

From: [Lance Hicks](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: wind turbine innovations
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 10:57:38 PM

Dear Fred,

As a summer resident of Molasses Pond in Eastbrook, ME (which is adjacent to Township 16, where First Wind is proposing a wind turbine development) I just wanted to briefly send you my “two cents” regarding all this.

In principle, I do not have an issue with the development of alternative energies, including wind power. That being said, I have been a direct observer of these wind farms, because a very large one exists in Palm Springs, California near my winter home. This wind farm is quite similar to First Wind’s proposal, in that it involves the same type of blade/propeller technology as First Wind plans to install (although the Palm Springs turbines are only 125 feet tall, versus the ones First Wind wants to install, which are 470 feet in height – nearly 4 times taller).

Here is my primary issue: These types of wind turbines are OLD TECHNOLOGY – they are already dinosaurs, technologically speaking. Anyone who keeps up to date with current innovations in green energy (look at “Scientific American” magazine, or “Discover” magazine, for example) knows this fact.

The article I’ve included herein (click on the weblink, at bottom) highlights what I’ve been saying all along and what I have been HOPING someone could urgently convey to members of LURC and other regulatory/decision-making bodies: The current wind turbine technology is simply and totally “old hat”, inefficient and outdated. (Yes, the current batch of blade/propeller turbines are better than the ones from 25 years ago, but they still only have a realistic functional life expectancy of 20-30 years.....and then they sit there, dead and useless – forever. This is the case with Palm Springs. Hundreds and hundreds of dead steel carcasses line the valley floor for miles, sitting there useless, never spinning one watt of energy. They were erected 30 years ago, and they will likely remain there for a hundred or more years in the future, because no plan to demolition them was ever funded or put in place.)

The article at bottom talks about a much more efficient machine (and less offensive one, from both a visual and sound perspective) -- a type of wind turbine that eliminates the giant blades and instead has a compact “eggbeater” design that captures and generates much more wattage than the antiquated turbines that First Wind is using.

And this is just one of many new developments in green energy development. My favorite new invention for capturing wind is giant “turbine kites” that are tethered to the earth by near-invisible steel cabling, and then float up in the Jet Stream. The beauty of this is that the Jet Stream is a constant flow of wind, moving without pause at 200 mph !! The energy efficiency ratio is HUGE.....and there is no sound or sight issues with turbine-kites, such as exists with earth-bound turbines like First Wind’s. (I believe it was “Discover” Magazine that recently did an article on this new impending technology. Each “turbine kite” generates somewhere between 10-20 Times more Energy than a comparable blade/propeller turbine. In other words, it takes far fewer turbines to generate an equivalent amount of energy.)

There are also amazing new innovations in capturing ocean wave-energy and translating that into electrical power. (Again, there have been recent articles in Scientific American and Discover magazine about trials being done **now**, on the coast of Maine, in this very regard. These machines impact no one – no visual, auditory, olfactory or other negatives – while generating substantial

energy because waves are a constant source of power.

In any case, this is my argument to you and other decision-makers. In considering proposals from companies like First Wind, you are considering antiquated technology that is already on the cusp of worthlessness. If you want to truly “do right” by Maine and make it a literal Power House of Green Energy, you should be looking ahead to more advanced – and less impactful – technologies, rather than falling back and relying on dead dinosaurs. Thanks for listening.

Here is the link to one of the articles I referenced:

http://www.gizmag.com/optimizing-wind-turbine-placement/19217/?utm_source=Gizmag+Subscribers&utm_campaign=d2d428f388-UA-2235360-4&utm_medium=email

Sincerely,

Lance Hicks

379 Roaring Brook Rd.

Eastbrook, ME 04634

207-565-8959 home

714-600-9669 cell

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From: [Dan](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Application DP 4889
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 9:11:08 PM

Martha W. Marchut

640 Pleasant Point Road Cushing, ME 04563
207-354-0714 E-mail: n7cd@zwi.net

July 17, 2011

Testimony for application# DP 4889, Bowers Mountain Wind Project

Presiding Officer Hilton, members of the Commission, my name is Martha Marchut from Cushing, Maine in Knox County. I own a camp on Lower Lake Sysladobsis. Please accept this written testimony that supports and supplements my oral testimony given on June 27, 2011.

A number of issues have been raised regarding the use of wind energy. These include the following:

- What are the health implications connected with residing in the vicinity of wind turbines?
- What is the short and long term environmental impact of the erection and use of wind power sources? For example, what will be the impact on Canadian lynx located in the area of the windmills?
- What is the true cost of erecting wind turbines? At what rate of efficiency will electricity be generated?
- What is the potential impact on the tourism industry? This is an economically poor area that happens to be blessed with lakes that have been designated as having significant or outstanding scenic quality. As someone who owns a camp on Lower Lake Sysladobsis, I can assure you that it is not my expectation to see windmills in the area of my camp. I'm certain that my perspective on this is not unusual. In addition to jeopardizing the current tourism industry, the presence of windmills has the potential to harm future growth of the tourism industry, an industry that could greatly benefit the area in years to come.
- How many current jobs will be negatively impacted by the erection of wind turbines? Maine guides and lodge owners have eloquently expressed their concerns in this regard.
- How many jobs, temporary and permanent, will be created for local residents by the wind power industry?
- How adverse will be the visual impact of multiple windmills, seen from many lakes? It is my understanding that there are at least 9 lakes of significant or outstanding scenic quality from which the windmills will be seen.

Given these questions, I am asking that you deny Application DP 4889 at least until an objective, independent, transparent, and empirical based assessment of the impact of the

Bowers Mountain Wind Project has been completed and evaluated.

Sincerely,

Martha W. Marchut

From: [Wendy Clark](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bottle Lake Wind Turbines
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 11:44:48 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to urge you to deny application DP4889 Bowers Mt. because this is not an appropriate site for this project. I understand the importance of alternative energy sources, and wind turbines are an excellent way to harness a natural form of energy. However, placing them on Bowers Mt. is not appropriate. Maine is a huge state and has plenty of high altitude locations that would provide for the same use of land, but will not affect the view of natives and vacationers. I have been going to Bottle Lake for over 30 years, every summer for two weeks. Bottle Lake, as does Junior, Keg and Scraggly offer the perfect get away. Once the sun sets, you can see the stars forever, without any distracting city glare, or flashing lights.

Please deny this application. These turbines will not only affect people who travel from all around the country to visit this natural gem, but also the loons and bald eagles that call this area their home.

Sincerely,

Wendy S. Clark
72 Westwood Parkway
Barre, VT 05641
clarkwe@gmail.com

From: [Freeportme](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers mountain ,DP 4889
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 1:30:23 PM

Dear Mr. Todd, The most valuable wild area Maine has to offer to the thousands of classic sportsmen and their families from around the world as well as the United States is the Downeast Lakes region. Loved by those who choose to live there, it has been the most popular spot for trout, salmon and small mouth bass fishing since the mid 1800s. The State of Maine has a small mouth bass project they are financing there which is doing very well, going on now. In the mid 1940's my folks had a sporting camp on Birch Island in Holeb on Holeb Pond and we entertained families from all over the United States, Canada and overseas as well, all of whom were interested in seeing Maine's at its most beautiful and the men wanted classic trout and salmon fishing. We didn't have small mouth bass so they all knew they had to go to the Grand Lakes area to satisfy their craving for some small mouth bass fishing and our guides would take them there or we would arrange visits to satisfy their dreams. This is a vital part of the tourism business which is neither recognized nor understood by the average person but the beauty of that area and the opportunity to find a place as glorious as it is, is a very important to Maine. It is what makes people want to come here and visit, thereby increasing the tourism business which is the largest, strongest business in Maine. Destroying it by butchering the mountains and killing off the wild life and their habitat will be a tragic mistake for us to make. Please keep this from happening. Maine is the Alaska of the East Coast, surrounded by Canada on two sides and the ocean to the east. That's why we are lucky to have all the beautiful landscape still left and why people flock here every season of the year creating a tourism industry which enhances many occupations starting at the beginning of the Maine Turnpike to wherever they end up. From the toll booths to the gas stations, restaurants, hotels, lodges, kids summer camps ,shops,camp grounds and countless other attractions, people pour into Maine to savor what we have. Please do not let it be destroyed.

Nancy D. Gray Harraseeket Inn Freeport

From: [Hannah Seavey](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain comments
Date: Saturday, July 02, 2011 4:37:11 PM

(Thank you for sharing my comments with the LURC Commissioners.)

From the Bowers Mountain Public Hearing in Lincoln, Maine, June 28, 2011:

A “windmill”. That seems like a bit of an understatement, doesn’t it? So, instead, “a turbine”. A huge, industrial turbine. A huge, industrial turbine, that visually pollutes the scenic landscapes of Maine’s mountains and lakes. Yes, this is what a so-called “windmill” is to me.

This is the fourth summer I have visited Maine, and each year, I find something new to wonder at; the stars, the trees, the wildlife, and the mountains. The beauty of it all never ceases to amaze me.

So what did I do when I found out more turbines were being erected in this area? I sighed.

These turbines affect what I come to Maine to see. The pristine night sky obscured by red lights, the mountains free of development, until now. These turbines certainly change my opinion of the natural beauty of Maine.

I ask you not to grant the Bowers Mountain industrial wind turbine permit, so that the wonder is preserved.

Hannah Seavey
Age 14
Clear Lake, TX

From: garnett@uninets.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Industrial Wind Project
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 9:47:13 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

My name is Garnett Robinson and I am a 4th generation Maine Guide and sportsman writing because I have very strong opinions about the proposed Bowers Mountain Industrial Wind Project and what might happen to the Sporting Camp and Guiding Industry in this beautiful part of Maine. In a rush to get permits to access federal grant money for what I believe is personal greed, the wind industry is pushing to place industrial wind sites in the midst of some of our most scenic regions devastating tops of mountains, putting in miles of roads and powerlines, and placing towers that will destroy the scenic and wilderness character of this entire region as the towers and the rows of red blinking lights will be seen for many miles.

It is true that in the short term there are a number of jobs created and profits to be reaped by large companies and undoubtedly the lawyers as well as the Chinese laborers who are building these grabbing their share of our government's wealth in the name of so-called "Green Power" putting in the most inefficient form of power production we have available. (I have been told that the projects currently online have been operating between 11% and 20% efficient)

In any case I ask that you consider the long term implications of permitting this project. There are many sporting camps and guides who depend on having clients travel from all parts of the world to this area because they enjoy fishing, hunting and recreating in this region in large part due to the scenic and wilderness character of the area. I also wonder what the implications are of hearing these windmills running at night when previously the only noises would have been birds and animals that live there. I doubt clients from New York, New Jersey and elsewhere will want to spend their hard-earned dollars to come to any area that has towers on all the hills and looks like where they come from? This area has very few jobs as it is now but I believe allowing these projects will destroy the historic sporting camp and guiding industry that still thrives here just so a few large corporations and lawyers can get rich on federal tax dollars available.

Thank you for hearing my concerns and I hope you consider the historic sporting camp and guiding industry and their dependence on the wilderness and scenic views that this area offers to make a living as you make your decision.

Sincerely,
Garnett Robinson, Master Maine Guide

From: [Maureen Cook](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Opposition DP 4889
Date: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 2:40:28 AM

Dear Sir:

I have visited the area north of Bangor for vacations over the past years for camping, sightseeing, visiting with friends on pristine lakes, and plan to visit again. When I am in the area, I purchase supplies, gas, etc. in Lincoln and Springfield, contributing to those economies.

I understand from friends in the lakes area that the wind interests are pumping a lot of money and a variety of "trinket" gifts into the area to buy support for placing already obsolete, gigantic wind apparatuses on the crests of the beautiful mountains around the lakes.

I have been in other areas where these bird-killing, bat-slaughtering whirl-a-monsters sit half their lives with their blades inert for the lack of consistent wind in some areas where they are being placed. When the intermittent winds do come, the local communities are not the ones who benefit but corporations. There is very little lasting input into the local community.

The wind interests care little to nothing about the unique quality of northern Maine. Please help your people think long term about the future repercussions of de-beautifying your rare land.

Maureen Cook
5604 12th Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35222

From: [Donald Soctomah](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain -Project Comments
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 11:28:47 AM
Attachments: [Bowers MT.rtf](#)

Dear Mr. Fred Todd;

I would like to comment on the proposed project, Bowers Wind. Attached is my letter of comments.

thank you;

Donald Soctomah
Historic Preservation Office
Passamaquoddy Tribe

Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Passamaquoddy Tribe
PO Box 159
Princeton, Maine 04668

Fred Todd
LURC
Augusta, Maine

July 15, 2011

RE: Bowers Mountain – Wind Project

Dear Mr. Todd:

I would like to express my concern about the proposed wind project on Bowers Mountain. Champlain Wind, LLC, has proposed installing 27, 428-foot industrial turbines on Bowers Mountain and Dill Ridge, which rise up at the headwaters of the Downeast Lakes Watershed.

I am the Historic Preservation Officer for the Passamaquoddy Tribe and I review project applications on the impact regarding the historic properties and significant religious and cultural properties in accordance with NHPA, NEPA, AIRFA, NAGPRA, ARPA, Executive Order 13007 Indian Sacred Sites, Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, and Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice.

This proposed project is located very close to Passamaquoddy tribal lands located in Township 5 Range 1 Penobscot County and Township 5ND in Washington County.

We are in opposition to this proposed project for several reasons:

1. The Passamaquoddy Tribe has several areas set aside for traditional cultural activities within this area (T5ND, T5R1). We believe that the wind turbines would have a harmful effect on these cultural activities.
2. Located on these two tribal townships, near the wind turbine site are religious sites, places that have been used for the last 10,000 years and are currently still being used. We believe that the wind turbines would have a harmful effect also on this activity for the tribe.
3. The visual effect of these giant turbines in this pristine area would have a ripple negative effect on other activities of the tribe,

such as traditional tribal hunting for subsistence of the tribal families; tribal guiding activities in these areas will be reduced; tribal camps in the area will lose the outdoor wilderness exposure.

The Tribe has fought long and hard for years to keep this area from large developers such as the wind turbine project, we still remember the proposed nuclear waste disposal site that was proposed for this area just a few years ago, there we worked with local towns to stop that.

This proposed project will destroy the areas remoteness just as it has altered the other areas it is in now, how much is enough?

Sincerely;
Donald Soctomah
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Passamaquoddy Tribe

From: [LaneSoltesz](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [Marvin Allen](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Project
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:34:26 PM

Mr. Todd,

I am writing in response to the upcoming decision on allowing wind turbines on Bowers Mountain and adjoining Dill Hill.

First of all, I object to the way these deliberations have been allowed to fast track through the approval process. Passing "Emergency Legislation" to allow this expedited process to take place is just one example of how the political bedfellows that make up the wind power coalition operate. Did the people of Maine get to have a say in that process?

Secondly, Who gets to speak for Maine? The small towns that are the most affected by these eyesores are the very ones who can least afford the legal council and expertise it takes to defend themselves. In the meantime Big Wind spends Big Money to state thier case.

A few years ago the State spent good money for a think tank down in Washington to present us with a study on recommendations for Maine's economic way forward. The number one finding from that study suggested that Maine should preserve its "unique scenic heritage". Is putting wind turbines on our irreplaceable scenic mountain tops the way to do that? I would furthure argue that having canoed and fished a goodly number of our Downeast lakes I would not have enjoyed the experience as much if I had to look at huge, ugly wind turbines and distracting strobe lights at night. I would think this would be the case for just about everyone seeking the outdoor experience Maine has to offer. Why are we trying to bite the hand that feeds us? Destroying OUR natural resources is not going to make any difference in the grand scheme of future power generation for this country.

I know there are a lot of scientific studies out there that detail the pro's and con's of wind turbines and their effect on the natural environment. I don't want to argue the merit of any of that here. I just want to see a little common sense used when it comes to doing irreversible damage to the image our state has so carefully cultivated in the past.

When the final tally is taken please note that I am urging a denial to this permit.

Sincerely,

Lane Soltesz
1173 Meadow Rd.
Bowdoin, Me. 04287
(207)666-3027

From: [Don Hudson](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Project
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 11:55:19 AM
Attachments: [DonHBowersWind70111.pdf](#)

Good morning Fred,

I'd like to submit the attached letter in support of the Bowers Mountain Project. A hard copy is going into the mail to you this morning.

Warm regards,

Don

--

W. Donald Hudson, Jr., Ph.D.
President Emeritus, Chewonki Foundation
26 Mosquito Run
Arrowsic, Maine 04530-7421

(207) 443-9795 - home
(207) 751-6426 - mobile



1 July 2011

Fred Todd
Land Use Regulation Commission
State House Station 22
Augusta, Maine 04330-0022

Dear Fred,

I write today in support of the Bowers Mountain Project. My experience with the Downeast lakes and rivers began in the mid-1960s. I lead groups on multi-day and multi-week trips in the region. As a Registered Maine Guide and leader, Head Naturalist, and later President of Chewonki, I came to know these lakes and rivers well. I have a clear sense of their human history and the roles that they have played in defining the greater Maine Woods experience.

Over many decades of work in the broad field of environmental education, I also take pride in watching a new generation of leaders emerge to embrace the tough issues of our times. Former Chewonki counselors, campers and students – many who accompanied me on trips down the St. Croix and Machias Rivers or through the Grand Lakes from Grand Lake to Sysladopsis and beyond, have emerged in leadership roles in Maine and throughout the country in natural resource agencies and non-profit organizations. Others have pursued academic careers and are now on the faculties of colleges and universities across the land, often in the life sciences and related fields.

Chewonki, in the meantime, has become a leader in Maine and the region for demonstrating alternative approaches to the management of natural resources, and most importantly in the adoption of renewable energy – both onsite and off. This transformation began in 1970 with the adoption of a water-saving technology for handling human waste. What is not well known is that the young people at Chewonki have been in the forefront of this transformation. It was a group of students who most recently challenged the Board of Trustees to adopt their plan for reducing carbon emissions to the atmosphere from all sources by 80% by 2050.

My experience of working with young people for the past 45 years has shown me that they understand that human societies are at a tipping point with respect to the overall health of human society and the planet. They understand that the energy sources of the future cannot be the energy sources of the past. They see a connection between the quality of the air that engulfs Maine in the dog days of summer and our dependence on fossil fuel, for example. They have helped me to see that wind farms, though they represent a new and different influence and

human element on the landscape, are – ultimately – more beneficial and helpful than the smog and haze that dims our view of the horizon and is a harbinger of a rapidly warming climate.

I don't believe that it is fair to say that the sight of wind machines on the distant horizon will have any more impact on a young person's appreciation of the wild and wide-open spaces of the Downeast lakes and rivers than does the burning of coal in major power plants in the northeastern and north central United States. The use of motors on the lakes and the noise and sights associated with managing timber in the region already sends the message that people are present, working in the woods and enjoying the waters. In my experience, a far greater proportion of young people understand the need for new and less impactful sources of energy to support society than do their parents. As we older generations muddle along, Rome is burning.

My young friends are not naïve! They recognize that there are trade-offs with any form of human development on a landscape. Like me, they tend to think that wind farms are best suited in Maine to industrial forestlands, where our management has already altered otherwise untouched and wild landscapes for the greater good of society. The wilderness of the Maine Woods is a highly managed forest, which has been shaped by the hand of society for nearly 400 years, and there is no getting around it. The view of a wind farm from a distance is just as much a symbol of hope for a sustainable future as it is a symbol of development. In my experience, young people share this view of renewable sources of energy and, as an emerging and important segment of the population, they are far more ready to make the shift than are their parents.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Hudson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

W. Donald Hudson, Jr., Ph.D.
President Emeritus
Chewonki Foundation



From: [Pat Egan](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Project
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 10:55:53 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I hope and pray that you will hear those of us who find this project very disturbing. More citizens of Maine than one might suspect are fully aware that much of the wind power business in Maine is a scam perpetrated for the financial profit of people like Angus King, Baldacci and friends. Such individuals have no problem milking their fellow citizens (i.e. much higher electricity rates) while destroying the physical beauty of the state.

