
2.1
2.2
         your opinion on that?
23
                   MR. HANSON: I would add to that.
24
                   MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
```

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1
                   MR. HANSON: That it's, and in respect
 2
         to Fred, I know he's very knowledgeable, --
 3
                   MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
 4
                   MR. HANSON: -- the blade pitch is
 5
         actually --
 6
                   MS. DUPREY: So, the angle of the
 7
         blade?
                   MR. HANSON: The angle of the blade, if
 8
         it's pitched all the way out, you have
 9
10
         efficiency.
11
                   MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
                   MR. HANSON: So, if they're running at
12
1.3
         98 percent, the blades are pitched almost all the
14
         way out.
15
                   MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
16
                   MR. HANSON: They do that at night, key
17
         production hours a lot of times. So, --
18
                   MS. DUPREY: So, -- excuse me. So, the
19
         blade pitch can be changed?
20
                   MR. HANSON: Yes.
21
                   MS. DUPREY: Okay. Uh-huh.
2.2
                   MR. HANSON: Yes. So, blade pitch into
23
         the weather will determine the kind of torque
24
         values on the machine.
```

```
1
                    MS. DUPREY:
                                 Uh-huh. And are you
 2.
         saying that the torque values, the higher the
 3
         torque value, the louder the sound?
 4
                    MR. HANSON:
                                Yes. Exactly, yes.
 5
                    MS. DUPREY:
                                 So, if I can paraphrase
 6
         what I think you're saying to me, it is that the
 7
         owner or person operating the wind tower can
 8
         change the angle of the blade, depending on --
                                Yes. That's correct.
 9
                    MR. HANSON:
10
                    MS. DUPREY: -- its desire to produce
11
         power, if you will, --
12
                    MR. HANSON:
                                Yes.
1.3
                    MS. DUPREY: -- or efficiency --
14
                    MR. HANSON: It's an efficiency level.
15
                   MS. DUPREY:
                                -- to increase the power?
16
                    MR. HANSON:
                                Correct.
17
                    MS. DUPREY: To increase the amount of
18
         power that it produces?
19
                    MR. HANSON: Right. You pitch out into
20
         the wind to catch it, and you pitch back to
2.1
         stall.
2.2
                    MS. DUPREY: And is that automatic?
23
         Does that happen automatically?
24
                    MR. HANSON:
                                 They have -- they don't
```

```
1
         have -- they do have -- they have remote
 2.
         operators.
 3
                    MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
 4
                    MR. HANSON: In some cases, it can be
 5
         automatically set, but then adjusted, if needed.
 6
                    MS. DUPREY:
                                Okay.
 7
                    MR. HANSON: I'm not quite sure, with
         the direct-drive units that they have there, I
 8
         know they have a SCADA system.
 9
                    MS. DUPREY: Okay. So, again, just
10
11
         from your basic knowledge, why is it that, in
12
         your opinion, the sound is less in the daytime
         and more in the nighttime for people?
1.3
14
                    MR. HANSON: It's less in the daytime
15
         because the blades are not pitched out at a high
16
         efficiency.
17
                    MS. DUPREY: Why?
18
                    MR. HANSON: It's not peak production
19
         times. And I -- you know, that's a good
20
         question.
2.1
                    MS. DUPREY: And why isn't it peak
2.2
         production time?
                    MR. HANSON: Well, at night, if you
23
24
         want to cut down on fossil fuel use, --
```

1 MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh. 2 MR. HANSON: -- at night, there's not a 3 lot of demand. Like, we meet our demands 4 energywise, as it is. 5 MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh. 6 MR. HANSON: We don't really need the 7 extra energy from the turbines. So, at night, 8 they can, in a sense, you know, this is the idea, 9 is that you can power back on your regular grid, 10 you know, your backup. 11 MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh. 12 MR. HANSON: You can power back down on 1.3 that stuff, and then the wind turbines will be 14 able to sell more electricity at peak production 15 And, when the Sun goes down, you get a hours. 16 little more wind, too. So, there are some 17 weather effects also. 18 MS. DUPREY: Well, that just seems to 19 me the reverse of what you were saying before. 20 If the blades aren't turning as fast at night, 21 because you don't need the power, why would the 2.2 sound be worse at night? 23 MR. HANSON: No. They're turning at a

higher efficiency.

```
1
                   MS. DUPREY: At night?
 2
                   MR. HANSON: At night. They are
 3
         coupled more. So, if you got a two-mile per hour
 4
         wind, those machines can couple at that low wind
 5
         speed.
 6
                   MS. DUPREY:
                                Okay.
 7
                   MR. HANSON: Once they're coupled, you
 8
         pitch the blades out to harness as much of the
 9
         weather or the wind as you can.
10
                   MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
11
                   MR. HANSON: If the blades -- if you
12
         set the blades back a little bit, that's a lower
1.3
         efficiency.
14
                   MS. DUPREY:
                                Okay.
15
                   MR. HANSON: So, at night, peak
16
         production, "peak production" meaning that other
17
         plants can scale back, and the turbine company
18
         can sell their power.
19
                   MS. DUPREY: I see.
20
                   MR. HANSON: And it's a little easier
21
         to be accepted into the grid.
2.2
                   MS. DUPREY:
                                Okay.
23
                   MR. HANSON: From my understanding, and
24
         I could be, you know, --
```

MS. DUPREY: Okay.

2.

1.3

2.1

2.2

MR. HANSON: -- missing a few things here. But blade pitch definitely affects it. I understand that wind does affect that. But, when you have more wind, the operators are more likely to pitch the blades out. And, when the Sun goes down, that creates some wind.

MS. DUPREY: Okay.

MR. HANSON: You've got thermal changes, you know. Sometimes there's temperature inversion conditions also that can project those, the airborne phenomenon, a lot further than normal.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. What is the ideal distance that these turbines should be set apart?

MR. HANSON: So, there's a debate on that. And, currently, the idea, and this debate hasn't been brought up in awhile, a few years now, I haven't heard much talk about it. They were talking seven times -- there's a debate about seven times the blade length, or seven times the swept diameter. And some scientists even suggest maybe fifteen times the swept diameter, which would -- that puts a lot of space

```
1
         between those turbines. You can't have a
 2.
         compressed footprint at that point.
 3
                   MS. DUPREY: And do we know what the
 4
         distance is between these?
 5
                   MR. HANSON: They're at -- they're very
 6
         close to each other. I've gone on Google Maps,
 7
         and I've actually looked up the feet and distance
 8
         between them. Since nobody at TransAlta, or Jack
         Kenworthy, or any of the acousticians ever
 9
10
         mentioned any kind of spacing. There's really no
11
         set standard for that. There's recommendations,
         and there is a debate about that.
12
1.3
                   MS. DUPREY: Okay. Not my question.
                   MR. HANSON:
14
                                Thank you.
15
                   MS. DUPREY: My question was, do you
16
         know how far apart these towers are? I'm being
17
         told that they may by 300 meters apart.
18
                   MR. HANSON: That would be very short.
         I don't -- I can't remember the exact distance
19
20
         between all nine turbines at this moment in time.
2.1
         Thank you.
2.2
                   MS. DUPREY: All right. That's all my
23
         questions of him, sir.
24
                   CHAIRMAN GOLDNER:
                                       Thank you.
```