At Stetson there are already many turbines and, in the 8 mile scenic impact area alone (a rather arbitrary designation) there are nine lakes. Do we ask those recreating there to do so with their eyes on the ground so as to avoid catching sight of ugly wind turbines? Do we ignore the deaths of birds caught in arms of the windmills? How often do those who claim they love nature despoil it?

Allowing this project to go through is the camel's nose under the tent. When the camel itself follows, Maine is hurried along the path to self-destruction.

If the public is skeptical of the motives of government officials it is because we find too few of these officials rising above their own self-interest, peer pressure or apathy to act for the good of the whole and for those who will come after us. Please hear us.

Thank you,

Patricia Colling Egan
Rockport

From: TonyV45@aol.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain wind project DP4889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 11:29:27 AM

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to urge you to vote to deny the application to allow construction of windmills on Bowers Mountain. Two years ago we purchased lakefront property on Lower Sysladobsis Lake. My wife and I are currently building a home there. We chose that area due to all the factors that draw one to such places of natural beauty. We are leaving behind a partial view of a nearby landfill and beyond that, the Limerick, Pennsylvania nuclear power plant. The majority of the residents of Maine are extremely lucky to not have to see views of industrial operations in every direction you look, at least not yet. We need to preserve as much of the natural beauty of this great land as possible. Please resist the attempts to take away another of our beautiful natural places. Please vote NO to deny the application to build windmills on Bowers Mountain, DP4889.

Regards,

Tony & Diane Vendetti
45 Winding Road
Boyertown, PA 19512

From: [carolted greenlaw](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Wind project
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:12:45 PM

To; LURK att: Mr Fred Todd.

From; Edwin (Ted) Greenlaw
43 Bottle Lake Road
Springfield, Me. 04487

I attended the recent hearings in Lincoln, Me. with the intention of testifying in favor of allowing the Bowers Mountain wind project to be permitted and constructed. Unfortunately due to a health issue I was unable to do so. I feel that my points are valid and important and I hope they will be accepted and considered as the permit process advances. my qualifications to testify are as follows.

I own and pay taxes in Carroll Plantation. Although I do not currently reside in Carroll, I did live there for 15 years. During that time I served two terms as 2nd assessor. In the past I have worked in a Coal and oil fueled electric generating facility. Currently retired I spend as much time as possible, fishing and boating on the many nearby lakes.

During the time I served on the board of assessors I came to know the people of Carroll. I am aware of the many challenges they face, both as individuals and as a community. The average resident of Carroll is not a person of means by any measure. They are quiet, good people who stay close to their homes and families. They are unlikely to stand up in a public forum and express themselves. They could never fund and organize a defense against those who would deny them a badly needed cut in their current high tax rates. Rather they will quietly hope that those in authority will do the right thing by them. People in this community need and deserve a break! They were raised as farmers, wood cutters and laborers. Under the current economy they struggle just to get by. Work is just not available to them, but the costs in running a town keep coming in and have to be met. Children still have to go to school, roads must be maintained and plowed in the winter. I have personally witnessed people coming in to the town office with \$25 to \$30 to pay against their taxes, People who were already 2 years in arrears struggling to keep their homes. You wont be hearing from these people. its unlikely that they will stand up and fight as the opposition is doing , but they are there and their need is real.

Currently almost half of the electricity being generated in this country comes from facilities burning coal. Years ago I worked in a plant that was fueled by coal and by oil. This plant was & is a big dirty, noisy NIGHTMARE. This plant burned bunker c oil and coal of such poor quality that it barely qualified as coal. During the dark of night the stacks were "cleaned" by blowing them out with super heated air and steam. People working this shift were issued certificates to get their cars washed to prevent damage to the paint. The next shift people were sent to the roof to vac up mercury that was blown out overnight. The biggest complaint I have heard is that people would "see" the windmills. If we offered to trade some windmills for their coal plant to people living on the banks of the Pisquaticus River in Portsmouth NH and in Elliott Maine They would very likely approve the trade.

I enjoy fishing and riding around in my little boat on area lakes. I also enjoy very much the scenery. Will I see the windmills when they go up? Yes of course I will. Will it bother me? Not as much as a coal plant or a NUKE!! and I'll get used to them. You cant get to the lakes from rt. 6 east or west or from the north even without seeing wind mills. They're here. and yes they represent change. 20 odd years ago the land around Junior lake began to be developed That was change. another 50 years before that Bottle lake began to be developed, That was change. The lots on jr lake were very upsetting to many people when they were developed. Almost never mentioned is the fact that those lots are now being sub-developed==Change I ride my little boat trolling along and see lots that were fully wooded now they have nice homes with garages driveways septic tanks and leach fields (That leach no doubt) I see quite a few not so legal boat launching ramps. I don't know what happened to all those trees that were not to be disturbed in buffer zones! But the most interesting things I see are the Utility Poles. Everyone wants power. Presumably every one wants power to be generated---somewhere else. and the windmills kill birds? Give me a break. Perigun Falcons that were once almost extinct now are thriving on ledges in big cities they have learned to adapt to change as did the pigeons they feed on. Birds will

adapt they always have and always will

A few well funded, well organized people are trying to pressure LURK into denying the permits for the Bowers Mt. wind project in the guise of Protecting the wonders of nature. So far these very people have had the biggest impact on the environment and still will as development of the lake shores continue. Do they have a right to build their homes and sub develop for more? Well-- yes. I don't like it but they do have the right. Its their land. Just as those who will build wind mills have the right--Its their land.

Edwin Greenlaw
43 Bottle lake road
Springfield Maine 04487

207-738-2441

From: [Rob Wilder](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 7:37:33 PM

Dear LURC Commissioners,

As a registered voter and concerned Maine citizen, I wish to express my opposition to the Bowers Mountain Mt/DP4889 project submitted by First Wind proposes 27 forty-three story tall turbines spread out over 4.5 miles of mountain tops and ridgelines that will directly overshadow one of Maine's most precious watersheds.

This project, proposed to be built at the very head of the watershed will directly impact more than a dozen lakes, many of which are LURC rated Class 1A and 1B for their "statewide or national significance". This project, if approved, will have an irreparable and permanent impact on the traditional tourism based businesses that require the scenic splendor and wilderness characteristics that the area currently enjoys.

The Downeast Lakes Region has been attracting outdoors enthusiasts for over a century. The Downeast Lakes Watershed is a system of 13+ lakes, interconnected by navigable waterways. The waters are clean, the forests plentiful and manmade intrusions have been kept to a minimum. This makes the area a mecca for photography, canoeing, kayaking, boating, hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, skiing, ice-fishing, snowmobiling, etc. The guestbooks of the local sporting camps are full of names from all over the US and the World.

At the foot of the watershed lies the village of Grand Lake Stream, world renowned for its fishing and the century old salmon hatchery that provides landlocked salmon to the rest of the State. This region is home to the largest number of fulltime professional guides in Maine as well as the State's greatest concentration of Class 1A and 1B lakes. Other than some timber harvesting, this region is almost 100% directly or indirectly dependent on the year-round outdoors recreational economy.

Major reasons for my opposition to this permit include:

- Because of topography, the visual impact will be large and will harm the unique local economy.
- At 428' tall, these turbines will be the tallest in the State.
- The flashing lights will be visible for approx 20 miles across the lakes.
- Bowers Mountain is the source of three brooks which support wild populations of Brook Trout.
- This is an important bird and bat migratory route and nesting area for bald eagles, herons and ospreys.
- The value of property in the region is closely tied to its natural nature. Turbines will cause devaluation of property values.
- The cumulative impact of the existing Stetson I, Stetson II and Rollins projects is already considerable.
- Few studies have been conducted on how the turbine sound will travel down the slope and across these large bodies of water.

Please do not misunderstand my position, I am not against renewable energy from the wind, but I feel location of each project must be very carefully considered regarding its potential impact. In fact, I would encourage continued development of off-shore wind farms in the Gulf of Maine.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective against the Bowers Mountain Wind Turbine project.

Rob Wilder

mainerx8@yahoo.com

From: [Alan and JoNell Solander](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 5:39:52 PM

I oppose The Bowers Mountain/DP4889 wind project. I have seen these disfiguring wind farms in California. Although I am not totally opposed to wind power, I feel the location of this wind farm is poorly sited. This is a region which is dependent on the tourist trade and this "eyesore" will certainly affect that. I, myself, have canoed and fished some of the adjacent lakes and cannot imagine doing so if these giant windmills are despoiling the view. At this point in time I would prefer that wind power be located offshore where the damage to the environment is not irreversible if it proves to be a boondoggle.

Sincerely,

Alan R. Solander
560 W. Auburn Rd.
Auburn, Me 04210

From: [Lindsay, Brian](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: brianlathome@msn.com
Subject: Bowers Mountain wind project
Date: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 8:04:33 AM

Mr. Todd,

Please enter this email into the permanent record concerning the Bowers Mountain project.

Dear LURC:

As a landowner of lake front property facing northeast on Duck Lake we will have a view of the Bowers Mountain Wind Farm, a site that just doesn't fit with the rustic way of life that we enjoy and have enjoyed for 4 generations. I was in attendance at the June 27th meeting in Lincoln and listened to the witnesses speak regarding how this project would affect them, pro v. con. This is about more than this or that group/individual benefiting or suffering some perceived harm. This is about the preservation of a way of life and a place so beautiful that visitors come from all over the world to experience "the way life should be".

As I was returning to my regular life after vacationing for a week at Duck Lake I saw a Maine conservation license plate and I observed that the plate was sub-titled, "A NATURAL TREASURE". What was being referred to was the background on the plate of a loon as it swam on a Maine lake, with a forested shore, in the shadow of Mt. Katahdin. Pick any of the lakes in the West Grand watershed and it could be the scene depicted on that CR plate.

So on the one hand we are promoting and reveling in the grandeur of our "Natural Treasure" while on the other we are allowing the raping of our mountaintops and the permanent marring of the scenic beauty that is there for all to enjoy. The unabashed arrogance with which First Wind is treating the users of this immense watershed is ridiculous, comments like, "Fisherman can orient their boats away from the turbines or situate themselves in one of the many coves if the views of the turbines become undesirable." are indicative of an attitude that permeates the wind power industry. That is what we as residents of Maine are being told by First Wind... If you don't like what we are doing to your state turn your back because this is just the beginning.

This is the time, this is the situation where the Commission must make a stand and deny the application to erect these 21st century, futuristic wind mills in an area more representative of a 19th century existence. This is a place where locals and visitors enjoy the simple life, please keep it this way by denying the application, don't allow this treasure of a place to be changed **forever**. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Brian Lindsay
Portland, ME and Lakeville, ME

From: [Lou Cataldo](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: mainlymaine@fairpoint.net
Subject: Bowers Mountain Wind project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 10:17:43 AM

To the Lurc Commissioners, This letter asks you to vote no on the the permit request for the bowers mountain Wind project. The citizens in the Grand Lake Stream Area have worked long and hard to keep our regions tourism industry going. And during tuff economic times it has been a struggle. We are still in bussiness and when the economy rebounds we will be ready to flourish ounce again. This industrial wind project being visible from most of our beautiful lakes might be the straw that breaks the camals back. I plead with you to say no to this project and help us keep one of the most beautiful places in Maine natural and prictine. And don't forget the 350,000 acres around Grand Lake Stream will always be open to the public. Down East Lakes Land Trust made sure of that. I think this land will become even more important to the sporting public as the years go by. Try to find a peace of ground that large where the public will always be welcome . I think if you look into the future it will be unherd of. We have done our part protecting this land and keeping it available to the sporting public , please do your part and help keep it looking natural and beautiful. Thank You Very Much, Louis Cataldo 4th Term 1st Selectmen Grand Lake Stream

From: [Gian-Angelo Gallace](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 10:29:32 PM

Maine Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0022

Dear Members of LURC:

We oppose First Wind's proposed wind turbine development on Bowers Mountain. Let us be clear in stating that we certainly do support a move toward the establishment of renewable electricity sources. However, it is increasingly clear that industrial wind farms placed in remote woodland settings are not the panacea that many hoped and believed they would be. This is an issue which is far greater than people 'not wanting to look at tall white towers.' At issue is whether such industrial developments in unspoiled wilderness areas makes any sense environmentally or economically. On the environmental side, this particular region is noted as one of the most beautiful and ecologically important fresh water areas in the state. To choose to transform such a place into an industrial landscape in the pursuit of 'environmentally friendly' energy makes no sense. We should not sacrifice the premier remaining unspoiled places in this state in order to produce a product that can be produced more cleanly and more efficiently in other settings. Already, academics and businesses are touting offshore wind turbines as a far more consistent and productive source of electric power. But, in our eyes, recent developments in tidal electricity production likely will make that technology far superior to even offshore wind turbines.

On the economic side, there is no question that land values are very negatively effected by wind farms. It is a terrible policy to use taxpayer money to subsidize an industry that substantially devalues the assets of Maine land owners. In addition, a proliferation of huge wind turbines towering over the most scenic vistas in Maine will likely have a chilling effect on tourism. Finally, if the reason for these costly developments is to create a net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, there is substantial evidence to suggest that these wind farms actually increase net CO2 emissions. After all, building such structures and the lines needed to carry the power they sometimes produce is a very dirty industrial process involving the removal of thousands of carbon sequestering trees and plants. And when the wind doesn't blow hard enough, or blows too much, the turbines must sit idle. Which means other non renewable sources of power must constantly be available. So, in the end, the tax payers of Maine are being asked to subsidize a development which will degrade one of the most ecologically important areas of the state, a development that will provide expensive sporadic power, a development that will reduce property values, a development that will likely hurt the expanding eco-tourism industry, and a development that very likely will lead to the spewing of even more CO2 into the Earth's atmosphere.

Please do not approve this ill-conceived venture.

Sincerely,
Gian-Angelo Gallace
Peter S. Gallace
11 Chestnut Hill

Camden, ME 04843
(207) 236-3733
petergallace@yahoo.com

From: [Larry O'Rourke](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: BOWERS MOUNTAIN WIND PROJECT
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 11:03:39 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to express my concern over the Bowers Wind Project. Maine is a very special place and I have enjoyed its mountains, rivers and streams since 1976 when I first visited the state. Now I am a resident and I continue to relish the outdoor experiences.

My concern over the Bowers Mountain Project is that there is a risk of disrupting the wildlife in the area, and that the Wind Farm would have a devastating aesthetic impact on what is currently a spectacularly beautiful area. When I hike and fish I deliberately seek out areas that provide solitude and pristine beauty. Should this project move ahead the Bowers Mountain region will fall off my list of places to visit, I am certain to the dismay of the local guides, stores, restaurants, and the like.

A certain level of short-term prosperity will likely come from the construction of the Wind Farm, but I would expect the impact of reduced visitors to the area, which I could be large, will over 10, 20, or 30 years far outweigh the short term gains.

I encourage LURC to take a negative position regarding the application for the Bowers Mountain Project.

Respectfully,
Lawrence M. O'Rourke
PO Box 134
Sumner, Me 04292
207-388-2085

From: [Nadianichols](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 8:10:07 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to ask, beg, that you deny the Bowers Mountain project. It is wrong on so many levels, both from a wildlife and environmental perspective and from the economic perspective as well. This area is a jewel. Many thousands of dollars have been invested in it to keep it that way and to preserve the fisheries that exist there. LURC has helped preserve this area for future generations. If it is industrialized, an entire way of life will be forever lost.

I was shocked to see the industrial turbines across the lake when I came into Lincoln. I can't imagine what this state might look like in a few short years if we don't put the brakes on this now. The Maine "brand" will be entirely lost, along with all the Maine guides, who are known as the best in the nation. In the world.

I sat through both days of the hearings in Lincoln and thank all of you for your attentive patience and incredible endurance. You have a very difficult job. I'm sure none of you could have foreseen the frenzied land grab that former governor Baldacci's expedited wind law created.

Please do the right thing and deny the Bowers Mountain Project.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Penelope R. Gray
Registered Maine Master Guide
Harraseeket Inn
Freeport, Maine

From: [Christopher Wiebusch](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain, DP 4889
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 8:45:22 PM
Attachments: [State of Maine Land Use Regulation Commission.docx](#)

State of Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

Regarding: Development Permit DP 4886

Blue Sky East, LLC

Bull Hill and Heifer Hill Wind Energy Project

My name is Christopher Wiebusch and I live in Franklin, Maine, Hancock County, about 11 miles southwest of the proposed site. I have lived and worked in this area for the last twenty years. I did not attend the public hearings at Ellsworth in May, but my wife did and passed on the information. I have read the testimonies from speakers that made presentations on those date. I have also read a lot of the literature on the internet both pro and con about large scale wind energy projects. Based on my findings from the readings and research I do not think that the Bull Hill and Heifer Hill wind energy project should be approved.

Besides the many reasons that wind development affects bird and bat populations in a negative manner there are many unknown affects of other wildlife in the area. Although this area has seen heavy forestry activity in the past ten years or so, it is also an area that sees a lot of hunting activity. Maine depends upon out of state dollars that come from tourist. Some of these tourists come to Maine to fish and hunt. It has been documented at other wind energy projects in the US that large and small game animals will leave these areas due to the development and effects of the wind turbines. Others come to view wildlife for photography reasons and displacement of large wildlife can make it difficult to find and photograph wildlife.

Maine is also known and favored for its expansive and never ending wilderness and forest lands. This area is part of this even though it is near populated areas. You could say it is a gateway to northern Hancock County. I know many locals who use the woods and logging roads in this area for four wheeler trips on weekends. Who would want to operate their ATV when all you see is miles of ditch with wires and large wind turbines. I know I wouldn't and others will not either. The dollars they bring to towns like Eastbrook, Franklin, Amherst and Aurora will go elsewhere, maybe to another state.

The fact that this project will be viewed from one of Maine's designated scenic highways is wrong. The Black woods road (State Route 182) from Franklin to Cherryfield has some of the best views in the state. The colors of the trees during autumn are just wonder full. Many visitors and residence drive this route between Ellsworth and Downeast Maine just because of the scenic value. I believe it is a violation to disrupt the scenic view along a designated scenic highway. Not to mention the view north from the Donnell Pond public reserve will be marred by the site of the turbines. This area is very popular with campers and hikers, and Schoodic Mountains has many visitors every year. I have been able to locate the wind project site from the summit of Cadillac Mountain in Acadia National Park. Millions of visitors

from all over the world will have their view to the north disrupted by the site of this project. On a good visibility day you can make out Mount Katahdin from the summit of Cadillac.

In these poor economical times, Maine needs all the out of state dollars it can get. If this project gets approved, the only people who will benefit is Blue Sky East, LLC. Maine already produces more electricity than it uses and all this extra energy goes to southern New England. We cannot store and save the energy that gets produced, so why push a project down the throats of Maine residents for the benefit of people and business in southern New England. We already have wind energy projects in northern and western Maine. Keep the Downeast Lakes area of Maine free of these wind projects. In the long turn, this will benefit everyone.

I could go on and on with reasons that this project should not be approved. You no doubt have read letters from many others like me and they all feel strongly that this project is not a good idea. I ask that you take the time to read each of these carefully and consider how you would feel if this project was in your neighborhood. Maine is a wonderful state so lets keep it that way for generations to come. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Christopher J Wiebusch.

From: [Fasano, Peter C.](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers mountain
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 3:20:10 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

Please count me as another voice opposed to a wind farm on Bowers Mountain. Many people have spent many years working to preserve the Downeast Lakes region. Many people come to that area not only to fish but to briefly escape the modern world. I've seen the reader comments in the newspapers and there are people from as far away from New Jersey who have said that if the wind farm is constructed then they won't want to come anymore.

Regards,

Peter Fasano
Jefferson, ME

From: [Jill McGrath](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 12:47:54 PM

Hello Fred,

I have corresponded with you before and I am back again to openly protest the Bowers Mountain project by First Wind.

First Wind came to Grand Lake Stream a few years ago and offered the town money if they could install their wind turbines on the western views of all who work and play here. First Wind did not tempt one of us here, not one.

In May, when we were returning to our West Grand Lake cabin from Florida, we came along Route 6 and I cried. To see those monstrosities dug into the hillsides, sending power out of state by a company who barter with communities for turbine placement in exchange of funds made me ill.

How could anyone sell out this beautiful country we are so privileged to have in this area of Maine? Any additional turbines will destroy this area and the only vocations which exist here such as Guiding and lodges. Visitors come here to escape industrialization, not be slapped in the face with it.

Please, help us save this land, its wildlife, its workers and caretakers and the God-given views and geography.

**Sincerely,
Jill W. McGrath
P.O. Box 168
Grand Lake Stream, ME 04637**

From: [Susan Drucker](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain/DP 4889
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 8:32:41 AM

Hello.

Please make note of my opposition to First Wind's Bower Mountain Industrial Wind Project. A better site should be found that does not impact such pristine environment.

Thank you.

Susan Drucker
38 Bay Road
Bowdoinham, Maine

From: [Paul Alexandre John](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt Wind project testimony
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 7:45:29 AM
Attachments: [PAJ LURC Bower Mt testimony.doc](#)

Mr. Todd:
Attached is my testimony regarding the proposed Bowers Mountain Wind Energy Project. Please see that the LURC commissioners receive it.
Thank you for your efforts in this matter.
Paul Alexandre John

Paul Alexandre John
633 Sugar Hill Rd.
Eastbrook, ME 04634
(207) 565-2798
flyingbirdarts@hotmail.com

To: LURC
Maine Department of Conservation
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Downeast Grand Lakes region

July 15, 2011

Dear Commission Members,

You will notice that the people who want the giant turbine industry are people who are going to make money from it. The fact that the real wind resource in Maine is sub-par, especially in the proposed location, does not deter the lust for the corporation to make money. The money comes from us taxpayers in the form of the stimulus package. If those funds were not available, these vultures would not be here and we would not be having this conversation.

I live in rural Maine and am disturbed very much by this invasion into my quiet life. You realize that a fully grown maple tree is approximately 60'-80' high. You put 6-8 trees on top of each other and you will get to the height of these turbines. Some people do not understand what the number 476' really means until you quantify it with something commonplace. You'd need about 16 telephone poles (approx. 30') stacked end to end to reach this height!

The gall of First Wind to say that things will not be affected or that they will not disturb anything is quite laughable. This nonsense has to stop and a line must be drawn in the sand.

Just step back and understand that if this industry is allowed to come into an area where people have set up their lives, it will severely damage their existence. This total rubbish of equating wind energy with foreign oil, which has been debunked, is still used to dupe people. They need false talking points to peddle their snake oil.

Downeast Maine with all its beautiful lakes is a jewel. Living with these huge turbines, which are constantly noisy with low frequency sound levels that affect the nervous system, is going to be a public health problem. To have a major industry so close to where people live and recreate is not a good or healthy fit. Local people and visitors from all around the world come to this part of Maine to enjoy its beauty. Nourishment is in nature. I love Downeast Maine and do not want to see a full-scale industry that is really not efficient come to this area. It is all about money—not wind. Wind is this corporation's excuse to get their hands on the stimulus funds.

Have courage and please stop this insanity.

Thanking you,
Sincerely,

Paul Alexandre John

From: [v. paul reynolds](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers mt wind project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 12:29:48 PM

Dear Fred: Please include me among those Mainers strongly opposed to the Bowers Mt Wind project.

Mr. V. Paul Reynolds
President
Maine Outdoor Publications

300 Sawyer Road
Hampden, ME 04444
(207) 862-6647
vpaulr@tds.net

From: [Eric Lane](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. / DP 4889 - Please deny application
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 9:56:57 AM

Dear Mr. Todd

Please add this email to the list of correspondence from people opposing this project. I am requesting as a citizen and taxpayer in the State of Maine that LURC deny the application.

The state of Maine is a regional, if not national leader in renewable energy production. We have sacrificed many free flowing rivers and now mountain ridges to provide renewable energy to the New England grid.

At some point we must make a stand and say there are areas in Maine that are worth protecting from industrial development and the Down East lakes areas is one of them.

There are currently 7 billion people on this planet and 1.3 million in Maine. Although First Wind would have you think that the entire world ecosystem depends on their wind project, it is just hype. Maine represents $\frac{1}{2}$ of 100th of a percent of the world population and as a whole have done our part to produce renewable energy. Bowers Mtn area is more valuable to us as open space than another utility generation site. In fact over time I think the open space will viewed as a much more valuable commodity than the small amount of energy produced by windmills. First Wind has projects in Mars Hill, Stetson and Lincoln. I feel they have had good success in the area and they will survive without the Bowers Mtn project.

The folks who oppose the project want nothing in return. First Wind seeks approval with nothing but returns in mind. The company is private equity financed and that equity is leveraged with debt. The officers of First Wind primary objective is not to produce green energy or reduce dependence on foreign oil but to increase shareholder return. It is their corporate responsibility to create shareholder return. This is not a judgment it is fact . That is how corporate America works these days. If they can successfully take that company public it will be stage two of the greater fool theory. Stage 1 is the people of Maine giving up their natural scenic vistas, health and property values for First Wind and the second stage will be when they sell the company in the public market. They will get rich and we will get stuck with high energy costs that come with wind power and the damage that has been done to our nationally recognized natural beauty. Does any remember the slogan "Vacationland". People come to Maine to show their children and grandchildren how it was when they grew up. Quiet and peaceful with loons calling. You can hear the wind in the pine trees and see the Milky Way galaxy at night. You can't buy this and you can't replicate this. If this permit is approved this area of Maine will be forever changed.

Please keep this in mind when reading or listening to First Wind material—green , renewable , foreign oil all translates to “create shareholder return”. Again the opponents are asking for nothing in return, First Wind officers looking to get rich.

Eric Lane

From: jspace@metrocast.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. / DP 4889
Date: Sunday, July 03, 2011 9:43:09 AM

Mr. Todd,

I am requesting that the permit for Bowers Mt. / DP 4889 be denied. As a frequent visitor to Bowers Mtn area, I see the windmill project would destroy everything we love about that area and my family and I would likely seek other states to enjoy the serenity and beauty we have found in upstate Maine for the past 30 years.

Sincerely,

JoEllen Space

Gilford, NH

From: [Polly Freund](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. / DP 4889
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 9:54:00 AM

Good Morning,

I'm writing to tell you that I DO NOT support the Bowers Mt. wind project and strongly urge you to vote to "deny" this application. I ask that you deny application DP4889 Bowers Mt. because I feel this is not an appropriate site for this project. If the project is approved I will never again consider taking a vacation in that area.

We will continue our show of strength to our opposition to this wind project.

Thanks for your consideration,

Polly Freund

2904 16th Avenue

Rockford, IL 61108

From: [Barby](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. / DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 3:15:26 PM

Sir,

I am absolutely appalled at the thought of having to stare at Wind Turbines while sitting on the deck at camp!! Our grandparents built this camp, which is located at 58 Windy Shores Rd. My sister now owns it. I've been coming here all my life. I am 58, my husband and I are retired now so we spend a lot more time here on Bottle Lake. Which, of course, translates into dollars for the community. From everything I've heard I don't see how these monstrosities have any long term benefits for this area. Also, what of the fire hazards? Has this subject been studied and explained to the areas involved? Is the state of Maine turning into the Turbine Farm State? I am extremely upset, as is the rest of my family who also camp here and next door.

Thank-you for any help you can give us,

Barbara LeTourneau
136 Judd Rd.
Coventry, CT. 06238

From: [Lincoln G. Clark](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. / DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 11:15:56 AM

Re: Bowers Mt. / DP 4889

To whom it may concern:

My family and I oppose the construction of wind turbines as proposed in the Bowers Mountain project.

Members of my family have been traveling to the Pines on Sysladobsis Lake to fish and hunt since the mid 30s. Contrary to the views of First Wind, solitude, isolation, and beautiful unspoiled lakes make us return year after year. My son started coming when he was 12 and has joined me every year for the past twenty-five years. This year we introduced his two sons to the Pines. How will we explain to them, as First Wind suggests, that we have to go stern first as we go north on the lake to avoid having to look at the turbines?

Please encourage wind power advocates to build turbines out in the ocean, don't spoil beautiful wilderness.

Lincoln G. Clark
998 North Road
Bethel, VT 05032

From: louisc@maine.rr.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind (First Wind) Mt/Kossuth Township project LURC
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 11:15:38 AM

ATT: Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind (First Wind) Mt/Kossuth Township project LURC

7/18/2011

Dear Mr. Todd,

Federal approval and actually building industrial wind turbines in Maine are not the same. On April 12, 2010 Governor John Baldacci signed into law: 124th Legislature, SP 582, LD# 1504 'An Act To Provide Predictable Benefits to Maine Communities That Host Wind Energy Developments'

The proposed Wind Turbine project falls under this law as being within a 'Host community' under Sec. A-7 35-A MRSA §3454 Community Benefits Package Requirement;

List of Exceptions to 124th LD 1504: Bold (*) text is non-compliance.

A)

1. This project produces (greater) than 20 megawatts.
2. This project is (not) run by a non-profit organization.

B)

1. In a host community has not voted to waive or reduce the community benefits package requirement;
2. This project is (not) on Passamaquoddy Indian Territory.
3. This project is (not) on Passamaquoddy Indian Territory.
4. This project is (not) on Passamaquoddy Indian Territory.

As you can see above First Wind is legally required under LD 1504 to provide tangible benefits to the Lakeville residents. This includes a Community Benefits Package* for the host community; Lakeville.

*Sec. A-3. 35-A MRSA §3451, sub-§1-C

Is First Wind going to provide the following to the people of Lakeville?

- Community Benefit Agreement
- Property tax reductions
- Economic development projects
- Land and natural resource conservation
- Tourism promotion
- Reduction of energy costs

Has First Wind paid the necessary fees and contacted the proper Maine state government departments under Sec. A-8. 38 MRSA §352, sub-§3?

124th LD 1504 is Effective from July 12 2010 onwards for submissions for applications to the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) or "the office" for tangible benefits.

First Wind is required to work with the staff of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Marine Resources for an application to build on the Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind at Mt/Kossuth Township at the State level.

Getting permission at the Federal level to build is not the same as the state level. The land being built on is not Federal property and the ultimate authority to build or not build the wind turbines falls with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

Louis Connelly

From: [jody_spear](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. industrial wind project/DP 4889
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 1:10:48 PM

Dear Mr. Todd:

LURC must not approve First Wind's plan, which would desecrate the Downeast Lakes Watershed. Please note that the Expedited Wind Energy Act stipulates that wind development be sited "where appropriate," and this massive installation of turbines in a sensitive wilderness region is not appropriate. Construction blasting and erosion, low- and high-frequency noise while in operation -- all are devastating to wildlife and scenic values. The turbines would have irreparably damaging effects on the tourism industry that attracts visitors for back-country recreation in remote parts of Maine. Grid-scale wind does nothing to reduce fossil-fuel use, and I urge you to reject it.

Jody Spear, Brooksville

From: [Merrylyn Sawyer](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. Wind Power assault
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 10:01:39 PM

Hello Fred,

I have written before but I cannot but help write one more time about the beauty and tranquility of the Down East Lakes region that would be forever scarred and destroyed if The Bowers Mt./DP4889 industrial wind project were allowed to pass.

Please register my concern with all on the LURC board. The thought of twenty-seven 43-story tall wind turbines stretched out over almost five miles of mountain tops is enough to make a grown person cry. Or to make a grown person rant, which many in Maine will do if this fiasco is even slightly considered.

And to place insult on top of injury, we in Maine would not be the recipients of the power. We would have the ugly turbines destroying the beauty of the downeast lakes area; we would have the noise which would damage wildlife from moose down to the yellow-spotted salamander; we would have new power grids to carry the power to the next big line to carry the KW's to Massachusetts and NY and NJ. I am going to rant if DP4889 is not totally and finally squashed in this grand state of Maine.

Why would we let a mega-billion dollar company site huge, ugly, noisy turbines in our lovely state and then ship the power elsewhere? That feeds the corporate multi-billion monsters and leaves us as poor as church mice where we were before the monster came in and destroyed the beauty.

No. Just plain NO! I SAY NO to DP/4889, the Bowers Mtn. wind project. NO, NO, NO. Emphatically NO.

Thank you.

Merrylyn Sawyer
Wayne

From: [Dick Mally](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. wind project
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 5:26:56 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

My name is Dick Mally and I live in Lakeville, Maine. I'm writing to tell you that I DO NOT support the Bowers Mt. wind project and strongly urge you to vote to "deny" this application. I urge you to deny application DP4889 Bowers Mt. because this is not an appropriate site for this project.

My wife and I purchased property on Junior Lake in the early 1990's, built a small cabin, then built our retirement home and moved here on a year-round basis from Northern Virginia in 2004. We moved here because of the beauty and natural environment offered by the area. We moved because we did not like the steel and concrete landscape of the city. To us, the trees, water, and majestic ridge lines were a preferred landscape. If the Bowers Mountain project is approved and implemented, we'll be back in the city landscape without moving. And this is not an acceptable alternative for us.

We also have a small business where we rent a cabin located on Junior Lake. Most of our customers come from out-of-state like New Jersey, and New Hampshire. They come here to enjoy the beauty of the area and its remoteness. I have yet to have a customer come in and ask for directions to any of the areas where there currently are commercial wind farms. Not one person has told me they traveled here to view wind turbines!

Again, I ask you to NOT support the Bowers Mountain project. It is not in the best interest of Lakeville Maine.

Very Respectively,

Dick Mally
28 Bailey Lane
Lakeville, Maine 04487

From: [Maryann John](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt. Wind Project testimony
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 12:02:54 PM
Attachments: [Bowers Mt testimony.doc](#)

Mr. Todd:

Attached is my written testimony re: the Bowers Mt./Champlain Wind Permit application. Please see that it gets before the eyes of the decision-makers.

Thank you for all your efforts.

Mary Ann John

**Written Testimony Tuesday, July 3, 2011 to LURC
re: Bowers Mt./Champlain Wind Project**

Dear Commissioners,

Please do not allow the proposed Bowers Mountain wind energy development to take place. There are many reasons to say "NO" to this project and you, as commission members have heard them all. They include:

- noise,
- vibration,
- visual blight on our pristine landscapes,
- disruption of the local community, both the human ones and the wildlife ones,
- the fact that the project doesn't produce much energy or many jobs,
- the power produced is terribly expensive for ratepayers,
- the electricity produced by these huge turbines will not be used by the citizens of
Maine,
- the substandard wind in Maine does not warrant the investment of stimulus tax dollars.

These reasons and many more that you have heard in public testimonies throughout the State of Maine should serve as guides in your decision making process.

Alexandra B. Klass of the University of Minnesota Law School has postulated that the land-intensive nature of these industrial wind projects as well as their potential adverse impacts on endangered species, open space, aesthetic values, and pristine landscapes will result in a **violation of the public trust doctrine**.

As these First Wind (and other) proposals proliferate, it is incumbent on you, as keepers of the Public Trust, to assess each project keeping the great losses to the State that each project entails in mind. Not least of which is the tourist industry. Maine Guides have told you that their livelihoods are jeopardized by the siting of wind turbines on our mountain tops. I can tell you that the visitors I come in contact with at a small retail food store in summer unanimously declare that they come to Maine for its wild, expansive, overwhelming Nature that they can see from any and every vista here and that they can find **nowhere else!** This is what we are about in Maine, this is what is important to those who live here and those who visit here—unspoiled Nature, beautiful and bountiful, wild and wonderful, nourishing and nurturing. I have hiked in this area and also driven through it, enjoying all its scenic wonder. It would be a great loss to me personally to have this area defaced by unnecessary wind turbines.

Governor LePage has weighed in against large industrial land-based wind development, saying, "They are doing an awful lot of damage to our quality of life, our mountains. I don't think it's going to lower the cost of energy. I think in 10 years we're going to be like Sweden and Denmark and we're going to be swearing at ourselves."

Again, I implore you, do not permit this Bower Mountain wind energy project. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Mary Ann John 633 Sugar Hill Rd., Eastbrook, Maine.

From: [10ofswords](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 5:14:02 PM

LURC: Fred Todd 7-14-2011

22 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0022

Sir:

My niece has three wind turbines erected by her house in Freedom Maine. To put it mildly everyone in the area does not like them. They are noisy and dominate/ruin the skyline.

Wind turbines and gravel pits have some thing in common. They do nothing to improve the surrounding areas and leave an open sore in the land forever.

The only thing both are good for is the immediate greed of who ever owns them that is all.

Wind turbines near people's houses, scenic areas or watershed are not appropriate.

Please say no to the Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind, Mt./DP 4889.

Kind Regards

David w Brown

78 Reginald Ln

Lewiston Maine 04240

From: [audrey brown](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 8:43:05 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

It is with great urgency that you receive this letter to oppose the First Wind's Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind Project.

Once again the profiteers are ignoring the ecological damage a project of this size will have on the Down East Lakes

Watershed. This site should be located "where appropriate" this location is not appropriate!!

Thank-you for your time and consideration in this very important matter.

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Brown

From: [Jeff Thompson](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 2:21:55 PM
Attachments: [Bowers Mt. DP 4889.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Todd,

Please enter my attached written testimony to LURC on the proposed wind development project for Bowers Mountain in Carroll, Maine.

Thank You!

Jeffrey Thompson
7 Finley Road
Windham, Maine 04062

* * * * *

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* * * * *

July 6, 2011

Land Use Regulation Commission

Bowers Mountain/DP 4889

Dear LURC Commissioners,

I'm writing you today to register my opposition to the proposed commercial wind project for Bowers Mountain in Carroll Plantation and Kossuth Township (DP4889 Bowers Mt) since I was not able to attend the public hearing in person.

I'm opposed to this project for both personal and commercial reasons.

I have owned property on North Road in Carroll since 1977; my objective is to retire to this property in 6 years. My camp is located on the corner of North Road and Route 6 and has a direct unobstructed view of both Bowers Mountain and Dill Hill.

The greatest value of my property is the view of this small mountain range; in fact I cleared and have maintained my property for this very view. I know the proposed site of this wind project very well as I have hiked, fished and hunted this area extensively since my first trip to Carroll in 1975 as a senior in high school. I'm probably one of few who has hiked, paddled and fished every foot of Lindsey Stream from the headwater at the base of Bowers all the way to where Lindsey flows into Baskahegan Stream. I have hiked to the top of Bowers many times. I have a deep connection to this area that has kept me returning to it for 36+ years, to make the 400 mile round trip drive 20 to 30 times each year, and to build a camp and bring my family and friends there.

So yes, I'm opposed to this project for personal reasons. I project my camp will be 2 miles from the nearest wind mill so I don't expect to hear any noise created by the windmill. But the view will negatively altered for my lifetime. What I most object to seeing are 15 sets of red synchronized blinking lights interrupting the night skyline. This project will certainly impact my plans to retire to a scenic mountain view. That said, I know I can sell my property as others have done but I expect the value of my property will be greatly devalued as well.

I'm opposed to this project for commercial reasons as well. I believe hydro power is a more cost effective way to produce electricity and I don't understand and agree with removal of existing hydro dams when we are destroying mountain tops and scenic views to produce much higher cost electricity.

I have one final point to make. Approximately 7 miles to the North of my property are 55 wind mills at the Stetson Mountain site. Approximately 17 miles to the West of my property are 40 windmills at the Rollins Mountain site. 95 wind miles in an approximate 20 mile distance. How much does one area of the state have to sacrifice their mountain tops and views? To add 27 more for a total of 122 wind mills

for this small of a geographical area seems extremely excessive, especially considering the Bowers Mountain project will negatively impact the scenic views of several wild and undeveloped lakes such as Pleasant Lake.

I would appreciate your consideration of my written testimony when weighing the merits of this proposed project.