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1
         Commissioner Chattopadhyay.
 2.
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Just a follow-up
 3
         question.
                    You mentioned "sometimes there is
 4
 5
         temperature inversion."
 6
                   MR. HANSON: Yes.
 7
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Can you describe
         it further, so that an economist can understand
 8
 9
         it fully?
10
                    MR. HANSON: It's where -- well, I'm
11
         sure Fred could do this a lot better. But --
12
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Yes. My focus
1.3
         is, I've read the --
                    MR. HANSON: Temperature inversion is
14
         still --
15
16
                    [Court reporter interruption - multiple
17
                    parties speaking at the same time.]
18
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Sorry. I
19
         understand the concept. But just you said
         "sometimes". So, I just want to understand that
20
2.1
         aspect?
2.2
                    MR. HANSON: Oh, "sometimes".
23
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Yes.
24
                    MR. HANSON: In the aspect that
```

```
1
         temperature inversion conditions are never
 2.
         constant. It's a weather phenomenon, where you
 3
         get a bundle of heat, etcetera, over a larger
 4
                And that sound will go up and reflect off
 5
                   It reflects -- it creates a barrier,
 6
         the temperature differences. The sound will
 7
         reflect off of that and project out very far,
 8
         we're talking tens of kilometers sometimes.
 9
         is common on the seacoast, when there's
10
         temperature inversion conditions, people can hear
11
         the lorries and the ships for many miles, if
12
         those conditions are present.
1.3
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Is that pretty
14
         common?
15
                                 Temperature inversion
                    MR. HANSON:
16
         conditions are common, and it's a natural weather
17
         occurrence.
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Does it happen
18
19
         more at night?
20
                    MR. HANSON: Yes. Yes.
2.1
                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Thank you.
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Mr. Werme, this is
2.2
23
         the portion where we allow the Committee members
24
         to address questions to individuals.
                                                So, if
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1 somebody wishes to address a question, then they 2. will. 3 Are there any other questions, before 4 we move to formal deliberations? And I would say 5 a question can be asked at any time. But, if 6 there are no more questions at this time, we can 7 begin deliberations? Mr. Jalbert. 8 MR. JALBERT: First of all, I want to, 9 10 you know, apologize. I'm a new member. And, so, 11 you know, I tried to get up to speed as much as I 12 could and read everything I could. I'm assuming we don't have a member from the HMMH here, is 1.3 14 that correct? 15 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I don't know. Do we 16 have that? 17 MR. DELL'ORFANO: I'm Mark Dell'Orfano. 18 I'm attorney to the Subcommittee. No, no one 19 from HMMH is here today, sir. 20 MR. JALBERT: Okay. So, I have three 21 questions. 2.2 The first question I have is, in your

deliberations -- and, hi, nice to meet you all.

In your deliberations, did the study provider

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1 ever discuss with you the difference 2. between decibels at night and during the daytime 3 hours when you take measurements? 4 MR. EVANS: My name is Jon Evans. 5 MR. JALBERT: Hi, Jon. 6 MR. EVANS: I'm the Chair of the 7 Subcommittee. There isn't a difference, if I'm 8 9 understanding your question correctly, that a 10 decibel during the day is a decibel at night. 11 MR. JALBERT: Well, it's in 12 relationship to wind farms, because that's, you 1.3 know, I mean, I'm just --14 MR. EVANS: So, the standard is 15 different, you know, between that. So that the 16 standard that we reviewed was -- or, that's in 17 the rules is 40 dBA, 40 decibels, at night, and 18 45 during the day. 19 MR. JALBERT: Yes, and I understand 20 that as well. But what the question I asked is, 21 did the study provider ever tell you that decibel 2.2 changes occur between the daytime hours and the 23 nighttime hours in the measurement of decibels

for wind farms?

1 MR. DELL'ORFANO: Sir, I guess we don't understand the question.

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MR. JALBERT: Well, sometimes things are louder during the night than during the day.

I mean, that's the simplest way. Did he ever say that, that a wind farm may be louder at night?

MR. EVANS: I mean, --

MR. JALBERT: I mean, if you live in the country -- if you live in the country, and you -- and, so, I live in Rollinsford, New Hampshire. And, during the day, coyotes kill deer, but you don't hear them. But, at night, you can hear them from ten miles away.

And, so, my question is, there is a correlation between sound and sound generation of certain types of sound generators, day versus night. I'm just simply asking, yes or no, did the provider -- the study provider say that these things could potentially or appear to sound louder at night versus the day? Not what the settings were, not what, you know, --

MR. DELL'ORFANO: I would have to say the answer to that is "no."

MR. JALBERT: But they never said that,

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         no one ever asked it, nor did they ever say that?
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         They never --
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                    [Atty. Dell'Orfano indicating in the
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                    negative.]
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                    MR. JALBERT: No, they didn't identify
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              Okay. Fine. Thank you. That's the first
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         question.
                    The second question is, is there a
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         preset device that shuts off when they hit a
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         certain decibel level, or that changes the pitch
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         to alter the -- to alter the noise?
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: Are you asking "does
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         the facility's wind turbines have a device to
         turn them off if" --
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                    MR. JALBERT: Right.
                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: " -- the decibel
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17
         level is too high?"
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                    MR. JALBERT:
                                  Yes.
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: We don't know the
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         answer to that question, sir.
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                    MR. JALBERT: Okay. And the last
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         thing, and it had to do with the gentleman
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         before, but -- and, again, I apologize, I just --
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         so, I have to do my own research on this, to sort
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         of come in here and not sound like, you know, I
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         don't know what the hell I'm talking about. And
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         I'm not a wind expert, guys. So, I'm sorry, but
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         I'm just trying to be fair and honest with
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         everybody.
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: Just do the best you
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         can, sir.
                    MR. JALBERT: Yes, I'm doing the best I
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         can.
                    There is also, based on my research, a
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         correlation between wind noise generation and
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         turbine placement. Not only turbine placement
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         for efficiency, but turbine placement for wind
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         generation. Was that ever discussed?
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                   MR. DELL'ORFANO: Discussed by the
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         Subcommittee?
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                   MR. JALBERT: Yes.
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: Not as far as we're
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         aware.
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                    MR. JALBERT: Okay. That's all the
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         questions I have. Thank you.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Mr. Doiron.
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                    MR. DOIRON: Just a question for the
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         Subcommittee.
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                    Just in review of the materials, when
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         measuring the noise, was there an attempt to go
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         on people's properties to hear, you know, "I'm
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         hearing it from so-and-so's property that it's
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         too loud. Can I take a measurement here?"
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         that attempt made?
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: It was, sir, yes.
                    MR. DOIRON: And were measurements
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         conducted from those properties?
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: They were not,
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         because the Subcommittee could not obtain
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         permission from the landholders -- or, the
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         owners, excuse me.
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                    MR. DOIRON: And it was requested by
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         the consultant and the group?
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                    MR. DELL'ORFANO: That is my
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         understanding, yes.
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                    MR. DOIRON: Thank you.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Anyone else that
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         hasn't asked a question yet? So, we can go
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         around again.
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                    CMSR. SIMPSON: I'll ask a question of
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         the Subcommittee.
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                    We've heard some testimony with respect
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to "weather conditions", and how the complaints that were made were made during certain weather conditions, but the measurements were made during times of different weather. Do you have any comment on that? Was there an attempt to align measurement with certain weather conditions? Or is it not possible to do that?