Best Regards,

Jeffrey K. Thompson

7 Finley Road

Windham, Maine

04062

207-892-6963

From: [Libby Norton](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 9:23:56 PM

Dear LURC Commissioners: I am writing to you regarding Bowers Mt./DP 4889. Please say no to this proposal. The Maine Expedited Wind Energy Act says that wind development should be sited "where appropriate" and the environmental havoc this proposal would create in an area of rich natural resources, makes it definitely an inappropriate location. Please say NO. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely, Libby P. Norton

--

Libby Norton
94 Thornton Rd.
Bangor, ME 04401
[207-947-7248](tel:207-947-7248)
Libby.Norton@gmail.com

From: [Lois](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt./DP4889
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 10:44:20 AM

My name is Walter Cook and I live at 1331 Briard St., Wantagh, NY 11793 and I OPPOSE the Bowers Mt. wind project.

Being from New York State I have been well aware of why the NY State Attorney General made First Wind Corp exit that state. Knowing this, I was flabbergasted when in the summer of 2010 we started receiving phone calls from representatives of First Wind asking us to give them support. Informing them that we and our neighbors were totally against their plan did not stop them. In the fall of 2010 they showed up at our camp. They wanted to know what it would take to change our minds. First Wind cannot buy us and they were showed the door in a hurry. Having a camp on Bottle Lake for over fifty years and enjoying not only the day time views, but the evening views of the heavens mean so much to us, to our children, to our grandchildren and to the many relatives and friends who visit us every summer. Please do not let politics and big business blind side you. Enough damage has been done to this great land already.

Enough is enough--PLEASE JUST SAY NO to the Bowers Mt. wind project--it is NOT an appropriate site for an industrial energy generating project. Thank you. Walter Cook

From: [Wayne&Judy](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt./DP4889
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011 9:47:52 AM

Please STOP and listen to what the opposition to the wind project in the Grand Lake Stream area are saying.

I am hoping you will sensibly preserve this and other mountain tops from exploitation and permanent change that will despoil the wilderness of Maine and ruin the livelihoods of Mainers in remote parts of "Vacationland".

There are better sites that could absorb the impact of the towers.

thank you for your consideration,

Gerald W Mabus

From: [Julie Carter](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt.DP 4889
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 3:58:28 PM

Am E-mailing you to let you know that we are very much opposed to this First Wind project. This would have a serious impact on Maine's watershed and tourism.....Maine is a beautiful state and this would be an eyesore. Please do not support this.

Thank you,
Julie and Bob Carter

I have a new email account. please update your information :
juliecar28@gmail.com

From: [Sainati](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers mt
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 10:30:53 AM

I firmly believe that the proposed site for the Bowers Mt INDUSTRIAL wind project is a travesty poised to mar the scenic qualities of the surrounding wilderness area. I own a 100 acre farm in Waite and have been coming from New Jersey for the last 45 years. The reason for coming here is the unspoiled quality of the area. Please consider the heritage we leave for our kids. I am against this project. Dayle Owen. 305 Talmadge RD. Waite Maine 04492

From: [Bill Mackowski](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [Debbie & Dave Tobey](#); lswitely@maineline.net
Subject: Bowers Mt
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 12:45:01 PM

We all wear with pride our connections to Maine's Outdoor Heritage .What ever our personal pursuits may be . often a good part of our perception of Maine's magnificent resources are based on our visuals and the memories of what we have observed we are unique in our good fortune being able to renew and build on these memories every day . This is also the foundation for the allure of Maine . Do we really want to change that aspect of many visitors perception of The beauty of Northern Washington County..It may be one of the areas best asset's Developing wind power is admirable and wise but also is the proper siting of the projects . please give careful and broad consideration to the development of the Bowers Mt project and it s visual effects on our area, Thank you Bill Mackowski

From: [Katharine Whild](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt/ wind
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 5:31:26 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed wind installation Bowers Mt/DP 4889.

This is an important wilderness area with a local economy dependent on this character and beauty.

Few studies have been done to determine how the turbine sound will travel down the slopes and

across the lakes. Past experience has made it clear that wind companies underestimate the

sound pollution from turbines and are not realistic about how far the sound can travel. At

428' these turbines will be the tallest in the state.

Please do not approve the project.

Thank you,

Katharine Whild
North Yarmouth, ME

From: [Mark Lutz](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn Project/ DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 6:01:58 PM

To whom it may concern:

For environmental reasons (involving among other items such things as the initial energy to build and move windmills, the danger to birds and bats, etc.), as well as for the destruction of wilderness within sight of hiking trails, I do hope you will not allow FIRST WIND to set up all these windmills! Better to import more natural gas. Thanks for your consideration,

Mark A. Lutz, Prof. emeritus for economics, U-Maine, Orono

From: [Norm Kalloch](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn.-- Dp4889
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 6:44:11 AM

Mr. Todd

I urge LURC to deny approval for the Bowers Mt. project for the following reasons:

- There is no proof that more jobs will be created than will be lost in the local area.
- Tourism will be harmed as this and other industrial wind projects in this area are approved thus likely negatively effecting future job creation in the tourism industry.
- The visual impacts and fragmentation to the area goes against the goal's of LURC's Comprehensive Plan.
- First Wind has not been forth coming as to the actual expected electrical production of the project. Based upon similar developments their estimates do not reflect the reality of what will be actually produced and thus over inflates the benefits from this project.
- The accumulative effect of industrial wind projects will be at the expense of other users of land in LURC's jurisdiction and also goes against the Comprehensive Plan to balance growth and to protect the environment.

Norman Kalloch
Carrying Place Town Twp., Me

From: hunting416@wildblue.net on behalf of [LINDA MILLER](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn. wind project
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 8:37:22 AM

Dear Mr. Todd, I am totally against the Bowers Mt. wind project because of the negative affect it would have on the scenic beauty of the area; and most importantly because of the potential negative affect to the area financially. I am writing to urge LURC to deny this project. Sincerely, Linda Miller, Lexington Twp.

From: ddlanod7@aol.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn.
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 9:25:41 AM

To the LURC Commissioners:

Please do not approve the Bowers Mt/DP 4889 application for wind installation. The Downeast Watershed area is far too precious a natural resource to squander in this way.

In my mind, at least, your responsible action in this matter will help a bit to mitigate the failure of LURC in protecting Moosehead Lake from the plundering of Plum Creek.

Don Robbins
Sidney, Maine

From: [Mike](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn?DP4889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 10:16:45 PM

Hello Fred I am horrified about the prospects of windsprawl anywhere near the Downeast Lakes. I was appalled that the Carroll people were so easily bought with the wind dollars. Not all, but the purple shirted female with the camouflage hat didn't seem to care that so many were extremely upset with the turbine proposal. She wanted that money badly, no matter what the consequences. I was equally shocked that the Wilderness Campground owners sided with the wind predators. The ATVers could ride regardless of the turbines, why would the owners not speak up for the many fishermen and women who are aghast at the prospect of losing so much? Surely they have others who do not care for wind blight such as hikers, paddlers and photographers who stay at their area. The Gilman girl who explained about the adventure race was not considering that the East Grand kids could have had a race before FirstWind came to town. The kids in that area paddled, bushwhacked, biked and swam long before the windsprawlers came to town. They may have sponsored the event for publicity but that is no reason to think the race could not have happened otherwise. The girl who spoke after I did said she didn't mind the turbines. Is she or a relative employed by FirstWind? If she really did not care one way or the other, why not stand aside or support the people who do have a huge problem with the development? When people testify I wish they would state their connection to the project. Pat DeFillip is a nice fellow but the money Reed and Reed has made could have come from other jobs. If they were not building wind turbines, they would likely be doing bridges or roads or something else. I want Mainers working but not on windsprawl. We have infrastructure which needs upgrading and rebuilding. The mtns. do not need blasting and drilling and the scenery Maine is known for needs to be treasured, not developed. Has FirstWind or any other developers provided LURC with actual scientific data and not just AWEA propaganda? Wind turbines seem to be a means to keep the coal burning power plants running. The utilities buy the RECs, add the extra cost to the ratepayers' bills, sit back and continue to burn fossil fuels. Wind power enables coal burning to continue !! The proposed 1800 turbines will not be enough for Maine to meet the renewable energy goals since the next goal will require even more turbines to be installed. Where will they site them? Wherever there are already turbines and trans. lines, adding to the mess. It still will not be enough. Germany is proposing several new coal burning plants and China is building 1 per week!!! Covering Maine with thousands of turbines will not help climate change 1 iota. Why sacrifice Maine? It is sad the politicians do not see thru the fabrications of the wind industry. Jeremy Payne was inaccurate when he said the legislators were unanimous in turning down all the bills which were pro-Maine. 52 voted to help Mainers prevent developers from siting turbines too close to homes. Another 22 or so and we would have won. The 14 bills Jeremy spoke of were all rolled into 1 to save time. The votes may be there next time as they should be. The Mars Hill, Freedom and V. Have residents should be able to sleep in their own homes without hearing turbines thumping all night. Developers will continue siting too close to homes until the legs. make them stop. I cannot believe the pols were unwilling to protect Maine citizens. 52 were willing to help and deserve our thanks. Shame on the rest for listening to Hinck and Fitts, two self serving wind predators in their own right. Please deny the Bowers project and return sanity to the process. Thank you. Mike DiCenso 56 Taylor St., Lincoln, ME 207 794 2107

From: [Mike](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn/DP4889
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 10:53:26 PM

To LURC I believe the scenic assessment proves the Bowers project cannot be permitted.

The views are compromised significantly from many areas as proven by the map from the Downeast Lakes consultant for this resource of state, national, and world significance. The adverse effect is unreasonable when one considers the remote and wild character of the area which is why it is considered for all the conservation measures which are ongoing and intended to preserve the area for the future generations to experience. Maine as it was over 100 years ago, and a way of life largely unchanged. It is nonsensical that a sprawl of wind turbines which can never fit harmoniously anywhere should be allowed a waiver for approval. Any development should adhere to the strictest standards and no accommodations made for politically connected developers.

The blinking red lights are another compromise to a remote and wild outdoor experience. When those who visit for the black night skies and the canopy of stars see ugly blinking red lights instead, the experience is compromised significantly by anyone's measure.

Other unreasonable adverse effects are the power lines which will not be allowed to regenerate. The spraying of herbicides is new and unnatural to an area which prides itself on the forests and wildlife. How will the wildlife be impacted? Ingestion of herbicides could prove fatal and disrupt the entire food chain. This alone should be enough to deny the Bowers project. When the scope of the windsprawl project is investigated the impact becomes too great. When 1 turbine might not be too much of a nuisance, a string of turbines for miles is excessive and unreasonable. If the turbines had greater efficiency, fewer would be needed. When the output is poor to marginal and many turbines are used, the cumulative effect is too great and the generators stretch for miles. What logging roads would have grown up will be kept open preventing the forest from recovering from the logging operations and returning to a natural state.

The significance of the DLW is unparalleled in the state and surpassed only by Baxter State Park and the Allagash Waterway. It is significant due to the many 1A and 1B rated lakes within the boundaries of the DLW. It is significant when one considers the rapid rate of development and real estate transfers in the State. In a rapidly shrinking world significant and important places like the DLW need to be conserved in as near a natural state as possible and efforts need to focus on allowing the area to remain wild and always move toward returning the area to its natural state.

The existing character of the surrounding area would be marred and defiled by windsprawl. The earlier way of life before modern technology is still very much in evidence in Grand Lake Stream, which is often the base for forays north and west by boat, canoe, or kayak. The looming distracting wind turbines would grow larger the closer one came and they are too out of scale to ignore.

The viewer expects to see lots of trees in the DLW, beautiful lakes, ridges which are intact and not clearcut, dark skies at night an abundance of wildlife, and no modern conveniences to distract one's attention. The sights and sounds of nature are reasonable expectations. Industrial generators with red lights do not belong anywhere near the DLW. Some users such as ATVers and snowsledders might claim they don't mind the wind turbines, but let's look at why. FirstWind has donated to the ATV and snowsled clubs and thrown events with cookouts to buy their support. The clubs always need money so their allegiance is easily bought. It is not fair to judge by these people as they have been essentially bribed. Non motorized recreationists do not support wind turbines, nor do fishermen and women or canoeists. The expectations of most viewers and users do not include wind turbines.

The turbine development's purpose is to sell RECs and rake in millions for themselves while keeping coal fired power plants from cleaning up. Turbines are prolonging the coal industry and enabling it to continue its' dirty ways. Why should we aid and abet them? They claim to want to reduce our dependence on foreign oil which plays well politically but is just not true. China and India will buy whatever the US does not so it gets burned anyway. The turbines keep being built and 97% of the rare earth metals come from China where CO2 spewing equipment burns diesel fuel 24/7. Wind turbines keep the CO2 rising despite claims to the contrary. They never repay their carbon debt, I suspect.

Some people may continue to use the scenic resources but many will go elsewhere, like in the Donnell Pond survey. Windsprawl reduces one's enjoyment of nature and is constantly distracting

The scope and scale of the Bowers project is too great for the DLW to survive. Some may use it

but will forever miss how it used to be. How much better it was.

There are too many turbines, too close to the lakes and spread out too far across the land. The 8 mile rule is capricious and arbitrary. It should be much greater. I wonder who set that rule? Maine Revised Statutes claim the visibility of turbines is not a solely sufficient basis for an unreasonable adverse effect to scenic character or resource, but the preponderance of them is and how far they stretch along the ridges and hills. The blinking lights are reason enough to deny the project. That the windsprawl cannot be ignored is reason enough to deny the project. That people are putting their camps up for sale and fleeing the area is reason enough to deny the windsprawl. A preponderance of testimony should be enough to deny the project. The adverse effects are unreasonable, but a greedy wind developer does not care.

Please deny the project and proudly defend the DLW area from the developers who just do not care anything about Maine.

Thank you.

Mike DiCenso
56 Taylor St.
Lincoln, ME
04457 207 794 2107

From: [Elaine Brown](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mtn/DP889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 11:02:39 PM

As President of the Grand Lake Stream Historical Society I speak on behalf of them. We are opposed to the First Wind Project.

Years ago in the late 1800s, Grand Lake had one of the largest Tanneries in the World. The Tannery burned twice and after the second time the Shaw company did not rebuild. All of the men were devastated and could not imagine what they were going to do for work.

They decided to use the resources they had available to them which was the Lake and its fabulous Landlock Salmon. They worked hard to develop the reputation they had as Grand Lake Guides. They were able to make a living guiding thus allowing them and their families to remain in this beautiful village. People came from all over the world to fish and stay in the lodges. Many famous people also enjoyed the peace and tranquility of the area.

Over the last few years with the market the way it has been, the lodges and guides have felt the pinch with many cancellations. Now all they need are having clients not want to come because they have lost their pristine area where they love to fish.

I guess my point is that First Wind states they provide jobs and improve the economic growth of areas. We feel this is only a temporary fix. What is more important, temporary jobs or those that will last for another 100 years?

This little village would totally be gone without the guiding—both fishing and hunting.

Please think of this when you make your decision about allowing First Wind to erect more turbines in this area. Thank You . Elaine Brown

From: [Rick Harris](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers project
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 4:35:56 PM

Dear Fred,

Please deny the Bowers project for Maine does not need wind power to destroy our land, and our electric bill will most likely go up...

Thanks,

Rick Harris

Fairfield,

Me.

From: [Dorie Klein](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Project--DP4889
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 11:18:55 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,
I live in Camden, Maine, but love the Maine North Woods and hope you do all you can to protect them from industrial wind development. Please deny the Bowers Project--DP4889.
thank you,

Dorie Klein
30 Dirt Road, Camden, Maine 048943
236-2347

From: [Joyce Arnold](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project - DP 4889
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 7:56:43 PM

Dear Mr Todd

I write to express my strong disapproval of the Bowers Wind Project. My parents, aunt and uncle, and grandparents own property in Grand Lake Stream, where I have spent all 21 summers of my life. I am the fifth generation of my family to enjoy the wilderness of Downeast Maine. I believe that the landscape in this part of the world is unique, special and worthy of protection. I also believe that protection will help the local community.

I have brought friends from all over the world to visit Downeast - they all agree that it is a spectacularly beautiful place. They enjoy learning to fish, to kayak, to blueberry and to hike in the back woods. They all want to return. Many of them have also been present at community events - guide dinners, boat races, and festivals - and impressed by the hard work and joy that goes into bringing visitors to this part of the world and making sure they have a wonderful time. The foundation of this work and this community is the unique wilderness, and the beauty and challenge that it represents.

As a fifth-generation summer resident, I feel keenly the importance of stewardship. As a child I could not imagine Downeast any other way. As a young adult, I know that it takes hard work and good policy to preserve the environment I love. This is not only the wilderness itself, but also the economy of guides, fishermen, and visitors that keeps the small towns and villages of this part of Maine alive. I believe that the Bowers Wind Project will threaten the integrity of both the landscape and the communities of Downeast Maine, and I hope that LURC turns down its application.

Yours sincerely
Joyce Arnold

From: [Roger Rotor](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind project #4889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 5:44:29 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

Although I have lived in Wisconsin for nearly 30 years, I grew up in New Hampshire. As a boy, my family would spend a week every summer in Maine. Some years we were at the ocean, other years we would camp near a lake. One year we took a canoe/camping trip. Those vacations are among my most cherished memories.

When my own children grew old enough to appreciate the outdoors, we started vacationing in Maine. In 2005 we rented a cabin on Bottle Lake in Lakeville. We have returned every year since.

What we love the most is the feeling of being far away from any big cities. Although there are many cabins on Bottle Lake, we can paddle for 15 minutes and feel we are in a remote wilderness area. We always see (and hear) loons, owls, kingfishers, herons and eagles. If we're lucky we see moose or deer. One year we saw a bear cross the road. Paddling canoes from one lake to another for a picnic and a swim is one of our greatest thrills. Both of my boys have learned a great deal about animal and plant life that they wouldn't see in Wisconsin. At night we can see more stars than we thought existed and we have contests to see who can name the most constellations or spot the most satellites. A few years back we were among the fortunate few in the world to see the International Space Station and our Space Shuttle separate right before our eyes!

My entire family is horrified to learn that there might be a wind farm built just north of Bottle Lake. In fact, we are incredulous. Doesn't Maine appreciate what it has? Doesn't Maine understand how rare a treasure that system of lakes is? Doesn't Maine want people to come and enjoy the resources?

On behalf of my whole family, I beg you not to allow a windfarm to be built at Bottle Lake. Let's keep that area the way it is so that my grandchildren can paddle those waters, learn about the outdoors and count satellites.

Thank you,
Roger Rotor
Milwaukee, WI

From: [Sally Butler](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project #4889
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 5:11:11 PM

Dear Sir,

This letter is in reference to the Bowers Wind Project, DEP #4889, that is currently undergoing permitting.

My husband and I and friends visit Lakeville, ME each summer and we are aghast at the idea of an industrial wind farm being installed in this pristine area.

Turbines that are 43 stories high would overshadow the beauty of the lakes in this region. It would take away the purest pleasure one has of enjoying an unspoiled part of the United States. When all our lives are hectic and mainly concentrating on making a living in populated areas, it is of immeasurable value to have such an area to retreat to, to unwind, to enjoy the wildness of nature and to appreciate and view the marvelous wildlife that exists.

It is crucial that we protect these few areas that are left to us in an undeveloped state. Please vote down this unseemly and invasive project. Please preserve such places for future generations, so that they may be able to appreciate the precious gifts nature once gave us in abundance that are now fast diminishing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sally Butler
1777 Friendship Road
Waldoboro, ME 04572

From: [Peter Coopersmith](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 2:32:28 PM
Attachments: [Bowers Wind Project.pdf](#)

Hi Mr. Todd:

I just wanted to submit my letter on my stationary with my signature.

Please use this letter for dissemination to the LURC Commissioners.

Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,

Peter Coopersmith

Peter S. Coopersmith, AAMS, AIF
Accredited Investment Fiduciary
88 Hammond Street Suite 401
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 945-0155
(207) 945-3909 Fax
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Peter S. Coopersmith, AAMS, AIF[®]
Accredited Investment Fiduciary[®]

July 12, 2011

State of Maine Department of Conservation
Mr. Fred Todd and LURC Commissioners
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Re: Bowers Wind Project

Dear Mr. Bowers and LURC Panel Members,

My name is Peter Coopersmith. I reside in Waldoboro and am self-employed as a financial advisor in Bangor. I do not own land in the area surrounding the Bowers Wind Project but as a frequent visitor to the general area and as a citizen of Maine I have a vested interest in this part of our state and the proposed project. With a degree in forestry from the University of Maine, three years of experience on a forestry crew for Georgia Pacific in Washington County, and over 40 years of recreational activities in that area, I have come to know the region and its people well.

I attended the LURC hearing on July 6th, 2011 in Bangor and have serious concerns regarding the Bowers Wind Project.

Based upon testimony provided by Champlain Wind, LLC the total monetary payments provided to various professional organizations, townships and plantations over the life of the project will be \$2,800,000. There may be minimal tax revenue that will also add to township/plantation coffers. The potential monetary rewards are miniscule compared to the potential for revenues in tourism over the next twenty years and beyond. Maine has only begun to tap into the tourism industry beyond its coastal lands and these areas of Penobscot and Washington County are poised to blossom as tourist destinations with the right promotions and protections. Also, how will real estate values be affected? Will property owners loose value and in turn will townships loose tax revenue if this project moves forward?

88 Hammond Street, Suite 401, Bangor, ME 04401
Toll-Free (800) 572-2404 • Tel (207) 945-0155 • Fax (207) 945-3909 • peter@pscoopersmith.com

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New jobs will accompany this project, most temporary employment with only a handful of permanent positions after a year's time. The question is: How many jobs will be lost? How will physical changes in the environment, due to this project, impact registered Maine guides, small business owners, and rental service providers amongst others? How will these changes affect future job growth in the tourism industry as it moves forward? I am concerned that more jobs will be lost than gained now and in the future when all is said and done.

Green energy is definitely a benefit of this project. Any citizen who is truly concerned about the environment wants to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. But will this project actually help meet this goal? None of the power that is generated will stay in the state; instead it will allow states like Massachusetts to trade carbon credits. Maybe Champlain Wind, LLC might consider pursuing placement of these windmills closer to those it will actually help.

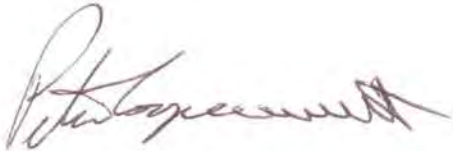
Scenic vistas, unspoiled topography, clean waterways, and abundant wildlife are all a part of the draw of this area to many tourists who flock there including myself. I am troubled by the proposed 9.8 miles of new roadways, blasting of mountaintops, clearing of forest for additional connector lines and the visual impact of 27 wind turbines and 4 meteorological towers. These endeavors threaten all that we treasure in this region: wildlife habitats (Creatures such as the endangered lynx are sensitive to environmental changes.), water quality in watersheds, springs and lakes (Blasting can have dramatic negative consequences that show up later.), and pristine landscapes (Once we blast the top off a mountain it is scared forever.)

Personally, I am most anxious about the negative impact the project will have on scenic vistas from up to 12 different lakes in the area, plus many connecting waterways. I cherish these views, as I have since I first took them in as a youngster at summer camp. It is actually more than just the aesthetic pleasures that I value when I am hiking, fishing or paddling. It is my connection to the environment that I so easily achieve in an undeveloped place. My children look forward to their time in the region each summer as a source of escape from the built up cities in which they now live. We all appreciate the opportunity to connect to nature and the natural world around us. Someday too, I hope my grandchildren will be afforded this opportunity. A string of windmills on the horizon will strip the area of its wildness and tear away at its very soul.

Still, as a responsible citizen, I value listening and considering all sides of an argument. After attending the LURC meeting I pondered the information shared and weighed it in my mind. In the end, potential benefits of this wind project are outweighed by the potential negative impacts. I keep asking myself, what will the residents of these communities and the people of the State of Maine get out of this deal? My conclusion: Very little!

Please reject the proposed Bowers Wind Project. Do right by the people who love this part of the state and all those who yet have to discover it. You have a beautiful state and national treasure in the palm of your hand; be its protector. Think about the long term impact of your decision and the consequences that it will have on many generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Coopersmith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "P" and a long, sweeping tail.

Peter Coopersmith

From: [Rainer M. Egle](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project / DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 5:50:44 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

During our last visit to our camp at Upper Pond in Lincoln, ME, we made following observation:
On clear nights our loons get very agitated as soon as the lights on top of the wind power generators start flashing. To us those are the same calls as we heard in the past, when we still had coyotes howling/barking on "our" hills.

Do we have to fear that the loons will be gone soon too, as we expect our bald eagles will?

Respectfully
Rainer Egle

Upper Pond, 316 Pierce Webber Rd, Lincoln ME 04457
Im Boge 21, CH-8332 Russikon, Switzerland

From: [Rainer M. Egle](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project / DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 5:50:12 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

For twelve years, my wife and I own a camp on Upper Pond in Lincoln, ME. We travelled the world including the USA quite extensively. Getting older, we decided to settle down. We knew, it has to be somewhere remote.

Although accessible in a days journey (sorry Alaska). We finally found the place of our dreams. Very nice and helpful people and beautiful nature. Yes, we knew, the forests are "managed" and that in the span of 20 to 25 years, parcels will be harvested. But we had visitors ranging from eagles, to bears, raccoons, minks, moose to the majestic bald eagle. So we settled.

We brought our biodegradable shampoo and soaps. recycled every scrap of cardboard, paper, every rusty nail. Drove only 55 on the highway (we got time and that saves fuel; not that we could not afford it but our small share to become independent from foreign oil).

For every tree the storm or we put down for fire wood (no electricity out here) we planted a new one. We just tried to be good stewards of the 6 acres we where so lucky to call our far away home. Soon after we bought additional land to our cabin, we learned that the owner certainly new about the development in our area, disclosed that additional lots would be developed next to ours, but missed to mention the wind industry coming to "our" pond. Cheated? For sure.

Now that we learn, that we are - by the standards of the DOE - in unfavorable wind territories (as a fly-fishermen we know for a long time), see our hills torn apart, sprayed with herbicides, learn that Maine has an excess of green energy and Quebec even more, we are very sad. How much nature do we continue to destroy just for the greed of some people?

It is time for us to leave. Our camp went up for sale.

In planning on where to go, we consulted the map of PPDLW and could not find a place which is save from these developments - not even the Down East Lakes region. We will have to focus on Canada. And we think, many tourists will do the same. We are looking forward to the new speed limit. Brings us faster out of Maine.

Sadly but still respectfully,
Rainer Egle

Upper Pond, 316 Pierce Webber Rd, Lincoln ME 04457
Im Boge 21, CH-8332 Russikon, Switzerland

From: [Gaby Egle](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project / DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 6:16:04 AM

Bowers Wind Project / DP 4889

Dear Mr. Todd

We own a camp on a once beautiful lake in the Lincoln area. There were the loons and the eagles, the moon that would rise over the forest, the stars that reflected in the water of the lake. It was a marvelous place.

22 wind turbines are now towering over the lake, 12 red strobe lights with long red traces are reflecting in the water. The moment the lights were on, we realized that the loons were very exited. We could hear their warning-calls all night long and they avoided the area with the red reflections although, thats the place where they usually linger in spring.

My husband and I are from Switzerland. We're those tourists that came to Maine because of its uniqueness, because of its vast wilderness, its unspoiled nature, the silence, the night sky. But contrary to many residents, we can choose where we want to be and where to spend our money. We don't need to come all the way to the Northwoods to than see an industry, ugly huge constructions, destroyed landscapes.

We are going to sell our camp (if we can) and move away from Maine. The place we loved so much is gone, the spirit has left. Sold and ruined what made it special.

Please don't do the same to this great chain of waters. Bowers Mountain is not an appropriate site for an industrial wind project. Don't let an other unique place on this planet disappear!

Respectfully

Gabriela Egle

316 Pierce Webber Rd.
Lincoln ME 04457
or
Im Boge 21
8332 Russikon
Switzerland

From: [Mark Norton](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project- Carroll Plantation, Kossuth Plantation DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 6:47:44 PM

Dear Sir,

The list of negatives surrounding this project would require pages to document. The most glaring detrimental components of this project center around issues such as: the negative impact on bird, and bat populations, pollution and runoff from large scale clear cutting, road building, and herbicide spraying, and the visual pollution created by monstrosities atop once pristine ridge tops, and the negative economic impact on local tourism, and recreation. Once this area is desecrated, we can't expect anglers and hunters to pay good money to view a hideous industrial complex. They can stay in New Jersey and save lots of money.

The LAND USE REGULATORY COMMISSION should REGULATE the USE of LAND for its highest purpose and deny approval for this project. If Massachusetts and Connecticut need more power, let them build windmills there. Here's a chance for LURC to stop the needless desecration of our state. Deny approval!

Sincerely,

Mark F. Norton
126 Town Farm Rd.
New Gloucester, Me. 04260

From: [Gary Kuhn](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project testimony...
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 2:21:43 PM
Attachments: [BowerMtn0627282011.docx](#)

Fred, attached is a copy of my testimony given before the Commissioner's on the evening of June 28, 2011. Please provide confirmation of receipt for this email message. Thank you, Gary Kuhn

The LURC website states, “**ABOUT THE COMMISSION**, Much of this area may seem like wilderness compared to most of the rest of the Northeast, but agricultural, forestry, and recreational activities clearly identify the region as a hardworking resource vital to the overall economy of the State. Residents and visitors alike place a premium on the unique natural values they find here.”

The Maine Department of Tourism figures show that tourism is by far Maine’s biggest economic engine. In 2009, 34 million tourists provided over 170,000 full time jobs, 535 million in tax revenues, and ten billion dollars in goods and services.

The Brookings Institution’s 2006 report, “Charting Maine’s Future,” asserted that Maine’s quality of place is under threat, diminishing future economic prospects. Many lakes in Maine have been included on a Maine Department of Environmental Protection list of lakes at risk from new development. Research shows that as water quality drops, recreational use and shore land property values diminish, which harms local and regional economies.

"As its world-famous brand declares, Maine has - in its vivid small towns and waterfronts, its lakes and fields and rocky coastline - exactly the sort of authenticity and quality of place that can set a place apart. Maine is unforgettable and distinctive, and that matters."

On June 17, 2011 Governor Paul LePage publicly stated,

"(Wind projects) are doing an awful lot of damage to our quality of life, our mountains," he said. "I don't think it's going to lower the cost of energy. I think in 10 years we're going to be like Sweden and Denmark and we're going to be swearing at ourselves."

Economic studies show that lake use depends on clean water and pours \$1.8 billion into the state’s economy every year while supporting more than 52,000 jobs. A 2006 state Planning Office study found that wildlife-related activity brought more than \$1 billion into Maine that year.

Economists also have found that quality of place attracts and helps retain skilled and creative workers and entrepreneurs needed for today’s growth industries, such as professional services

and technology.

Why should the people of Maine be forced to invest in a technology that continues to show returns of 11 to 23 percent of name plate capacity?

Idaho Power Company recently stated, "When special interest groups and wind developers talk about the cost of wind energy, remember that the profits go into their pockets, while the costs come from your pockets. To arrive at their numbers, developers have to resort to the fiction that their wind machines produce energy at the very same rate as more traditional sources like hydro or gas.

But we all know the wind doesn't blow all the time. By law, electric utilities have to provide fair-priced electricity on a 24/7 basis so, for every megawatt of intermittent energy on the system, additional capacity is needed that's ready to deploy the moment the wind stops blowing.

In the simplest of terms, special interest groups and wind developers are asking you to pay more for a less reliable product. And that just isn't right."

It is time to stop fooling ourselves. Wind is expensive, unreliable, intermittent, causes health problems when sited too close to people, causes loss of value to real estate, kills birds, and bats, and cannot be stored.

Please stop this foolishness!!!!

Gary Kuhn, 2gekuhn@gmail.com

From: [Creston Lea](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers wind project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 9:47:34 AM

Dear Commissioner,

I'm very concerned about the Bowers wind project slated for construction in the St. Croix watershed. While I appreciate the State of Maine's interest in cultivating renewable energy infrastructure, the numbers I have seen don't impress me much when weighed against the specter of enormous turbines spoiling the otherwise wild landscape and the inevitable effects they will have on the livelihood of local residents.

I've read that these turbines will be visible from a third of the St. Croix watershed. It's impossible for me to believe that the vital tourist economy will not suffer as a result. My extended family has been visiting West Grand Lake and the region for fifty years, but I can assure you that looming turbines will send us elsewhere.

Thanks for your consideration.

Creston Lea

From: [marsha mcdonald](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 6:04:21 PM

Dear Mr. Todd:

I am writing to let you know that I **Do NOT** support the Bowers Wind project (application DP4889) and strongly **urge you to vote to deny** this application. This is not an appropriate site for the industrial wind project. Should this project be approved, I will not vacation in Maine.

Sincerely yours,
Marsha McDonald

Address: 6566 France Ave. S. #1108, Edina MN 55435

From: [Greenland Cove Cabins](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers wind project
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 9:18:30 AM

June 30, 2011

To: Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

From: Weston Lord
Greenland Cove Cabins
23 Kneser Lane
East Grand Lake
Danforth, Maine 04424

Dear Commissioners,

I attended the public hearing on the proposed Bowers Mountain wind farm project held in Lincoln on June 28th. I came, with the intent of not speaking at this meeting, rather to listen to the comments for and against. On my drive back to Danforth, I regretted that I did not speak. It is my hope that this letter will be read by, and considered in the commissions deliberations.

Firstly, I want to commend all of the commissioners for their interest, in all the comments made by the speakers. It was my first public hearing that LURC has conducted, and to say the least, I was impressed.

My lodging facility is located in Greenland Cove, on East Grand Lake, which I believe is one of the larger lakes at the head of this magnificent Down East watershed. It is home to the "Million Dollar View" located in the nearby town of Weston. The State of Maine has just recently placed informational plaques at the byway to depict the history of this watershed. In the past year, Malcolm French, the land owner, which is married to Herb Haines's daughter, in partnership with the Chinbro Corp has requested the Town of Danforth to create a wind farm ordinance that would allow them to go forward with plans to place wind turbines on Greenland Ridge overlooking East Grand Lake. I have been very active in the opposition of placing wind turbines so near to such a valuable resource. The Planning board of Danforth developed an ordinance that stipulated that any project must be 3/4 mile setback from the "shore of the lake". After a public hearing the proposed ordinance went to the townspeople for a vote. It was voted down, and now is back to the planning board for revision. It is my belief that the people of Danforth realized how important the lake is to the local economy, and voted to protect the lake and surrounding area. A yes vote, by your commission on the Bowers project would be a "green light" for

any future projects. It would jeopardize the significance and beauty of this region.

In addition, I would like to add that I am not anti alternative energy, in fact I am in favor of it. However, the wind resources in down east Maine is rated a 2 on a scale of 7. Why then, is this a expedited area for wind farm development? The Longfellow range in western Maine is rated 6. Why are not these companies going there with their plans? The cost verses benefit does not seem to add up. I suspect, it may be the lack of population and resistance. Also, Federal government incentives, may be a consideration.

I moved here from Southern Maine 8 years ago with a dream of running a traditional "sporting camp" The camps were in dire condition, and since, have brought them back to life and business is good , if not better than ever before. I tell my customers that this area of "down east" will someday (if it isn't already) be the gem of the state of Maine. Not because of development, but the lack of.

The local "Down east land trust", the "Woodie Wheaton land Trust are testiments to this effort.

In closing I would encourage the commission to deny this project and protect this beautiful area of the State of Maine.

Thank You for your consideration,

Weston Lord
Greenland Cove Cabins
East Grand Lake

To: [Richard Whalley](#)
From: [Richard Whalley](#)
Subject: [Richard Whalley](#)
Date: [Wed, 15 Jul 2011 14:08:06](#)

I am submitting my comments to the objection of the Bowen Hill Project. I strongly object to the placing of a turbine on the "South Peak" which is a section of property on Village Hill. The assistance will be raised as a result of putting these turbines on the "South Peak". My research shows me that the turbines will kill birds and the noise that the will make will affect all life in the area. There are other negatives about installing wind turbines according to my research. I would like to release my strong objections to the Bowen Hill Commission.
Respectfully submitted, Richard Whalley July 15, 2011

From: [Kim Arnold](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 12:54:09 PM
Attachments: [Bowers Wind Project.doc](#)

Mr. Fred Todd
Project Planner
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Ref: Champlain Wind, LLC - Bowers Wind Project
DP 4889

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to comment on the Bowers Wind Project. I own property in Grand Lake Stream and spend my summers enjoying the beautiful scenery and wilderness. I am the fourth generation in my family to spend significant time and money enjoying this beautiful part of Maine

I am strongly against the approval of the Champlain Wind, LLC - Bowers Wind Project. I believe it will have a negative economic impact on the sport fishing and sporting camp business in Downeast Maine. The tourist industry is absolutely crucial to Washington County and provides many jobs through lodging, food, guides, fuel, etc.

I fly-fish with my husband all over the world and we always choose wilderness destinations. We purchased land in the Grand Lake Stream area so we can have 'home waters' that are also unspoiled by overdevelopment. Many people like us come back to this area year after year to enjoy the traditional sport camps and the expert guides. Sportsmen and women have a lot of choice about where to spend their money and it is important that the St. Croix Watershed and Downeast areas maintain their status as premier attractive areas to visit. I do not come to the area to see industrial wind farms on the horizon. I am sure other vacationers to this area do not want to see them either.

The state of Maine has very generously supported the Downeast Lakes economy with significant grants to the Downeast Lakes Land Trust through the program Land for Maine's Future. Other major donors, as well as numerous individuals, have donated millions of dollars to maintain this area as a place for generations to enjoy as an eco-tourism destination and as a 'sportsman's paradise.' It would be a shame for this money to be wasted by allowing the Bowers Wind Project to have a negative impact on the scenic beauty of the northern lakes of the region – many of which have excellent bass fishing and provide other water based recreation.

I hope that LURC turns down the application for the Bowers Wind Project.

Yours sincerely,

Kimberly B. Arnold

PO Box 188
Grand Lake Stream, Maine
04637

34 Lancaster Park
Richmond, Surrey, UK
TW10 6AD

From: [JOHN SEWELL](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 11:48:56 AM

Hello Fred, my name is John Sewell and I am a fish and wildlife biologist. I am originally from Presque Isle but have been living and working in Princeton Maine for the last 9 years. I am writing to you to express my great displeasure with the proposed wind farm project on Bowers Mountain. The impacts of this project would be devastating to our economy which is based on fishing, hunting and scenic recreating. The people that come to this area can go anywhere to catch fish but they come here for the scenery and the solitude. The proposed turbines would forever ruin the scenery and solitude. These paying, mostly out of state individuals would go elsewhere for their outdoor experiences.

There are major wildlife issues that have not been addressed or studied. There are currently no terrestrial wildlife studies done around active wind farms. The impacts of the turbines are unknown and most anecdotal data tells us that these areas are void of most terrestrial wildlife. We have many threatened and endangered species in the area including Canada Lynx that could be displaced by this project. The depressed Washington County deer herd would take yet another hit with habitat being lost. The effects these turbines have on migrating birds and bats has been well documented. With white-nose syndrome being discovered in Maine, our vital bat populations cannot afford another obstacle.

Please consider all of the negative impacts this project will have on our economy and wildlife and deny the permit for this project. Wind development has a place but it is not at the headwaters of one of the most historic and natural watersheds in the northeastern U.S.