MR. DELL'ORFANO: I'll start, and then -- so, I'll start with the response to that, and then I'll hand it over to Mr. Evans.

So, in the first instance, if you take a look at Page 4 of the Subcommittee's report,

Paragraph 10, you'll see a number of complaints occurring over the period of -- and excuse me voice, I apologize for that up front. You will see that there are a number of complaints that began in early 2022 and -- or, excuse me, early 2020, and went through here June 18th, 2020.

If one were to try and match the weather conditions for each and every one of these complaints, taking one of these studies or making one of these studies would be almost economically infeasible. So, instead, what the consultants did is that they measured sound under

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differing wind conditions. Because it's a scientific fact that sound travels differently based on how fast the wind is blowing.

I can let Dr. Ward deal with the science around that, if he wishes. But that's what we've been told by the consultant. And, so, what the consultant did is, although they didn't go out and, say, in June of '21, when they did the study, they said "Okay. Well, if, in January of '20, the wind was blowing at", I don't know, you know, "five miles per hour", then they would try and collect data that corresponded with that timeframe, and with the wind speed at that time, and at different power levels of the turbine. So, that is how they based their study. They did the absolute best they could.

And I'd also point out that the rules that the folks from the public keep bringing up are actually waivable rules by the Administrator. And the Subcommittee, acting in that capacity as Administrator, to hear and consider these complaints, could have just waived the rules altogether dealing with what the weather conditions were at the time of the complaint.

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But, instead, they tried to do it in a way that allowed some reflection of what the wind speed could have been and how the noise could have traveled during those periods of time.

MR. EVANS: That's perfect. And the only other thing that I would add is that we did attempt to try and do it at the different times of day. I mean, there were a number of complaints that I'd say were at night, during the day, or whatnot. So, we tried to catch the various times of the day, which would -- and, in the end, it's -- there are a lot of factors that go into noise, you know, and the weather conditions that you do have out there. And you do the best you can to try and catch as many of those factors.

But, in the end, you're not going to be able to catch the exact circumstances that existed on a day that the complaint was made.

So, we tried to hit as many of those during that time period, you know, to do an investigation, you know, during a reasonable time period. We had several months, and we did it over a course of a number of weeks trying to hit different

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weather conditions, say wind speeds and whatnot.

But, then, the other aspect to consider, too, is there are limits to the ANSI standards that do prevent measurements to be taken under certain conditions, because they can contaminate the noise, you know, as you're taking those measurements. And, then, you end up having to throw out the data from, say, too much wind at a microphone or whatnot. And, so, there's a balancing act there between trying to hit those times when you are getting, you know, trying to recreate those as best you can, or applying the conditions as best you can that existed at the time of the complaint, while also making sure that you can make an accurate determination from the results, by making sure that you have enough data to actually do that.

CMSR. SIMPSON: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: And I'll move to Commissioner Scott.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: So, I'll note that, looking at the deliberation transcript from May of 2023, I notice, on Page 54, there's a discussion, it's basically the same discussion, I

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believe, which I'm going to paraphrase, this is not what's written here, is, you know, "Did you look at with maximum conditions or were worst-case conditions looked at?"

So, my question, I guess, to the Chair of the Subcommittee is, so, do you feel that was adequately addressed in your deliberations and in your recommendations?

MR. EVANS: I'm sorry, I guess I don't -- I don't follow, which aspect?

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Were the -- did you feel that adequate effort was made for the monitoring to reflect worst-case conditions? I noticed on Page 54 of the deliberations that was discussed.

MR. EVANS: Yes, I do. Only -- and again, going back to what I was saying previously, that you have -- there are limits as to how high, you know, you can, you know, say, if you, you know, 50 mile an hour winds are not going to be conducive to taking measurements, you know, or at least 50 mile an hour winds at the microphone, you know, that that's not going to -- it's not going to work.

1 So, I do feel that what they -- what 2. the consultant did, when we were selecting days, 3 and I was in contact with them, you know, during 4 those times, was to say "Okay, today is a higher 5 wind day, we're going to try and do that." And 6 then, they also tried to do some of those lower 7 wind days, to say "okay, well" -- and at 8 different wind speed, directions, too, as well. 9 So, they really tried, within the limits of, you know, the amount of time and effort. You know, I 10 11 really do feel that they adequately did that. 12 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Thank you. 1.3 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: There are some 14 additional questions, I think. And Ms. Duprey 15 was next, and then Commissioner Chattopadhyay. 16 MS. DUPREY: Let him go before me. 17 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Commissioner 18 Chattopadhyay. 19 CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: So, this Page 20 Number 4 that you were talking about, for all of 2.1 those days, the complaints that were filed, did 2.2 you actively collect data on what the wind speeds 23 might have been? Did the consultant do that? 24 was there any discussion about that?

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So, I'm sort of curious, were the weather conditions actually looked at? Did you actually document it? So, you know, can you throw some light on that?

MR. EVANS: We asked them to review the complaints, and, you know, the complaints that were made, and then the data that — the information that was available related to the complaints. And then, they tried to choose times with similar weather conditions as best they could. Obviously, you know, some of these complaints were in February, you know, or something like that. We can't recreate those conditions in June. But, you know, the temperature conditions of February and June. But, yes.

CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: I'm a little perplexed that, in the report, given that, you know, the Siting rules, I think it's 301.18(i), that's the "validation of noise complaints...must be done during meteorological conditions as occurred at the time of the alleged exceedance that is subject of the complaint." That aspect was not at all touched upon in the report.

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I mean, I understand all the discussion that you're having about what kind of details he went into. But did you ever really talk about this, this rule?

MR. DELL'ORFANO: Well, first off, that rule can be waived by the Administrator, if the Administrator was considering the complaint, and it can also be waived by the Subcommittee, if they were considering the complaint.

So, the way that -- what was attempted here was, there are noise complaints that occurred under certain sorts of conditions. Can we try to collect data under similar conditions? Okay. The exact same weather conditions? No, you can't collect January weather conditions in June, okay. But you can try and collect data at a time that's similar to when the complaint occurred, that wind speed may have been similar to that same time, other aspects could be similar.