Respectfully, John H. Sewell

John H. Sewell
Fish & Wildlife Biologist
work: (207) 796-2677 ext. 222 Cell: (207) 214-7265
p.o. box 446, Princeton ME 04668
home: (207) 427-3092
837 South Princeton Rd, Princeton ME 04668

From: [Elizabeth Gordon](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 10:27:54 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I do not support the Bowers Wind Project. My family and I have vacationed in this area in Maine for many years. We go for the peace, quiet, and natural beauty of the area. Bowers Mountain is NOT an appropriate site for an industrial wind project. Please protect one of the most wonderful places in our country and vote against the Bowers Wind Project.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth N. Gordon
21 Park Avenue
Winchester, MA. 01890

From: [Linda Will](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 11:59:03 AM

Good morning,

I am writing opposing the construction of the wind turbines as explained to me as a part of the Bowers Wind Project. I am not against wind turbines as a whole, only the misplacement of them. Please picture yourself and your family at your dream cabin, on a beautiful pristine lake, watching the sunset, totally secluded surrounded by what seems to be mile high pines and eagles soaring overhead. Now, picture this, as you look over the ridge, you see 27 huge metal wind turbines with bright red blinking lights on them and instantly you realize you are no longer "away from it all". It's right there like a slap in the face. You bought this cabin knowing you could relax and enjoy nature to it's fullest. What a disappointment after saving all these years for the perfect cabin in the perfect location, that a company would come along and completely ruin what you had worked so hard for all those years. How sad to have to sell the cabin in search for another that has everything this had until the turbines were built, you'll take a loss and it could take years again to get back what you already had.

The area proposed for this construction is completely dependent on tourism. The turbines will deter vacationers and potential land sales which of course will have a devastating effect on the economy of this area.

It's easy to see that it's in the best interest of the people and economy in this area to vote against the construction of these turbines. Please help by doing whatever you can to keep it from happening.

Thank you for your time,
L Will

From: [drummond](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers wind project
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 8:38:25 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,
To reduce one of the most pristine undeveloped wild lands in Maine to an industrial development would border on criminal in my opinion.
Thanks,
Greg Drummond

Gregory & Patrice Drummond
Claybrook Mountain Lodge
61 Howard Hill Road
Highland Plt., Maine 04961
207.628-4681
www.claybrookmountainlodge.com

From: [Alan Michka](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 8:06:06 AM
Attachments: [LURC written comments.pdf](#)

Mr. Todd,

Please find attached my comments to the Commission on DP 4889, the Bowers Mt. wind development application by First Wind.

Alan Michka
Lexington Twp.

June 28, 2011

**Maine Land Use Regulation Commission
Public Comment on Champlain Wind LLC, DP 4889
Alan Michka, Lexington Twp., Maine**

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to ask you to deny First Wind LLC's request for a development permit for a grid-scale wind energy development in Carroll Plantation and Kossuth Township, DP4889.

Sometime in the last year or so, I spoke to you at a hearing on another wind project. I opened my comments with words taken directly from the Commission's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. They're enduring words. Over 40 years old, they're as important today as they were when they were written in 1969. I'd like to open again with these same words, the first paragraph that appears in your CLUP document.

“Maine has always been proud of its wildlands – the Big Woods, land of Indian and trapper, of white pine tall enough for masts on His Majesty's ships, of mountain lion, moose, and eagle. Much of the wildness was still there when Thoreau went in by birchbark canoe, a little over a century ago. And much of it remains. There is spruce and fir, moose and beaver, lake and mountain and whitewater enough to satisfy generations of Americans. More and more, as northeastern U.S. develops, the Maine woods are becoming an almost unparalleled resource, both for tree production and for recreational opportunity. But who is to come forward to say that this resource must not be squandered? Can we guarantee that the next generations will be able to set out in a canoe and know that adventure is just around the bend?”

Maybe I'm naïve, but I'd like to believe that in 40 more years, those that follow us will still be able to find adventure and wonder around the bend in Maine. I also hope that they'll enjoy a cleaner and more secure energy system. And, I really hope that they can be appreciative, that when faced with challenges, their predecessors rose to the occasion and secured their energy future **AND** preserved the state's greatest assets. Hopefully, they won't be able point a finger back at us and say that in the span of less than a generation their predecessors squandered Maine's treasures for their own financial expediency and unwillingness to consider alternatives. I continue to be amazed at how cheaply and easily some people can sell out the best that Maine has to offer.

I will present my comments as briefly and succinctly as possible.

1. On behalf of the Conservation Law Foundation, Cameron Wake from the University of New Hampshire submitted lengthy testimony on climate change and the specific effects he and others predict might befall New England in the years to come. It was quite comprehensive – a 46 page submission. What is notable is what Mr. Wake never says. What's missing from Mr. Wake's testimony is any suggestion that the project before you can or will have any appreciable impact on all the symptoms of climate change that he so exhaustively described. A 46 page submission, but not a single assertion that this particular project is important in the greater context of global climate change.

I hope that you'll ask yourself why this expert on climate change did not – or could not - quantify and elaborate on this project's specific role in altering the course of global climate change. He wants us to believe the project is necessary, but doesn't show us why. It's an important omission that speaks volumes, I believe.

2. Also, on behalf of the Conservation Law Foundation, Abigail Krich submitted testimony focused significantly on the electricity prices associated with wind energy, spending considerable space expounding on wind's price advantage. Any price advantage of wind generated electricity is purely speculative. Wind developers and operators are not offering competitive price guarantees.

While Ms. Krich plays up the alleged advantage of wind energy's no-cost fuel, she doesn't explain why First Wind still needs to place a substantial portion of the project's financial burden and risk on citizens at the federal and state levels, and why, despite this seemingly miraculous ability to produce something for nothing, they still need a mandated renewable portfolio standard (RPS) to create artificial demand for their product. The American Wind Energy Association, the largest industry trade group, continues to lobby vigorously for a federal RPS. Why? Because wind operators cannot compete with lower cost fossil fuels. Therefore, it is baseless to assert that wind generated electricity **will** lower consumers electric rates.

3. Ms. Krich also cites the New England Wind Integration Study (NEWIS) and carefully selects only those portions of the NEWIS that help her argument in favor of wind development. She paints an illusory picture composed of carefully chosen NEWIS elements.

It's important to understand that the NEWIS develops a scenario for a hypothetical 24% penetration of wind energy in the New England grid. Ms. Krich doesn't point out that this scenario, requiring at least 12,000 MW of wind energy development – most land-based development would be in Maine – does not even contemplate converting New England's oil heaters or transportation to electricity. Heating oil and transportation fuels are the real fossil fuel villains in New England, and they would not even be touched by the NEWIS projection of massive wind development many times greater than what we have even discussed in Maine thus far. Converting transportation and heating in New England to electricity would double or triple electricity consumption and make the NEWIS a pointless exercise.

If you want to see something disturbing, take a look at the Study's 24% onshore wind penetration scenario. It should strike fear in the heart of anyone who cares about the Maine outdoors. That scenario includes 72 separate land-based wind generating projects in Maine compared to a total of 7 in Massachusetts and Connecticut where most of the region's energy is consumed.

Ms. Krich also doesn't point out the Study's observation that land-based wind sites in Maine are inconveniently located a long distance from load centers to the south, or that potential offshore sites are much more conveniently located near those load centers – an important point if you're trying to keep one close to the other and reduce the required transmission infrastructure. These are the Study's observations, not mine.

If you're starting to feel like the general public is not getting the complete story on wind development in Maine and the rest of New England, you're not alone.

4. Just a few general words on this project's visual impact: Three visual experts reviewed this case and came up with three different conclusions. This is testament to the folly of trying to objectify something that is inherently subjective. The applicant's expert uses the old device that the existing development justifies their client's new development. And then, we can assume that their client's development, naturally, will be used to justify future development. From there, it's a short ride to a cumulative impact train wreck.

The applicant's visual expert tries to argue that visitors to the area will not object to the sight of wind turbines on the area's mountaintops. Invariably, however, respondents in the various surveys around the state on this topic frequently qualify their lack of objection with statements that indicate they accept the changes secondary to their understanding that some significant energy or environmental benefit accompanies the projects. No wind development applicant in Maine has been able to definitively demonstrate such a significant benefit; therefore, responses accompanied by such remarks are somewhat dubious. Of course, qualified and credible outdoor guides argued during the course of the public hearings that the negative impacts associated with the project's visual insult on the area would be substantial. Those who know this area well, and know the minds of the visiting public well, are the most credible sources of information on this issue.

This region is rich in scenic resources. The impact of the proposed project would, no doubt, have an unreasonable adverse effect on these remarkable places. It's unreasonable not only for those criteria outlined in statute. It's unreasonable also because Mr. Wake cannot tell us that this project is important in the effort to reduce global carbon emissions. It's unreasonable because Ms. Krich doesn't explain the contradiction of free fuel and a claimed price advantage, yet a continuing need to be subsidized by taxpayers and a renewable portfolio standard. It's unreasonable because land-based wind development is first and foremost a business opportunity – a jobs program for a discrete contingent of development related companies – not an energy solution, and not a climate remedy. And it's unreasonable because our legislators never even considered alternatives to wind turbines on Maine's mountains.

5. First Wind has, in this application, adhered to its policy to let Mainers carry the burden and risk for decommissioning in their projects' first 15 years of operation. Because their formula relies on volatile commodity prices – scrap steel prices – Mainers are actually not off the hook even after year 15. If the Commission approves this permit, a Decommissioning plan that places ALL the risk on First Wind from the first day of construction should be required.

6. As in previous First Wind Applications, Tangible Benefits to residents of the affected county has been exaggerated. Temporary construction jobs for wind projects typically go to the same discrete cadre of workers from the same discrete cadre of companies currently benefiting from wind development in Maine – typically not from the county hosting the project. There is, no doubt, a brief flurry of economic activity on the order of months, not years or decades. Permanent jobs are routinely exaggerated or only vaguely described. This is an unacceptable evasion by a company that has more experience in wind development than any other in Maine. First Wind should be able to tell the Commission precisely what permanent jobs **will** be created, what they are, and what those jobs will pay.

Any special treatment through TIF arrangements should be treated as a negative tangible benefit for Mainers as a whole since a substantial portion of property tax payments by First Wind would be returned to the company.

7. Environmental benefits implied by First Wind in its application are unsubstantiated and speculative. The alleged benefits are inconsequential, especially when viewed beside the litany of negative impacts the projects impose. If the permit is approved, First Wind should be required to report their production data annually in a monthly production breakdown.

Our state has embarked upon a brash and largely unexplained mission that promises to make Maine look and sound more like any other state east of the Mississippi - with only vague and unsubstantiated promises of what might be expected in return. And, you are faced with the unenviable task of making the call - and you must do so within the provisions of an absurd law.

So, I think this is the solution. Judge this application on the side of caution. Until proponents can prove definitively that land-based wind development, and specifically **this** land-based wind development is absolutely critical and essential – and no such case has been made - we owe it to Maine and to future Mainers to proceed with the greatest caution. If this doesn't feel right to you, then it isn't. I was in the audience in Bangor the day the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation, Bill Beardsley, told this board that "There's nothing about the expedited process that says it's easy to get a yes." This, of course, is notwithstanding the wind industry's apparent belief that expedited wind permitting is an entitlement program created specifically for them.

Please, give the benefit of the doubt to Maine and the next generation of Mainers so we can be certain that 40 years from now, people can still come from anywhere and find someplace in the northeast where adventure could be just around the bend.

Thank you.

Alan Michka
Lexington Township, Maine

From: [Donald Campbell](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: BOWERS WIND PROJECT
Date: Sunday, July 03, 2011 4:21:39 PM

Dear Mr. Todd

I strongly oppose the subject project for the following reasons:

1. The erection of 27 428' tall turbine towers with blinking red lights will reduce tourism in the area for miles around. Tourists visit the region to get away from civilization and commercialism. The net result could very well be the closing of lodges & camps in an already depressed area.
2. The Bowers Wind project runs counter to the goals of the environmental movement to conserve and promote our natural resources..
3. The Cost vs. Benefit Analyses performed by several universities reveals a very poor overall efficiency. Clearly, wind power is a waste of our taxpayer money.
4. A multi-million dollar project that will employ only 3 full time employees is not an answer to our severe
Unemployment Problem.

I strongly urge you to vote to deny the application for a permit.

Donald C. Campbell , President
Campbell Enterprises
500 Yosemite Av. N.
Minneapolis, MN 55422
.

From: [wayne_campbell](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: bowers wind project/dp4889
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 4:48:09 PM

I am firmly opposed to this wind project since it is an inappropriate place for its location. The area is a gem as a natural preserve for recreation and wild life enjoyed by many citizens who wish to escape the hectic pace of their lives for at least a short time and to develop an appreciation for what our country used to be. Please appeal to LURC to disallow First Wind from developing this pristine area with 27 wind turbines. Cherie Campbell, 295 Fairway Drive, Novato. Ca. 94949

From: [Peter Cornwell](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Turbine Project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 3:33:58 PM

Peter M. Cornwell
P.O. Box 11
Grand Lake Stream, ME 04637

Dear LURC,

I am a property owner on West Grand Lake, and frequent user of the flowage for residence and recreation.

In my opinion this project is a VERY BAD idea for the region and permits to proceed should definitely be denied.

The Grand Lakes region is one of very few unspoiled and pristine scenic areas in the U.S. A project such as this with massive turbines would rob this area of its' unique scenic appeal. People do not come to this area to see eyesore turbines, they come to see beautiful lakes and streams with unbroken ridgelines.

Also, in an age of high tech miniaturization, would we want the distinction of trashing our non-renewable scenic corridors with the largest turbines in Maine? Obviously, NO!!!

From a business standpoint, it is my opinion that if wind were demonstrably viable in this area as an alternative energy source, it would have been developed by private industry years ago.

Please save the NON-RENEWABLE Grand Lakes scenic area. Please vote NO on this project.

Sincerely yours,

Peter M. Cornwell
Grand Lake Stream

From: jwlea1@comcast.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: davidtobey@earthlink.net
Subject: Bowers wind Turbines
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 11:41:51 AM

Dear Mr. Todd

I have been visiting the Grand Lake Stream area on an annual basis for over 40 years. The scenic landscape and the night sky are certainly a couple of the cherished reasons for my visits. This is one of the few areas in the eastern US that you can actually have a wilderness experience without the trappings of our industrial world. The effect the Bowers wind turbines will have on the visual landscape is not only immeasurable but irreparable once done.

Mr. Todd, the economy of this area depends on the wilderness experience and these turbines visual impact is widespread. Hunters, Campers, Kayakers, Canoeists, Hikers, and Fishermen all seek their craft in areas where they can experience an interlude from the impact that humans have on our landscape. The erection of these turbines will destroy that experience for thousands of people that visit the area every year. As a result, it will have a truly negative impact on the economy of Washington County. For years the citizens of the area have worked to preserve the land around them so that they can ensure their livelihood. Now, in one poorly conceived plan, the erection of these wind turbines will visually destroy exactly what the local residents have been struggling so hard to accomplish.

To me it is a no brainer. The permit to allow these turbines should be denied. They would, without a doubt, destroy the experience that so many cherish when they visit this area. Please deny the permit. It is an inappropriate location that will destroy the livelihood of many residents and the outdoor experience of those that visit.

John Lea
138 S. Grims Mill Rd.
Boyertown, PA 19512
jwlea1@comcast.net

From: RCWILLY2@aol.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers! Project
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 11:21:03 AM

I urge you to take a hard look at this question and simply view it as a Common Sense question and in the light of most everything else Maine Regulatory Agencies do in serving the needs of the State and it's people.

Yes everything always comes with a dollar sign attached and probably always will. This "drive" for wind power is no exception and it is what is driving this Wind effort as well. But let us also look at all of this in a practical and historical manner.

I happen to be just one of five Selectman in the Town of Cushing and as such am very familiar with our State and Local Ordinances, Laws and State Regulations. I understand the pressures on a Public Servant as well and the frequent financial issues that go with it.

But there comes a time when Common Sense needs to be the leading force! This Bowers Project is one of these times.

We have very little history about the long term nature of these Wind Power "units"! The older ones are already deteriorating in many places across the country where they have been operating. Nothing lasts forever. But when a project such as this is in place it can be destructive for a very long time. This is why our Regulatory Agencies are so important and why they perform a long term important service.

Let me give you an analogy. Here on the Maine coast we are "protected" by Home rule and State Regulations that prevent people and Corporate entities from destroying our Shoreline and more! Similarly, The Maine Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) approves projects such as this reclassification of nearly 700 acres of Washington County timberland as an expedited permitting zone for Bowers industrial wind-site development. **WHY??** In other words "SPECIAL TREATMENT"! If this happened on our coastal area everyone would be up in arms. It's pure and simple reverse discrimination for one special entity because of some special "**something**" or "somebodys!!!!

Example: Many property owners on our coast find it essential to protect their water front property from erosion. But, can they simply dump rocks or rip-rap along their shore or build heavy wood fence in the front?? No!! Why is that? They are protecting the property from erosion!! The reason is because it is illegal and the legal purpose is simply to make certain the "protection" or construction is done RIGHT which includes the appearance!! But why? Because this protection is for ALL the people and not simply this single home owner of Corporate Entity! It is a long term protective effort for future generations and not some quick fix driven by some well financed Owner! This is the underlying purpose of all our State Agencies. Protect the people from this financial power.

I could give you many examples that have happened here on the coast and how the approval process was so important in protecting our shoreline from destruction for future generations.

This Bowers project is no different. Yes we have an energy problem but this too will pass in time with the advancement of new technology. But the beautiful area you happen to oversee needs protection from this current Federal and State Government financially driven hysteria surrounding this Wind Power catch all answer to Energy! What we will not be able to do is reverse the destruction it also brings with it!!

At one time nuclear power was also the answer. Since then much has changed about this subject as well. Even our (and other countries) submarines have been found to be not as effective as the older powered models and several are now building new ones that are not nuclear powered!! They are more quiet!!

My point is this wind power issue may not turn out to be everything it is expected to be but and is simply a very big money driven PRODUCT! What we must be careful with is our land which will be more permanent and must be protected FOREVER!

I urge you and others to rethink this Bowers DEAL (and it is a DEAL)!! But the property it will impact will forever change and should be protected against this "Pressure".

Stop this Project with Common Sense and fight the pressures of the almighty Buck and the sales pitch that comes with it!!!

Will Payson Selectman
CUSHING, Maine 04563

From: [MLC](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: fen@207me.com
Subject: Browsers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 1:21:42 PM

July 10, 2011

LURC Commissioners, State House Station, Augusta, Maine

RE: Opposition to First Wind's Bowers Industrial Wind Project

Dear Members of the Commission,

Please oppose the Bowers Mt./DP 4889 wind turbine project by First Wind!

I used to think of wind power as something that was ecologically and socially friendly. I thought it could provide power without the harm caused by fossil fuels and nuclear power. I never dreamed of the evil genius that could take such a potential for good and turn it into yet another crime against nature and humanity.

Yet here we are. Looking at this Bowers Mt. Wind project, it is as if a company surveyed one of the most beautiful, pristine, unique areas of Maine that they could find, and they said to themselves, "Lets come up with a way to destroy it."

The project strikes me as a manifestation of sociopathic insanity. For the small amount of power it would produce

we would destroy forever-

Downeast Lakes Watershed - a national treasure

some of the most beautiful views in the state

Migratory bat and bird routes, and nesting areas for bald eagles, herons, ospreys and many other birds

Property values tied to the natural views and pristine wilderness

Peace and quiet (one of the last places that it can be found on the Eastern Seaboard)

Night skies where the stars alone are visible

Jobs tied to tourism from wilderness related activity such as canoeing, kayaking, hiking, boating, camping, fishing, wilderness and animal photography, ice fishing, birding and so on.

Maine's reputation as a destination for wilderness activities

Health and sanity of the local people and wildlife (massive ground vibrations and the pulsating of high and low frequency noise would make the area unlivable)

Once the turbines are built and the mountain tops and tourist industry destroyed, only two jobs will be added to the area. Much of this will be at Maine taxpayer expense and the power will be mostly exported out of state.