But, no. The reason that they didn't try to, you know, collect data at times that exactly matched the conditions at the time of each and every complaint is because it just would

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have taken too long for them to complete this study. And, so, you know, given the fact that the public has been very patient here, the facility has been very patient here, this is a process that's gone on for almost two years now, the Subcommittee did the best it could. It worked with the -- it worked with the consultant to do a study that reflected how things were, how the weather conditions may have been at the times that these complaints were actually addressed. And, you know, put together a study that, at the end of day demonstrates that there was no occurrence of an exceedance of the thresholds in the Certificate.

So, at the end of the day, what you're seeing here from the Subcommittee is you're saying "Look, here's a report that we had a sound consultant go out and do, we haven't seen a Certificate violation. But this whole process of dealing with these complaints could be much, much better."

And, so, I think that one of the things that the Subcommittee really wants to bring back to the Full Committee is the idea that there

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might need to be some rulemaking around "how do we make this a better process all the way through?"

One of the issues that we have brought up here, and that the public seems to continually bring up, is the idea that "well, you know, you folks didn't measure the sound at the homes where the complaints happened." Well, you know, one of the recommendations that the Subcommittee makes is "Well, if that's going to be the standard, then, when someone makes a complaint, they have to allow the Committee or the Subcommittee or the Administrator the authority to go on their property and record the sound", without it turning into some sort of big negotiation. That wasn't allowed here.

And, so, I think what you're seeing is you're seeing the best product that this

Subcommittee could produce, given the realities of the situation. The ANSI standards, which are, in some cases, not the same as what the rule that the SEC has previously adopted regarding noise complaints might be.

And, you know, lastly, that, you know,

we are dealing with a number of complaints over a very long period of time. And, so, if one was going to try and address the weather conditions for each and every one of these complaints, we still probably would be working on the sound study.

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CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Ms. Duprey.

MS. DUPREY: Are you finished?

CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: Yes. Thank you.

MS. DUPREY: A question for counsel for the Subcommittee.

You've mentioned several times that the Committee -- "Subcommittee could have waived the rules." Were the rules ever waived?

MR. DELL'ORFANO: There was no formal decision on waiving the rules.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. So, they weren't.

And I guess, again to the Subcommittee, I'm not sure who to direct this comment to or question.

Is there a standard sound that turbines are compared to? For instance, I've worked on a couple of sound cases, one for a motor sports park. And, so, we compared it to what a lawnmower was, there was a standard sound for

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         that; what a car was; what an airplane was.
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         various different things, there are standard dBs
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         for those things. Is there such a measurement
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         for turbines?
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                    MR. EVANS: As far as the turbines go,
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         I don't know. It would, obviously, depend on how
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         close you are to them.
                    MS. DUPREY: Well, that's true for all
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         of these things, though.
                                    Yes.
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                    MR. EVANS:
                                That's a key piece.
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         you know, these standards are very, very low.
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         As -- so, I work for the Department of
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         Transportation.
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                    MS. DUPREY: Yes.
                    MR. EVANS: And I do noise studies for
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         the Department of Transportation. And the noise
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         levels that we're talking about at the Department
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         of Transportation are much higher.
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                    MS. DUPREY: Such as?
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                    MR. EVANS: Such as, so, our standard
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         is 66 decibels.
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                    MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.
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                    MR. EVANS: Those -- that 66 decibels
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         is the limit at which -- like, I'm speaking up a
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1 little bit so that everyone can hear. But, if 2. you and I are sitting in a room having a 3 conversation, 66 decibels is about the limit of 4 what that conversation is over, you know, again, 5 averaged over the period of time that you're 6 having that conversation. 7 MS. DUPREY: Okay. MR. EVANS: You know, when you start 8 9 getting up into the -- so, a lawnmower is in the 10 ballpark of, say, 90 decibels, somewhere in 11 And it's not a linear progression, it's a 12 logarithmic progression. 1.3 MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh. 14 MR. EVANS: So that, when we're talking 15 about "40 decibels", this is very quiet, like the 16 sound of a refrigerator or something to that 17 effect. So, that's where we're -- that's what 18 this standard really means. 19 MS. DUPREY: So, have you listened to 20 some of the recordings that were made by the 2.1 complainants? 2.2 MR. EVANS: I have not, no. 23 MS. DUPREY: Okay. So, I believe they

were submitted, at least in one case, they were

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submitted. And it was not the level of a conversation. So, I'm not an expert. I don't know 40 versus 45 versus 90. I just know that it was significantly louder than this whooshing sound that is -- that is constant.

Another question. Did you ever ask the operator to run the turbines at maximum speed that they would run them at, during the night, or whatever, you know, whenever, to experience that when you were out doing your site evaluation yourself?

MR. EVANS: So, one of the things we were concerned about was the perception that the facility might do something to alter the production of the turbines, you know, say, shut them down or lower their speeds or something like that, if they knew that we were out there.

MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.

MR. EVANS: So, actually, what we decided to do was to have not -- make the facility completely blind as to when these -- when the measurements were being taken, because, you know, again, we were concerned that, if we did alert the facility, then there would be

1 concern that the facility might have done 2. something to shut them down. So, --3 MS. DUPREY: But couldn't there have 4 been an additional test beyond that, to have them 5 run it at maximum, so that you could have gotten 6 a sense of what that was like? 7 MR. EVANS: There could have been. 8 However, that just, again, like as the attorney 9 mentioned, you know, we were trying to do this 10 within a reasonable timeframe, and, you know, 11 that we had, and that wasn't part of what we --12 MS. DUPREY: Okay. It just doesn't 1.3 seem like that would have taken very long. 14 a direct request. "We're going to be there on 15 such and such a day, turn up the speed." 16 MR. DELL'ORFANO: Well, the speed is 17 dependent on the wind. So, if, you know, they 18 weren't there on a day where the turbines could 19 have run at their maximum speed, --20 MS. DUPREY: But can't they be directed 21 to run at a maximum speed, even if the wind isn't 2.2 there? I think they can. 23 MR. DELL'ORFANO: I quess I don't 24 understand the question, ma'am.

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                   MS. DUPREY: So, my understanding is
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         that the turbines are turning all the time. Is
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         that true? That they're directed to turn all the
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         time, because otherwise there would be warping or
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         ice build-up, or whatever. I think I read that
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         in the record.
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                   MR. DELL'ORFANO: I can't comment on
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         that, ma'am.
                        So, --
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                   MS. DUPREY: So, you don't know if they
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         could turn the speed up or if it's solely
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         directed by the wind?
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                   MR. DELL'ORFANO: Well, I guess, again,
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         it comes back to I don't understand your
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         question. Because are you asking "could the
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         facility have turned them on into a mode where
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         they could make the maximum amount of power,
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         depending on whether the wind is blowing hard or
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         not?" Or are you asking "Hey, could you run the
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         things as fast as possible, so we can see if
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         there's any noise?"
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                   MS. DUPREY: Yes, the latter.
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                   MR. DELL'ORFANO:
                                      The second one?
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                   MS. DUPREY: Yes.
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                   MR. DELL'ORFANO:
                                      Okay.
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MS. DUPREY: Uh-huh.

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MR. DELL'ORFANO: So, I'm not exactly sure if they can do that.

MS. DUPREY: So, you didn't ask, and you don't know?

MR. DELL'ORFANO: I think that's what we're saying, yes.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. Thank you. I have two more questions. I don't know if you want me to keep going?

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Please continue.

MS. DUPREY: And I'd just like to say, at the end, if we could let Mr. Getz comment on what he's hearing here, because no one really has a question of him, but I think it's fair to let him comment on what we're hearing.

Ms. Lerner, I'm curious as to your interpretation, because I think I've seen this from some of the comments, on the ability of the Subcommittee's expert to get on the people's properties. We hear on one side that you all wouldn't allow them onto the property without certain conditions that weren't acceptable. You say that's not so. Can you just give us your

perspective on that?

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MS. LERNER: Sure. I wasn't directly involved, but having spoken to some of the people who had filed complaints, my understanding is that they would be willing to allow them to come on their property to do the sound study, if they could first understand what the protocol for the sound study was. Based on the testimony of Chair Evans, or maybe from Menge, last meeting, it sounds as though Chair Evans made a decision that he didn't want to have a -- he referred to as a "debate about the protocol". So, therefore, he opted, without even checking with the neighbors, whether HMMH could use their properties. never went forward, never requested access to those properties.

As an alternative, my understanding is Chair Evans directed them to use public properties, which was much further away from the complainants' homes than should have been done, considerably further away.

MS. DUPREY: Thank you. And the last question to Mr. Ward.

You have stated numerous times how the

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weather affects the sounds that people would hear. And I would ask that you concisely tell me how it is that the weather affects it, other than the wind, which would relate to the speed of the turbines?

MR. WARD: Well, let's settle one quick question we've settled here. The turbines will operate faster at night than the daytime. The reason is that, while the winds are very low down at our level, on the tops of the hills they're stronger at night, on the average, than they are in the daytime.

MS. DUPREY: Okay.

MR. WARD: So, you should always get more production.

Now, the other part of it is, how much gets out to the neighbors? The situation there depends on -- well, let me back up. Sound, the speed of sound rises as the temperature rises.

In the daytime, generally, the highest temperatures are near the ground, because the Sun is heating it; at night, the lowest temperatures are near the ground because it's radiating the space. This produces a situation such as, in the

daytime, the sound, no matter what it is, most of it goes up and out. At nighttime, when you have an inversion, most of the sound goes down in.

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So, two effects: Number one, the winds are higher at night, on average. And, secondly, getting the noise to the neighbors is much worse at night. It's such that the difference in the loudness at the neighbor's house, at night, can vary tremendously.

And it is well known, we used to, in business, talk about "clear, calm, and cold", you may have heard that on the weather. Clear, calm, and cold, you will get your coldest weather right at the ground, because there's nothing to disturb it, the ground just radiates like crazy. Those are the days — those are the kinds of things which will produce the loudest noise. But you have to have strong winds to generate these things, and the combination of very little wind at the ground.

Those things are known. They could have been known for the study. They were deliberately overlooked. That's my complaint. It isn't a question of -- I don't know for sure

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whether Antrim Wind violates the 40 dB, I don't.

There's no way I could know that. But I'm

suspicious, because the people who could know

have avoided asking the question.

And all I'm saying to you is, the
Subcommittee should have asked the question. I
would love to have you ask the question, a simple
question, is the -- "do you agree that the
loudest sounds will come with a combination of
strong winds on the turbine and an inversion in
temperature?" Once you ask that question, and
they have to answer it "yes", then you have to
say "Did you ever measure during that?" And the
answer to that, as far as we know, is a big, big
"No." "Why not?" I think that's the question.

MS. DUPREY: My understanding is that it was measured at night, that measurements were taken at night?

MR. WARD: Oh, yes. You can take them at night, but not any old night. It doesn't -- you don't have an inversion -- I would say, on average, I'm trying to think back in the day, probably half the nights you'd have a small temperature inversion. And maybe once a week or

twice a week, you'd get a big inversion that would go high enough so that the wind -- the sound being generated would be bounce off and then go back to the ground.

MS. DUPREY: Okay.

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MR. WARD: Make once or twice a week, generally late at night, 3:00 to 5:00 o'clock in the morning, something like that. Those are sort of forecastable. But, as a forecaster, I wasn't 100 percent. I have to admit to that.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. All right. I think I'm done. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any other questions?

Commissioner Scott.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Thank you. This is for the Subcommittee, Chair Evans.

On your report, your recommendations to us, and this probably goes under the "Careful what you ask for", you suggest that "additional rulemaking should be done to clarify different aspects, and hopefully make this go easier in the future."

Would you agree that this Subcommittee, given that they are well emersed in this, is

1 probably the best group to help craft a proposed 2. rule? MR. EVANS: We certainly could help. 3 4 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Thank you for that. 5 And my next question is for Mr. -- for the 6 Administrator, Mr. Biemer. 7 ADMIN. BIEMER: Yes, sir. 8 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: So, we've heard from the different testimony, verbal and in writing, 9 10 about concerns about the ADLS system, and 11 complaints that are -- were viewed by this 12 Subcommittee to be beyond the scope of their 1.3 charge. Can you update the Committee on any 14 outstanding complaints and their disposition? 15 ADMIN. BIEMER: Any outstanding 16 complaints that have not been addressed? 17 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: By the Subcommittee, 18 correct. 19 ADMIN. BIEMER: I cannot. I do not 20 have an update on unaddressed complaints. 2.1 were complaints brought up at the Subcommittee 2.2 that were after the sunset. There was one 23 specifically by Mr. Block, I believe. Is that

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accurate?

1 MR. BLOCK: Yes.

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ADMIN. BIEMER: That was after the sunset, in regards to the ADLS lighting system. So, it is my understanding that that was not considered -- or, it was considered at the Subcommittee, and I believe it was Member Eaton who pointed out in the transcript that "it was outside the purview of the Subcommittee."

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I guess my question is, is, for complaints that were received after, have they been addressed? Or is that something we ought to be looking at perhaps having the Subcommittee look at those complaints, since they weren't able to -- their charge did not include, for instance, Mr. Block's ADLS complaint?

ADMIN. BIEMER: I do not have an opinion on whether specific complaints have risen to official complaint threshold. But, if that determination is made, then, yes, there should be further investigations.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: All right. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Yes, Mr. Jalbert.

MR. JALBERT: Yes, one other question.