The Maine Expedited Wind Energy Act states that wind development should be cited "where appropriate". This citing is NOT appropriate. Wind power could be something beneficial if it is either

cited offshore or done in a more local and small scale. The problems presented by Industrial scaled wind could be mitigated. But First Winds currently proposed project is just another rape of the land and the people.

Please vote "NO!" on this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Cupp

Falmouth, Maine

From: sandraweimer@roadrunner.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Carroll Plantation / Kossuth Township Wind Turbine Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 6:47:04 AM
Attachments: [Carroll Plantation.doc](#)

Please see the attached.

Carroll Plantation / Kossuth Township Wind Turbine Project

As I travel Route 6 in Maine toward my version of the way life should be, my families camp on Duck Lake in Lakeville, I begin to see windmills off to my right and to my left. I think to myself how they interfere in the beautiful landscape. As I get closer, I realize how large they are and how glad I am that I don't have to look at there wind turbines on a daily basis. Yet as I think this, my heart goes out to all the people that will have to look at them every day.

It amazes me that our own government and elected officials could allow this to happen to beautiful pristine woodlands and gorgeous lake scenic views.

Not two weeks later, I am told of a wind turbine project proposed for Carroll Plantation / Kossuth Township. As I research the proposal on the internet, I am led to the website www.ppdlw.org and on that website, there are photos of various lakes in the Downeast Watershed and how the proposed wind project will impact the scenic views. There are many lakes that will be impacted: Duck, Junior, Scraggly, Pleasant, Keg, Bottle and Shaw lakes to name some. The photos were prepared by Land Words in Middlebury, Vermont.

I am now confronted by the fact that it looks like I am going to become one of those people that will be looking at wind turbines every day; every day that I am at my families camp. A place I have been coming to for fifty years and I have been known to call paradise. I realize that our beautiful view from the front porch of our camp as well as the view from the boat on many trips we make up and down through the lakes will forever be destroyed if these wind turbines are allowed to be built in this downeast watershed. The visual change and impact will be swift and permanent.

I also have concerns for the wildlife in the areas that will be forever changed should this project move forward. There will be many trees / woodlands cut down and mountain and hill tops changed to allow for roads for construction vehicles, power lines to be run, transformer stations, wind turbines to be built, etc. If construction projects that destroy forests are continually allowed, where will these animals go to find new homes?

I feel that I would be remiss if I did not express my thoughts and feelings that I have regarding this project. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Sandra (Lindsay) Weimer
34 Albion Rd
Windham, ME 04062

From: [Paulina Arnold](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Champlain Wind, LLC - Bowers Wind Project
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 11:22:38 AM

Mr. Fred Todd
Project Planner
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Ref: Champlain Wind, LLC - Bowers Wind Project
DP 4889

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to comment on the Bowers Wind Project. My family owns property in Grand Lake Stream and I have spent every summer since I was born enjoying Big Lake and Grand Lake. I am the fifth generation in my family to spend significant time and money enjoying this beautiful part of Maine.

Even through high school and college, the Grand Lake Stream community has continued to be a large part of my life. I have learned to fish, kayak, canoe and camp up and down the water in this area, and return every year. Although I grew up in England, and have lived in Taiwan, Connecticut and Louisiana, I still make sure I get significant time in Grand Lake Stream every year. I have yet to find another area with such beautiful wilderness, and as I was growing up it provided the perfect environment for learning about the outdoors. My family have flown in from England, New Jersey and Tennessee every year to meet up and enjoy the area.

So much of our enjoyment of Grand Lake Stream comes from its history and preservation. As a fifth generation vacationer there, we can look back at beautiful photos from my grandparents and great grandparents enjoying the very same swimming and fishing holes that we now use. I come to Grand Lake Stream to escape the urban environment I live in the rest of the year, and value that when I am out on the lake, all I can see is forests and water.

I am strongly against the approval of the Champlain Wind, LLC - Bowers Wind Project. Based on my own enjoyment of the wilderness in Grand Lake Stream, I believe it will have a negative economic impact on the sport fishing and sporting camp business in Downeast Maine. If my own appreciation of the area is so dependent on the pristine wilderness, I can imagine someone with less existing commitment could choose another wilderness destination if their vista were disturbed by wind farms.

I understand there are some who say that the community in Grand Lake Stream is primarily elderly, but I am 21 and spend as much time there as my grandparents. I have been bringing friends up from London and New Haven since I was 10, and now have regular visits from young people, even though the destination is so remote. Grand Lake Stream is special and valued by these young people particularly because there are so few such accessible places to learn about the wilderness. For those raised in an urban environment, wind turbines on the horizon would definitely have a negative effect on the magic of Big Lake and Grand Lake vistas.

I know the tourist industry is absolutely crucial to Washington County and provides many jobs through lodging, food, guides, fuel, etc., and I would hate to see the community I have come to love so much damaged by a thoughtless project.

I hope that LURC turns down the application for the Bowers Wind Project.

Yours sincerely,

Paulina D. Arnold

PO Box 188
220 Park St

Grand Lake Stream, Maine
04637

Apartment #B1, 210-

New Haven, Connecticut
06511

From: [Nancy Wood](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [Jonathan Carter](#)
Subject: Comment concerning LURC wind turbine hearing
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 9:24:33 PM

To the Maine LURC:

We are residents of California who have vacationed in Maine many times with our family. Over a period of some 25 years, we have spent vacations in Maine — in the South on the Harpswell peninsula, and "Down East" in and around Machias. We have also camped in Baxter State Park, the most extraordinary, beautiful, and peaceful preserve of forests, mountains and wildlife that we have ever experienced.

When we learned of the proposal to "pollute" the precious natural regions of Northern Maine with rows of gigantic wind turbines on the tops of the mountain ranges we were appalled, particularly so because the electric power from these turbines will not serve the people of Maine, and will thus require construction of new major transmission lines to reach out-of-state customers.

We urge you to exercise prudence and deny permits to construct the proposed wind generation facility. The use of so-called green power electricity generation is laudable, but it should not be at the cost of grossly violating our natural environment.

For the love of Maine,

Bernard & Nancy Wood

From: [Paula Fugel](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Comments on Bowers Windmill Project - First Wind - We are against the Project!
Date: Thursday, June 30, 2011 3:53:57 PM

Mr Todd,

My husband and I were not able to make it to the public meetings this week, but would like to express our concerns about the windmills on Bowers Mtn. We live on Bottle Lake, Lakeville, Maine in the summer and **we are against the windmill project.** We pay taxes in Lakeville, ME. We purchased on Bolttle Lake and spend alot of time fishing Junior Lake and Scraggly Lake. One of the big draws for us was the unspoiled natural beauty of the area.

Our concerns:

- changes to the environment
- changes to the beautiful views forever! the windmills will be there long after First Wind is gone!
- blasting on the mountains and affect on the land and watershed
- affect of wildlife, especially the eagels nesting in the area
- affect on the local economy; individuals who depend on this area and its beauty for a living and
- effect on land values
- power going out of state
- federal subsidy/tax payers paying for First Wind Capital; we do not believe in subsidies of any kind for private companies. They need to make it on their own if indeed the industry is to be profitable, it should not be on the backs of the taxpayers

We also believe this project is against what LURC stands for - protecting our land from misuse!

Sincerely,

Paula and Dale Fugel
289 Lakeville Shores
Lakeville, ME 04487

From: [Mr Timothy Dalton](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Dear LURC, No Support for Bowers Mountain Petition (DP 4889)
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 1:35:40 PM

Dear LURC, No Support for Bowers Mountain Petition

Citizens present at the series of public hearings organized by the Land Use Regulatory Commission overwhelmingly opposed the Bowers Mountain wind turbine project by a margin of 2 to 1, according to published reports in the June 27th Bangor Daily News[1]. A guest column published in the Sun Journal vehemently opposes wind power development for Maine[2]. The Kennebec Journal can't seem to find many positive aspects to the Bowers Mountain petition by First Wind of Boston.[3] And a July 6th poll by the Bangor Daily News found that 92% of all respondents do not think the Bowers Mountain project should be approved. These reports can't be correct, can they?

How could anyone disagree with First Wind's argument that the watershed surrounding the proposed site "does not include any high value natural resources or landscape features" or that "fishermen can orient their boats away from the turbines or situate themselves in one of the many coves if views of the turbines become undesirable[4]" Well nine lakes within eight miles of the proposed site have been listed as having a "significant" scenic resource rating[5] and three (Pleasant, Scraggly and Lombard) are listed as having an "outstanding" scenic rating. Pleasant, Syslabobsis, Junior, Scraggly, Lombard, and Upper Syslabobsis are rated as "Value class 1 lakes" otherwise known as "lakes of statewide significance." Pleasant and Syslabobsis received the highest class 1A designation, putting it among the elite 8% of the 1511 Maine lakes evaluated in the benchmark Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment. Lakes of this quality are high value natural resources.

What is even more exclusive is the designation as an "especially high value lake meriting policy consideration to maintain their existing values." Pleasant is one of only 21 lakes in the state receiving that highest order of protection. Junior is one of only 29 lakes "meriting policy consideration to maintain their existing values." Scraggly is one of only five Maine lakes designated as an "especially high value accessible undeveloped lake." These rare lakes, when combined, cover only around 5% of all lake area in Maine yet First Wind of Boston contends that these lakes are "not unique or distinct, there are no special or defining features." [6] Nonsense. The public disagrees and so does the opinion of Department of Conservation if their opinion is reflected in the precedent setting Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment.

Allowing the construction of wind turbines in an area where the scenic qualities of the surrounding landscape contributes to "highest value" and rarest lake classification will displace these lakes from those ratings and essentially degrade the State's resource base. It will only make an extremely rare resource, already considered as "meriting policy consideration to maintain their existing value," more rare and essentially endangered.

The scope of the destruction of the scenic qualities of nine lakes within eight miles of the proposed site is unreasonable on economic grounds as the benefits for wind power generation are inconsequential. Existing wind turbine site Stetson I is operating at a paltry 31% of its capacity, Stetson II at 25% and Kibby I at an appalling 13% of capacity! [7] In 2007 The United States Department of Energy found wind energy potential in these sites to be below "marginal" [8]. The published reports on actual power generation from these three locations only confirm this finding. How much additional evidence is needed to validate the lack of public benefits from wind generation at inland Maine sites?

This petition does not meet the criterion of causing unreasonable damage to the scenic amenity values in this rare chain of lakes. It does not meet a criterion of reasonable economic benefits, nor even reasonableness on common sense grounds. Approval of the Bowers Mountain petition is nothing more than a transfer of this public resource value into the hands of a private corporation and its interests. The Land Use Regulatory Commission has a fiduciary responsibility to oversee the usage of Maine's resources in a judicious

manner[9]. The unreasonable damage caused to the scenic character of the extremely rare lake resources in Maine, coupled with the lack of economic benefits to society, cannot be considered in the best interest of the public. The Land Use Regulatory Commission should head its charge to "protect natural and ecological values" in Maine and deny First Wind's permitting application. The public has vocally urged your do so and the evidence overwhelming supports their call.

Timothy J. Dalton
Lakeville, Maine

[1]

<http://bangordailynews.com/2011/06/27/news/penobscot/wind-power-project-generates-comments-controversy-at-public-hearing/>

[2] <http://www.sunjournal.com/guest-columns/story/995569>

[3] Kenebec Journal

http://www.kjonline.com/news/wind-power-fears-bring-independent-types-together_2011-06-27.html?searchterm=bowers

[4] All quotations are taken from: Landworks. "Visual Impact Assessment for the Proposed Bowers Wind Project." Available:

http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/projects/Windpower/FirstWind/Champlain/Development/Application/Exhibit_17.pdf

Downloaded July 13, 2011. The quotations are from pages 50 and 44 of this report.

[5] Bottle, Duck, Junior, Keg, Shaw, Upper Sysladobsis, Sysladobsis, Norway, Horseshoe are defined as significant in the "Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment: Findings." Augusta: Maine Department of Conservation, Land Use Regulatory Commission, 1987.

[6] Landworks. "Visual Impact Assessment for the Proposed Bowers Wind Project."

Available:

http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/projects/Windpower/FirstWind/Champlain/Development/Application/Exhibit_17.pdf

Downloaded July 13, 2011. p.43.

[7] Data source: LURC "Energy Output from Permitted Turbines." Available:

<http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/projects/Windpower/WindEnergyProductionSummary.pdf>.

Calculations of output are corrected for downtime and delayed startup as indicated in footnotes a and b.

[8] Source: U.S. Department of Energy, National Renewable Energy laboratory.

"Wind Resources and Transmission Lines." Available:

http://www.nrel.gov/wind/systemsintegration/images/home_usmap.jpg

[9] <http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/about.html>

From: [Lonna Perry](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Deny Bowers Mtn. Wind Project
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 2:05:38 PM

Hi Todd,

My name is Lonna Perry and I am a Maine Registered Guide with permissions in fishing and recreation. I enjoy canoeing, kayaking, camping and fishing. I am a year round user of Junior Lake and surrounding bodies of water. I paddle and camp out a lot along these lakes during the spring, summer and fall seasons frequently. I enjoy the beautiful scenery of the foliage on the heavily wooded ridges, wildlife and the tranquility of this area. I put my ice shack out on Junior Lake every winter and enjoy the snow covered mountains while ice fishing. This is one of Maine's historic waterways that have been used for recreating since the turn of the century. I would highly recommend you to deny the plan for wind towers on Bowers Mtn. If the permit application is passed there is no way, I would ever utilize this area again. Please do your best to save this special place because once its gone there is no getting it back! Thank you for your time.

Lonna Perry
522 Main St
Springfield, ME 04487

From: [Judy Guggenhime](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 / Bowers Mt. Project
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 3:30:58 PM

July 14, 2011

Fred Todd
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

VIA EMAIL: Fred.Todd@Maine.gov
Re: DP 4889 / Bowers Mt. Project

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am a property owner in Grand Lake Stream, where my family has been summering for generations. My daughter and her family are full-time residents who make their living through the wonderful recreation opportunities of the lake and environs.

I am writing to protest in the strongest terms the industrial wind farm that First Wind proposes to install on Bowers Mountain.

First Wind claims the traditional watershed uses are dying out or are so peripheral to the economy of the area that the proposed turbines (over 40 stories tall!) will not have a significant impact. I am here to tell you the opposite is true.

The fishing and guide industries are thriving in this area because of its scenic splendor. LURC's own Wildlands Lake Assessment Study has categorized the impact area as being "of significant or outstanding scenic quality." We all wish to keep it that way! The Bowers Mountain Project will have a hugely negative impact on our quality of life and our family's economic viability.

Please do not let this unreasonable and destructive project go forward. I strongly request that you deny this development application.

Thank you.

Judy Guggenhime
Grand Lake Stream, Maine

From: [Kathryn Walsh Roseberry](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 Bowers Mountain Project
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 1:07:11 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

First and foremost, I would like to thank you and the other members of the LURC commission for your time, energy and thoughtful consideration for this wind project. I do not envy you your position, but am thankful for your consideration of all points of view.

To you and the other members of this decision making body, I would like to say that it is my heartfelt hope that this wind project will be denied. I have given careful consideration to the pros and the cons of the project. I feel that the risks far outweigh any benefits. I have spent so many pleasurable days in this area and the thoughts of looking up at the wind towers, both during the day and at night, almost brings me to tears. I don't mean to sound melodramatic, but this area makes me calm, recharged and so appreciative of all that is done by LURC and the State of Maine to protect these areas for our enjoyment.

Again, my thanks to you and the other commissioners for all that you have done to protect these valued resources.

Kathryn Walsh Roseberry
39 Leighton Street
Bangor, ME 04401
207-299-7337

From: [Tim Pitcher](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: ["Kevin and Marie"](#)
Subject: DP 4889 Bowers Mt. Project - Testimony
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 3:20:20 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I write in protest of the proposed Bowers Mt. industrial scale wind power project.

I have been a resident of Lakeville, Maine for the last fourteen years. However, my love of and fascination with **The Grand Lake Chain of Lakes** far precedes my tenure here.

Shortly after college graduation in the early 70's I purposely sought out this area as a beautiful surrogate for the Canadian Wilds that I experienced fishing and camping with my father.

I still have a copy of the 1971 American Canoe Association guide which describe the rustic canoe routes of the primary watershed. I also have the framed topographic maps, four 15 min. sheets trimmed and taped together that displayed the scope and adventurous possibilities of these inter-connected bodies. Back then the kind folks at Wilderness Canoe Basin on Pleasant Lake were helpful in marking known campsites favored by Boy Scouts and other paddlers. (Note: We still attract both today)

In fact, it was a rare experience to hoist a paddle and wave a "Hello" across an expanse of water. Perhaps a chance meeting to exchange knowledge of a special tenting spot or a choice bit of water for 'inviting' a special entrée to a shore lunch. Today, many of those same spots are guarded secrets among these waters shared with a select group of family, friends and trustworthy visitors. I speak intimately of course of my closest home waters though I've paddled and fished most, camping on many. I live at the foot of Bottle Lake which my property includes a small private island and a half mile of shoreline. Near at hand are: Keg, Junior & Scraggly Lakes.

I chose to move to Lakeville, relocating family, business and then bird dog after a quarter century of 'commuting' from the environs of New Jersey and Connecticut to recreate and restore here. While in Connecticut I actually lived adjacent to Lake Candlewood in Brookfield, CT. There can be no comparison with this "Quality of Place".

The prospects of industrial scale wind turbines encroaching here: physically, visually, esthetically and invasively upon the Spirit and Character of this, **The Grand Lake Chain of Lakes** is unconscionable.

I must, with all due respect, implore you to deny the First Wind application.

Do the right thing. Preserve this special 'Character of Place' ... Not for just now, forever as is possible.

Sincerely,
Timothy Pitcher
23 Trappers Point Road
Lakeville, Maine 04487
207-738-2550

From: [Robert Ellis](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 Bowers Mt.
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 9:12:08 PM

Mr Todd,

Maine people expect their officials to enforce the LURC standards.

As a local Planning Board member I'm sure that LURC commissioners know full well that this application does not meet

the Recreational, Scenic and Water Resources Standards of the Comprehensive Plan.

I whole-heartedly reject arguments by First Wind that trivialize Maine people and their precious resources.

Maine people have been careful stewards of this great state for many generations.

Please take your position seriously and represent Maine people and don't cave in to powerful interests that want to exploit us.

This application is a disgusting affront to our beautiful state and hard-earned way of life.

I sincerely hope you take my letter seriously and understand that my passionate point of view is offered respectfully.

Robert Ellis
92 Pleasant Point Road
Cushing ME 04563

From: [Sonia Lea](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 11:45:37 AM

To whom it may concern,
I am writing in regard to DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. project. I have spent 32 years visiting Grand Lake Stream. It is a beautiful location that holds a special place in my heart. My family is very involved in the preservation of the Downeast Lakes. I have donated generously myself to the cause. Over the course of my lifetime, I have seen incredible growth in the community. The local population is dedicated to preserving the Grand Lake Stream forest, wildlife, and history. They have done a wonderful job educating visitors and residents about the lake and forest. Abundant hiking trails have been created and kayaking opportunities are plentiful. This community has done an enormous amount of work in the past few decades. They are creating a self sufficient community based on responsible forestry, eco tourism, fishing and hunting. Please do not let this work be ruined by the Mt Bowers wind project. The benefits of this project are minimal in comparison with the harm it would do to the Grand Lake Stream community. Sincerely, Sonia Lea Benner

From: jwholman@colby.edu
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. project
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 2:52:29 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing regarding DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. project. As I'm sure you can tell by my email address I am current student at Colby College in Waterville, I will be a junior. I also have been going to Grand Lake Stream for as long as I can remember, roughly 20 years. Grand Lake Stream is an incredible wilderness area that represents an environment that is becoming increasingly rare in the US. It is known for it's fishing, but I personally also kayak (flat and whitewater) all around the area enjoying the views and surrounding waters. I have both friends and family whom I know feel the same way about the area. I wanted to write you and let you know how detrimental I think windmills could be to the views. I know it may not seem like it, but there is a young generation the both enjoys and cares about preserving Grand Lake Stream.