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1 And, first of all, I want to say, I recognize how 2. much work this is. And I appreciate everything 3 you all have done. And it's always difficult to 4 thread the needle, and I get that, so. 5 Did most of the complaints, and I see a 6 lot them came in in the winter, is that true? 7 MR. EVANS: I would suggest that they 8 were spread throughout the year. 9 MR. JALBERT: They were spread. Okay. Okay. Because I wondered if there was a sound 10 11 variance winter to summer, ice on ground, no 12 green -- no foliage, versus -- such as bare 1.3 trees, you know, wind difference? 14 MR. EVANS: In my experience, there's 15 different challenges at different times of the 16 year. 17 MR. JALBERT: Okay. 18 MR. EVANS: The snow can also, you 19 know, if it's a light snow, it can -- it can 20 actually kind of grab the sound and act as like, 21 you know, almost like, you know, an insulated 2.2 room with like foam, or muffle it, basically. 23 MR. JALBERT: Sure. If it's falling?

Right. If it's falling, or

MR. EVANS:

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even if it just freshly fell or something. But, then, if you just say you had some rain, and then it froze, then it's kind of more like asphalt or water, like a lake, which then can kind of project the sound further.

So, there are different challenges at different times of the year. For example, one of the other challenges that we had that I know that the consultant did struggle with was bird noise and that kind of stuff. You have less of that during the winter, more of that during the summer. And leaves in the trees, those kinds of things. There are different aspects.

MR. JALBERT: But, in the wintertime, if you're out in the middle of the night, and you've got a heavy snowpack and it's ice, it's like standing in the middle of the auditorium and speaking, with nobody in the auditorium, you can hear it from one end to the other a lot easier than the summer, when you have, you know, grasses and, you know, different landscape.

MR. EVANS: Sure.

MR. JALBERT: Okay. I think that's it for now. Thanks.

1 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any other Committee 2. members have any more additional questions? 3 Ms. Duprey. 4 MS. DUPREY: One quick question. 5 quick question, Mr. Evans. 6 I know that you have a background in 7 traffic and airplane noise. And I know, in 8 Manchester, there are some barriers that have been erected, I believe, by the State with 9 10 respect to traffic noise. And I know that the 11 airport has sound-proofed homes. I'm wondering 12 at what dBA level that sort of action takes place is approved? Is there a standard? 1.3 14 MR. EVANS: So, the FAA standards are a 15 little different. And, to be quite honest, I 16 don't -- offhand, I don't know the exact 17 standards for, like, say, that's where you would 18 get into insulating, the insulation of buildings 19 and what not. 20 MS. DUPREY: Yes. Uh-huh. 2.1 MR. EVANS: But, for the standard for the Department of Transportation, from a highway 2.2 23 standpoint, is 66 decibels. We have a policy

that kind of dictates when you also put in those

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         barriers from a feasibility and reasonableness
         standpoint.
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                    But, from a noise aspect, the limit at
         which a "impact" is determined is 66 decibels for
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         residential areas.
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                   MS. DUPREY: And is there a time period
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         that it has to occur at?
                    MR. EVANS: The loudest hour of the
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         day. So, that's typically going to be the peak
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         hour of traffic conditions.
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                    MS. DUPREY: Yes.
                    MR. EVANS: Unless those -- that's the
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         result of reduced traffic speed, in which case
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         you may kind of shoulder that peak hour.
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                    MS. DUPREY: Okay. Thank you.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Anything else?
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                    [No indication given.]
                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I would like to -- I
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         would like to give Mr. Getz an opportunity, as
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         the party of the opposition, to make any
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         statements you might have.
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                    MR. GETZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
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         would just -- and thank you for bringing it up,
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         Ms. Duprey.
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So, what I think the Committee should look at as a basic set of facts here is the HMMH sound study shows no period, applying the methodology approved by the Committee, no period where the 40 dBA or 45 dBA standards were violated, whether, you know, daytime or nighttime. That's the facts that you have before. There is no factual violation.

With respect to the issues about access, and same meteorological conditions, my understanding, from what's in the record and what's been reported is, the complainants denied access, unless there was some agreement about what methodology was applied. And this gets back to the whole issue of — that was resolved in the Charge 1. So, that's what I take away from the record. And that may be debated. But, based on the denial of access, the Subcommittee, I think, and Antrim Wind I think would argue, that the whole — the complaints should have been dismissed, because they weren't allowed to go on the property to take the measurements.

As for the -- but, nevertheless, the Subcommittee decided to go the extra mile. So,

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they hired HMMH, and constructed the sound study, went to other locations, and tried to replicate the meteorological conditions as best they could. Were they identical? I guess it depends on how you use your terms. I mean, obviously, they weren't done in February to match up with a particular February complaint. But they tried to, from what I understand, and what Mr. Evans has explained today, is to match up the wind speeds, the time of day, so that you could, you know, address what the intent of the rules is.

But it gets back to the bottom line,
there is no evidence of a violation of the
Certificate. And Antrim Wind would ask that the
Committee find that today, accept the report, and
close this proceeding.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Before we move on to the next phase of deliberations, I received a request for a bowel break. So, we'll take ten minutes, and return at 12:10.

And I'll just instruct the Committee members not to talk about anything substantive outside the hearing room. Thank you.

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                    (Recess taken at 12:01 p.m., and the
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                    hearing resumed at 12:12 p.m.)
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. I'll call
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         everyone back to order. Thank you.
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                    Okay. Let's continue with
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         deliberations. And, if there's anyone that would
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         like to lead off, that would be great.
                    What I'll say is, before making a
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         motion, my request would be to take your time and
         write down the motion, so that it's clear and
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         concise, and we can move quickly through any
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         motions that are made.
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                    So, I'll pause there, and start
         deliberation with whoever wants to begin?
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                    Commissioner Scott.
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                    VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Thank you.
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                    First, I want to thank the
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         Subcommittee. I think we ought to -- sorry, my
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         phone is going off, and I thought I turned it
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         down, but apparently not.
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                    I want to thank the Subcommittee.
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         Obviously, we gave -- the Committee gave the
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         Subcommittee a difficult task, and this is all
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         new ground for, I think, everybody, in some
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respect. So, I wanted to really thank them for that.

I agree that none of this is perfect, right? And, in my view, the Subcommittee, in their deliberations, they spent a lot of time on this, understood that and looked at that, and made the best of what they could with what they had.

So, in that context, I could make a motion. I don't know if you wanted to have more discussion first, Mr. Chair?

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Commissioner Scott,

Vice Chairman Scott, if you'd like to make a

motion, we can -- that can then be seconded, and
then we can open it up for discussion.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Okay. So, understanding the warts and all, I'll leave it at that, I move that we accept the Subcommittee's recommendation concerning Charge 3, and its recommendation regarding that no further action on the 15 identified noise complaints.

But I also would like to require, effectively, a new charge to the Subcommittee, to address the additional complaints that have been

1 received since those that the Committee has --2. the Subcommittee has looked at. And, as I 3 mentioned in my earlier discussions, I would also 4 like to charge them with coming up with a 5 proposal for the Committee to look at and 6 consider for additional rulemaking. So, they 7 had, in their report, they had made some recommendations based on this experience. 8 would like to use their collective experience and 9 10 giving us a proposal. 11 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Is there a second? 12 MR. DOIRON: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to 1.3 second. 14 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Thank you. There's a second. 15 16 So, let's open it up for discussion. 17 CMSR. SIMPSON: I appreciate Vice 18 Chairman Scott's motion. I would agree. I think 19 that it's important to note the complaints that 20 were received after the deadline. And it would 2.1 be helpful for us to see a draft of rules from 2.2 the Subcommittee, so that we fully understood their thinking, and, as a Committee, can act on 23 24 those as warranted.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you,

2 Commissioner Simpson. Any other discussion?

Ms. Duprey.

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MS. DUPREY: With all due respect to the Subcommittee, I can't support this motion.

And I do realize that you had an incredibly difficult task at hand.

But, unlike Attorney Getz, I do feel like there's been evidence provided that the sound standards have been violated. I feel like they were provided by certain of the members of the public that filed complaints. One person, I believe her name was "Barbara", actually, two people sat down and drew up charts. Now, admittedly, they were using their phones to measure the sound. But they did submit evidence that it was well over 40 and 45 decibels.

And I've had a long career in listening to the public with respect to issues, generally speaking, that my clients were involved with.

And I would probably disregard, to some degree, complaints on sight. But, on sound, where we have people testifying that they're literally being driven out of their minds, I feel like we

have an obligation to really investigate that.

First of all, I think there's liability on the part of the State, potentially, or Antrim, if

4 people really are, based on the sound that

5 they're experiencing.

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I didn't feel like the record included information about, I mean, I feel like we're recreating the wheel here, and that, to some degree, this -- some of this information is out in the public domain. We're not the first people to have a wind farm. We're not the first people to have people complaining about the wind farm. I realize we have a standard that, you know, we can measure against. But I would have liked to have seen some more information about what other communities have experienced and what they're doing about it.

Also, I would have really appreciated at least knowing whether you could go out onto someone's property and have the operator operate the turbine at maximum, so that there could have been a determination about what that sound was like. I don't feel like members of the public are making up their experience with these

turbines. And I find their comments disturbing and at odds with the report that we've received.

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So, for that reason, I can't support the motion.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any other comments or comments on the motion?

Okay. Commissioner Chattopadhyay, please.

CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: I am sort of focused on the task at hand about, you know, when -- how those days when the testing were done were selected. And I know there was a lot of discussion back and forth on, you know, what was constraining the Committee -- the Subcommittee.

I still feel like it's in the rules, and a better explanation of that, as to why those days were chosen, the times were chosen, in trying to best match with what, you know, the complaints were about, you know, what the weather conditions were. So, I'm still a little bit hesitant, you know.

I will also add, I kind of like the -part of what the motion was about, which is, you
know, the new charge, I agree with that. I also

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agree that it would be very helpful if the

Subcommittee is able to clearly articulate what

changes they might want to see in the process, so

that it becomes easier for us next time around to

look at stuff.

That's just a comment I wanted to make here.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Anything else? Ms. Duprey.

MS. DUPREY: I have a question. And maybe there's no way to answer it, and so maybe it will, in effect, be a comment.

But, with respect to future complaints, aren't we just going to go through the same process again? I don't really see what the purpose of it is. We're just going to bring HMMH back in. They're going to do the same thing they did this time. The findings are going to be the same. So, I don't see how we're really addressing complaints.

I also would just like to add that I feel like the ball has been dropped with respect to the lighting. When I first heard about this whole situation years ago, the ADLH [sic] system

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was not operating correctly. And, so, therefore, there were all these reasons why the lights were on more than they should have been on.

I don't really understand what the situation is with that. It seems to me that it would be possible for, you know, anyone to go out there and just observe how often the lights are on at night. Doesn't seem that complicated to me. But, you know, for people to say that they're still seeing these lights constantly, you know, is really bothersome to me.

I'd also like to just comment about the amount of time that this has all taken. Part of the reason, to my recollection, that this has, to some degree, taken as long as it has, is that Antrim, which was supposed to be filing certain reports with the Subcommittee, asked at least on one occasion, and my memory is more than one occasion, to have an extension of the time to file these reports. And, so, you know, it kept getting longer and longer.

And, while I agree that it's taken a long time, I don't feel like that's to really the detriment of Antrim particularly. I feel it's

way more to the detriment of the people who have had to live with the sound.

Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any other comments? Yes, sir.

MR. JALBERT: Yes. I can't support it either. But I'll tell you why. I mean, I appreciate all the work you did, and it's clear you did a lot. But I think there's too much unknown in this whole thing.

And, if you look at, in the brief research I did prior to coming here today, there are a lot of unknowns of "what do we really know about wind turbine noise?" And, if we just walk away right now, and we aren't more thoughtful about this, and establish better ground rules for measurement, establish better — have a better understanding or knowledge of how turbines generate noise, day versus night, winter versus summer.

Not have a discussion, and I looked at the three test days, and not have a discussion about there's a direct correlation between wind speed and turbine noise, right? But the

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measurements couldn't be taken because it was too windy. Well, it kind of -- one conflicts with the other. That doesn't make a lot of sense to me. I mean, I'm not a -- I'm not a wind scientist, but that just doesn't cut it.

And, so, how can -- I can't, in good conscience, say that this study wasn't flawed.

Not because of what you guys did, but because of what we, as a group, as an organization, didn't do. And that was to hire somebody to do research to educate us about what wind turbines represent for noise, and then give us some baseline. So, moving forward, as we go through the permitting process, we can make the right decisions.

As an example, there is a deep -- there is a decibel switch that shuts these damn things off. Yet, we never told Antrim they had to put one in. Why?

You know, I just think we can do better, and I think we need to aspire to do better, you know. You may not get the decision you want today. But I think we have to work towards make -- look, alternative energy is coming. Personally, I don't really enjoy wind

1 I think they're a tax boondoggle. 2. alternative power is a thing of the future, and we have to look towards it. 3 4 So, thank you. 5 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Mr. York. 6 CMSR. YORK: I have the same concerns 7 that Attorney Duprey has about, you know, that noise is a very difficult thing for us to solve. 8 9 But we've been talking about these lights 10 forever. And it seems like we ought to focus on 11 trying to get that situation straightened out, at 12 least get something straightened out here. 1.3 This is going to be a -- I think this 14 is going to be a very long process. But we ought 15 to get the low-hanging fruit, if you will, at 16 this point. 17 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: My suggestion would 18 be, after we vote on Commissioner Scott's

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: My suggestion would be, after we vote on Commissioner Scott's proposal, that we would come back to an additional motion relative to the lights. Yes.

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Okay. Anything else? Yes, sir.

CMSR. CASS: I would just comment -- whoops. I would just comment the same. That, you know, I think the charge we gave to the

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Subcommittee, they did their honest effort to evaluate the complaints that were before them.

And it's hard to represent the exact conditions, and, in listening to the testimony and reading the Report, did the best they could to get a, you know, representative sample of different conditions to make a reasonable recommendation.

With that said, I think it's incumbent on us, if this motion doesn't carry, we really need to think about what direction can we give the Subcommittee, beyond the level of the study that they have already done.

We've heard the testimony that, to try to replicate or capture measurements exactly the same or close to or similar to all of these complaints, could be a, you know, an economically unviable or a study that goes on for an inordinate amount of time. So, I think, we would, as a Committee, really need to think what direction we would be tasking the Subcommittee with that.

With regard to, you know, the process, the second part of your motion, Commissioner

Scott, whether we're talking about just noise or

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all complaints? It does seem there's something missing on the lights. Whether it's a formal complaint, you had mentioned, and that's probably my own unfamiliarity with the process, I think you said something, Drew, that if it rose to a, you know, whether it rose to a certain level of complaint, or something like that.

And I heard Mr. Getz talk about they had some filing in February, I'm going to go back and look at that, where they seemed to try to answer that. But I think there does need to be more precision in the process on when a complaint reaches a certain threshold, and when it is moved to action, and when it is adequately responded to or not.

So, that's all I have.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Yes.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Commissioner Scott.

Just to

clarify my motion, I said generically "complaints" received after that '21 date, and I meant that purposefully, right? So, whether it's Mr. Block's ADLS complaint, or a noise complaint that I'm not aware of.

CMSR. CASS: Sure.

1 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: So, that was my 2. intent. I didn't specify on purpose, if that 3 helps. 4 CMSR. CASS: Yes. 5 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: Also, again, I think 6 we're all agreeing none of this is easy. So, 7 stating the obvious, our task is, you know, "Did they meet their Certificate requirements?" 8 9 what we wish the Certificate requirements said, 10 but what they currently say. And "Did they meet 11 the rules?" Right? 12 So, I think there's a lot to learn from 1.3 this whole process. But I am also cognizant 14 that, you know, we have to look at that, and what 15 the Subcommittee did, not what maybe they should 16 have done if the rules were different or if the 17 Certificate was different. 18 So, I'm not saying this is easy. 19 CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Commissioner 20 Chattopadhyay. 2.1 CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: To be clear, I

CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY: To be clear, I think the way I would cut it would be, because I understand what the Subcommittee was trying to explain, what's in the written form, it's not

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clear as to why those specific dates were chosen, why those specific times were chosen. It's more about also looking into the complaints, the dates, and sort of giving a good explanation, perhaps in a supplement, you know, to why those particular dates were chosen, and why the Subcommittee believes that, you know, that those are the right dataset — that is the right dataset, including the issue of, you know, whether a waiver was being requested or not.

So, I'm a little bit -- that's why I'm saying that, you know, while, on the other two issues, the new charge and how the Subcommittee has said the process should improve, you know, it would benefit me to see something from the Subcommittee more in writing, and giving me a better sense of why they think those dates were the right ones, addressing some of the issues that we've heard in this public meeting here as of now.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Mr. Doiron.

MR. DOIRON: I would agree, sir. And then, I think, you know, to Commissioner Scott's

motion, I think we need to look at the process.

You know, what we do and how we do it, and have

You know, what we do and how we do it, and have it a little bit more explained. You know, what

And then, also, too, I mean, something for me, and I think, you know, I don't want to speak for members of the Committee, but maybe in

dates are selected, why were they selected.

the future we have someone from the consultant group here present to help maybe answer some

10 technical questions that Committee members may

11 have.

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CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Thank you. Anything else, before we vote on Commissioner Scott's motion? And there will be the opportunity for additional motions afterwards.

Ms. Duprey.

MS. DUPREY: I guess I would just say that I don't believe we're really solving any problem by taking this motion today, because we're just going to get the same complaints again, and have to go through this process again. Because it's flawed, and I just -- I just don't see where we're going with it.

But, thanks.

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CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Anything else, before we move to -- and we'll do a roll call vote, so, we'll just go one-by-one, since it seems it's unlikely to be unanimous.

So, Commissioner Scott, if you could, maybe just repeat the motion into the record, so everyone knows what they're voting on. And then, we'll move to Commissioner Simpson next.

VICE CHAIR SCOTT: This will not be verbatim, because I don't have that kind of memory.

So, I move we accept the Committee -the Subcommittee's recommendation concerning
Charge 3, and its recommendation regarding taking
no further action on the 15 identified noise
complaints.

But, also, that we require the Subcommittee to file an additional report addressing complaints received, and, again, I can clarify "complaints", whether it's sound or visual, regarding the ADLS system, for example, since the timeframe that they covered under their existing charge.

And also, to request that or require

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         that the Subcommittee draft some proposed rules
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         to address some of the concerns that they
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         encountered in their experience with this,
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         addressing these. So, if I recollect correctly,
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         that included things as including how complaints
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         are registered, so they have the information they
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         need, for example.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER:
                                       Thank you,
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         Commissioner Scott. I'll mark you down as a
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          "yea" vote.
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                    Commissioner Simpson?
                    CMSR. SIMPSON: Yea.
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                    CMSR. CASS: Yea.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: And Mr. Gates [sic]
         said "yes"?
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                    CMSR. CASS: Yes.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: I'm sorry.
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         Cass, sorry?
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                    CMSR. CASS: Yea. Yes.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Commissioner
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         Chattopadhyay?
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                    CMSR. CHATTOPADHYAY:
                                          Nay.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Ms. Duprey?
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                    MS. DUPREY: No.
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                    MR. JALBERT: No.
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                    CMSR. YORK: Yes.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Mr. Jalbert -- I'm
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         sorry, Mr. York, you're going awfully fast.
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         York is a "yes"?
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                    CMSR. YORK:
                                 Yes.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: And Mr. Doiron?
                    MR. DOIRON: Yes.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. The vote
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         passes and is approved.
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                    We'll move on now to any discussion on
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         any further motions that anyone would like to put
         forward?
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                    [No indication given.]
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Hearing
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         nothing further, do I have a motion to adjourn?
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                    CMSR. SIMPSON: So moved.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Do I have a second?
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                    CMSR. CASS: Second.
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Let's take a
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         voice vote. All in favor of adjournment say
         "ave"?
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                    [Multiple Committee members indicating
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                    in the affirmative by saying "aye".]
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Any opposed?
                     [No indication given.]
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                    CHAIRMAN GOLDNER: Okay. Thank you.
          We are adjourned.
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                     (Whereupon the Public Meeting was
                    adjourned at 12:35 p.m.)
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## CERTIFICATE

I, Steven. E. Patnaude, a Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes of these proceedings taken at the place and on the date hereinbefore set forth, to the best of my skill and ability under the conditions present at the time.

I further certify that I am neither attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action; and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed in this case, nor am I financially interested in this action.

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Steven E. Patnaude, LCR Licensed Court Reporter N.H. LCR No. 52

(RSA 310-A:173)