Thank you,
Jay Holman

From: [Ida Clarke](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. Project
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 6:13:12 PM

Dear Mr. Todd

Please consider this letter to you as my formal disapproval of the Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind Project. It is a very poorly sited project and the denial is necessary.

Please deny this development permit!

Ida Clarke
734 River Road
Cushing, Maine 04563

From: judy166@gmail.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. project
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 2:19:30 PM

Dear Mr. Todd:

Please do not allow First Wind to destroy the Maine way of life and lose millions of dollars in tourism revenue, by devastating the downeast watershed.

First Wind insults and demeans residents and visitors by stating that folks can "look the other way" while recreating and seeing these giant, ugly, fans.

This project does not meet the "reasonable" standard. The scenic impact for eight miles and more, will be devastating to the natural beauty and pristine, peaceful environment that is the heart and spirit of Maine as well as one of the few remaining scenic wonders in the United States.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Judy Lowell

15 Sargent Street

Allenstown, NH 03274

Phone: 603-485-8042

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: [Galaxygoon](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011 2:49:24 AM

July 16, 2011

Dear LURC Board Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to DP 4889, First Wind's proposed Bowers Mt. Industrial wind project. First Wind is proposing to erect 27 massive towers that are all in excess of 400', the equivalent of a forty-three story building and the largest in the state. If these massive turbines are allowed they will destroy the wild and pristine nature of the largest remaining wild lakes region in the continental US - the Downeast Lakes Watershed.

This watershed is comprised of more than a dozen lakes, many of which are LURC rated Class 1A and 1B for their "statewide or national significance". As such, this area's economy is strongly dependant on outdoor recreation. A development of this immense scope would have many negative and irreversible impacts. The construction of the behemoth towers would irreparably damage the watershed's beauty. The towers would require flashing lights which would be visible for 20 miles across the lakes. The blasting and leveling would cause irreversible damage to soils, hydrological flows, and the unique populations of the area's plants and animals. Thousands of migrating bats and birds would be killed and many species of wildlife, including bear, moose, and deer, will be forced to flee from the massive ground vibrations and the pulsating of high and low frequency noise which will amplify across the lakes.

The ecological damage, in and of itself, is enough to deny the Bowers Mt. project. However, in addition, this industrial wind project will not reduce greenhouse gases, will produce at most only two permanent jobs after the construction phase, will raise electric rates, devastate property values, and undermine the economic benefits of Maine's number one industry – tourism and recreation. To add insult to injury, not only would this project be heavily subsidized by tax dollars, but all the unreliable and intermittent power will be exported out of Maine.

The first sentence of the legislative findings in the Maine Expedited Wind Energy Act states that wind development should be sited "where appropriate". The Bowers Mt. Project/DP4889 in the heart of the Downeast Lakes region is clearly *not* appropriate. Please consider all of the negative effects to the land, the water, the wildlife and the human communities and the already considerable cumulative impact from the existing Stetson I, Stetson II and Rollins projects and deny First Wind's application.

Sincerely,

Debbie
McCarthy
188 Hare
St
Phillips, Me 04966



From: [kpmcl.](#)
To: Fen@207ME.com; [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889, Bowers Mountain
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 10:57:32 AM
Attachments: [ricks letter to lurc.docx](#)

Please see attachment
Rick

July 15, 2011

Richard A. Hesslein
68 Peary Mtn. Rd.
Brownfield , ME 04010

Commissioners, LURC,
/DP 4889

Ref. # Bowers Mtn.

This letter is submitted as testimony pertaining to Champlain Wind's proposed Bowers Mtn. Industrial Wind Power Project. I very recently attended the public hearing in Lincoln, Maine and witnessed the expressed concerns of local people and businesses. I also took a three day and two night kayak tour of Junior, Scraggly, West Grand, Pocumcus, and Sysladobsis Lakes from which the Bowers Mountain ridgeline is a prominent feature on the skyline from several aspects of these lakes. I am deeply concerned about the effect this intrusive development would have on the experience I had and the quality of place I got to observe first hand as I traveled these lakes in a most intimate way! I was able to experience miles of undeveloped and gorgeous shore line with wooded ridgelines in each direction. We found a fabulous array of wild life and around these waters from rising fish, nesting eagles, osprey, multiple species of ducks, shorebirds, terns, kingfishers; songbirds of huge variety including at least four different thrushes, frogs, turtles and beaver managed wetland complexes! In the dark of night quiet was broken only by various frog sounds, occasional bird calls and incredibly haunting echoes of multiple answering loon wails. The darkness was complete except when clear skies revealed a

universe of vivid stars. This is an exceptional precious resource that must not be squandered for the profit of opportunists who have endeavored to stack the deck to ensure their financial gain due to huge misguided (not unusual) government subsidies.

Even if there is a substantial benefit available from the employment of industrial wind turbines this would not be the proper place, but my understanding is that the real benefits are highly questionable when one considers up to 30% efficiency and intermittent, possibly untimely power production. The money and jobs promised for the local community is questionable, if the result is a boondoggle that only raises costs of production of power and relies on continued extra tax payer/ rate payer inputs. Hopefully wind power can help reduce our energy impacts in time but it must be carefully integrated into our collective, critical, already badly degraded environment!

I appreciate your careful deliberation on these matters and hope you will not be unduly swayed by bribes of promised payments to community projects and programs. One must ask-where will this money come from!!

Thank you

Sincerely,

Rick Hesslein

From: [Lynne Williams](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889, Bowers Mtn. Wind Project Comments
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 2:35:15 PM
Attachments: [LURCSubmission.pdf](#)
[ATT908721.htm](#)
[Adverse Impact of Wind Poweron Wildlife.pdf](#)
[ATT908722.htm](#)

Hello Fred: Attached please find two documents - written comments on the Bowers project, and an attached article.
Regards, Lynne Williams

Lynne Williams, Esq.
13 Albert Meadow
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
207-266-6327

Lynne Williams, Esq.

13 Albert Meadow, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609
(207) 266-6327 LWILLIAMS@earthlink.net

July 14, 2011

To: Fred Todd, LURC

RE: DP 4889, Bowers Mtn. Wind Project, Champlain Wind, LLC

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing with respect to the proposed Bowers Wind Power Project, although my comments, and the attachment that I include, are applicable to most of the industrial wind power projects in the state. I strongly urge the Commission to deny the permit for an industrial wind facility on Bowers Mountain. It is a highly inappropriate location for such a project

In the beginning of industrial wind's incursion into the state of Maine, there were many concerns expressed about the impact of the noise that is specific to wind turbines on humans. Those concerns are still being expressed, even more vociferously and by more people and groups than ever before, including members of the medical profession. However, the discussions of wind turbines' impacts on wildlife have centered on the likelihood of the blades killing birds and bats rather than the more indirect impacts, most importantly habitat fragmentation and disruption of wildlife communication by low frequency noise. Collisions, of course, are still a serious issue, particularly on our non-migratory cave-dwelling bat population, who as a species are already being stressed by White Nose disease. But much more research must be done on the indirect impacts on wildlife of these industrial developments.

As a non-scientist, I have tried to educate myself on the newly emerging issues surrounding impacts of industrial wind on wildlife. I have read many articles in scientific journals and have spoken with scientists at wildlife agencies at both the state and federal level.

I do not want to burden the Commission with copies of every article I've read, but I did find the attached article to be especially accessible (for a non-scientist) and helpful to my understanding of impacts on wildlife.

I hope that you will review the information in this article and come to the conclusion that the potential impacts on wildlife of this project, as well as other industrial wind projects in areas populated by wildlife and migratory birds and bats, are simply unacceptable, and that you will vote to deny the application.

Respectfully submitted.

/s/ Lynne Williams



Adverse impacts of wind power generation on collision behaviour of birds and anti-predator behaviour of squirrels

Ryunosuke Kikuchi*

Departamento de Ciências Exactas e do Ambiente (CERNAS), ESAC – Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra, Bencanta, 3040-316 Coimbra, Portugal

Received 4 December 2006; accepted 9 November 2007

KEYWORDS

Alarm call;
Bern convention;
Migration;
Mortality;
Raptors;
Renewable energy;
Wind farm

Summary

Wind power is a fast-growing energy source for electricity production, and some environmental impacts (e.g. noise and bird collision) are pointed out. Despite extensive land use (2600–6000 m²/MW), it is said that most of these impacts have been resolved by technological development and proper site selection. The results in this paper suggest that: (i) wind farms kill millions of birds yearly around the world, and the high mortality of rare raptors is of particular concern; (ii) wind farms on migration routes are particularly dangerous, and it is difficult to find a wind power site away from migration routes because there is no guarantee that migration routes will not vary; (iii) according to the presented model of collision probability, the rotor speed does not make a significant difference in collision probability; the hub is the most dangerous part, and large birds (e.g. raptors) are at great risk; and, (iv) based on the field observation of squirrels' vocalisation (i.e. anti-predator behaviour), there are behavioural differences between squirrels at the wind turbine site and those at the control site. Noise from wind turbines (when active) may interfere with the lives of animals beneath the wind turbines.

US Government guidelines and the Bern Convention's report have described adverse impacts of wind energy facilities on wildlife and have put forward recommendations. In addition to these documents, the following points derived from the discussion in this paper should be noted for the purpose of harmonising wind power generation with wildlife conservation: (i) engineers need to develop a turbine form to reduce the collision risk at the hub; (ii) institute long-term monitoring, including a comparison between bird mortality before and after construction; and (iii) further evaluate impacts of turbine noise on anti-predator wildlife vocalisations.

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E-mail address: kikuchi@mail.esac.pt.

Introduction

The first wind-powered electricity was produced by a machine built by C. Brush in 1888. This machine had a rated power of 12 kW (DWIA, 2003). During the 1980s, installed capacity costs dropped considerably and since then wind power has become an economically attractive option for commercial electricity generation (ITDG, 2005). Large wind farms or wind power stations have become a common sight in many western countries; e.g. Denmark alone had 2000 MW of electricity generating capacity from more than 5700 wind turbines in 2001, representing ~15% of their national electricity consumption (ITDG, 2005). Wind energy is being adopted in more and more countries, with 58,982 MW installed worldwide in 2005 (World Wind Energy Association (WWEA), 2006).

The global rate of growth of wind power increased to 24% in 2005, up from 21% in 2004; with this trend continuing to increase, 120,000 MW is projected to be installed worldwide by 2010 (WWEA, 2006). This dynamic increase shown in Figure 1 can be justified as follows: since wind is a clean, renewable form of energy and a free source of electricity, it will reduce energy dependence on imported fossil fuel and reduce the output of greenhouse gases (e.g. CO₂) and other pollution (e.g. SO₂, NO_x, etc.). Therefore, many public organisations are promoting the construction of vast wind farms, encouraging private companies with generous subsidies and regulatory support, requiring utilities to buy from them, and setting up markets for the trade of green credits in addition to actual energy.

Wind power seems to be environment friendly. However, some considerations need to be kept in mind when planning a wind power scheme. Disadvantages of wind power may hinge on the extensive land use required for wind farms, and possible demerits can be evaluated according to a multi-criteria matrix (e.g. Gamboa & Munda, 2006):

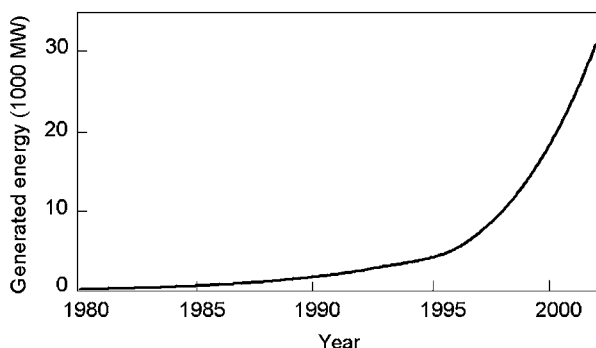


Figure 1. Worldwide energy generated by wind power (reviewed by Podolsky, 2003).

income issues, number of jobs, visual impact, forest loss, noise, CO₂ reduction and installation capacity. The evaluation criteria encompass economic, sociological, socio-ecological and technical issues, but wildlife impacts are not included. In spite of extensive land use (2600–6000 m²/MW), wildlife impacts including noise have not been sufficiently taken into account in wind power schemes. The following reasons are reported: (i) the sounds emitted by modern wind turbines are usually masked by other natural sounds in the area (The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (OEERE), 2005; WRA, 2005); and (ii) current wind turbine technology offers a solid tubular tower to prevent birds from perching on it, and turbine blades rotate more slowly than those of earlier design (OEERE, 2005; WRA, 2005).

There have been few comprehensive studies and even fewer published scientific papers on wildlife impacts of wind power, and many studies suffer from a total lack of assessment of relevant factors, e.g. collision risk, differences in bird behaviour, etc. (Birdlife International, 2003). In light of the significant increase in the use of wind power (see Figure 1), it seems worthwhile to assess whether wildlife impacts from wind power generation are really negligible. This subject is discussed based on the collision behaviour of birds and the anti-predator behaviour of squirrels. The purpose of this paper is not to criticise wind power generation but to discuss relevant impact factors in great detail. The main purpose is to take a general view of the data and establish a fundamental concept in order to encourage an environment friendly relationship between wildlife and wind power generation. Therefore, the description of each topic is simple, followed by a general principle for linking strategies for nature conservation with those for renewable energy. The principles of wind power generation are outlined first, followed by the main discussion.

Principles of wind power generation

Wind power plants (or wind farms as they are sometimes called), are clusters of wind machines used to produce electricity. A wind farm usually has dozens of wind machines scattered over a large area. A simple overview of the technology for wind power generation is provided by Bockris (1977), Adachi (1997), Pereira (1998) and ITDG (2005).

Basic theory

Wind (air in motion) is a form of solar energy, that is, it is caused by the uneven heating of the

earth's surface by the sun. The earth's surface is made up of different types of land and water, so it absorbs the sun's heat at different rates. Today, wind energy is mainly used to generate electricity. Wind is called a renewable energy source because the wind will blow as long as the sun shines. The power (P in watts) in the wind is proportional to the windmill area being swept by the wind (A in square metres), the wind speed (V in metres per second) and the air density (in kilograms per cubic metre), so the following formula is used to calculate the power: $P = (AV^3)/2$. However, the power extractable from the wind is significantly less than the power calculated from the above formula. This low availability is known as the Betz limit; in practice, the power available from a wind machine is usually around 45% of the theoretical maximum available for a large electricity-producing wind turbine.

Wind machines

Today's wind machines use blades to collect the wind's kinetic energy; most turbines have either two or three blades, and the wind flows over the airfoil-shaped blade causing lift, like the effect on airplane wings, causing them to rotate. The blades are connected to a drive shaft that turns an electric generator through a gear box. Gears connect the low-speed shaft to the high-speed shaft and increase the rotational speeds from about 30–60 rpm to about 1200–1500 rpm, the rotational speed required by most generators to produce electricity. The gear box is a costly (and heavy) part of the wind turbine and engineers are exploring a direct-drive generator that operates at lower rotational speeds and does not need gear boxes. There are two types of wind machine used today – the horizontal axis type and the vertical axis type. These two types are illustrated in Figure 2.

The terms used will be explained first (refer to Figure 2): nacelle – the rotor attaches to the nacelle, which sits atop the tower and includes the

gear box, low- and high-speed shafts, generator, controller, and brake; towers are made from tubular steel or steel lattice because wind speed increases with height – taller towers enable turbines to capture more energy and generate more electricity; rotor – the blades and the hub together are called the rotor; and pitch – blades are turned, or pitched, out of the wind to keep the rotor from turning in winds that are too high or too low to produce electricity.

The horizontal axis device is the type most commonly used. A typical horizontal wind machine stands as tall as a 20-story building and has three blades that span ~100 m across (the largest wind machines in the world have blades longer than a football field). Wind machines stand tall and wide to capture more wind. Vertical axis wind machines make up just a few percent (probably ~5%) of the wind machines used today. Vertical axis wind machines have blades that go from top to bottom. The typical vertical wind machine stands ~50 m tall and 25 m wide.

Advantages and disadvantages

Wind energy is fueled by the wind, so it is a clean energy source. Wind energy does not pollute the air like thermal power plants that rely on combustion of fossil fuels such as coal or natural gas. Wind turbines do not produce atmospheric emissions that cause acid rain or greenhouse gasses (GHGs). Wind turbines can be built on farms or ranches, thus benefiting the economy in rural areas, where most of the best wind sites are found.

Although wind energy is a clean source and may be economically feasible, the serious problem remains of what to do when the wind is not blowing; that is, it does not always blow when electricity is required, and wind energy cannot be stored (unless batteries are used). Environmental concerns include: (i) aesthetic (visual) impact; (ii) the noise produced by the rotor blades; and,

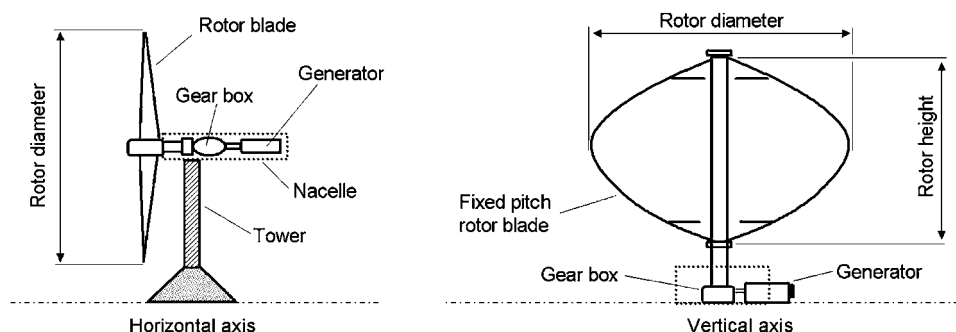


Figure 2. Schematic of wind turbine (redrawn from AWEA, 1998).

(iii) the occasional killing of birds that have flown into the rotors. Most of these problems have been resolved through technological development and/or by properly siting wind plants (OEERE, 2005; WRA, 2005) (see also the Introduction).

The Bern Convention (September 1979) is a binding international legal instrument in the field of nature conservation, which covers the whole of the natural heritage of the European continent and extends to some states of Africa. Its aims are to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats and to promote European co-operation in that field. A report written on behalf of this Convention identifies three major hazards to wildlife from wind farms (Birdlife International, 2003): (i) disturbance leading to displacement (or exclusion) including barriers to movement; (ii) collision mortality; and (iii) loss of (or damage to) habitat resulting from wind turbines and associated infrastructure. There is doubt as to whether wildlife impacts (including noise) have really been almost solved or greatly reduced; this subject is therefore further elaborated upon in the following section.

Wind turbine and bird collision

The Altamont Pass is a mountain pass in California (USA) about 90 km east of San Francisco, and this pass is known as the largest wind energy facility (~7000 wind turbines) in the world (Smallwood & Thelander, 2004). The wildlife risk in terms of turbine-caused fatalities in this area is reported as follows: a bird mortality of 0.05 deaths per wind turbine per year (Howell & Didonato, 1991) and a

raptor mortality of 0.03 deaths per wind turbine per year (Howell, 1997). Considering these data, wildlife impacts of wind power generation may be minimal. Another observation was conducted at the Mountaineer Wind Energy Center located along the Appalachian plateau in West Virginia, and the results show a bat mortality of 38 deaths per turbine for the 6-week study period (Bats and Wind Energy Cooperative (BWEC), 2004). It is estimated that 1356–1980 bats were killed by 44 wind turbines in this 6-week period (BWEC, 2004). As seen above, mortality rates per turbine are variable because collision probability depends on a range of factors such as bird or bat species, numbers, behaviour, weather conditions, topography and the nature of the wind farm itself (Drewitt & Langston, 2006).

Europe is the world leader in wind energy; a few years ago, Europe accounted for some 75% of the global market (DWIA, 2006). With ~6300 MW of installed capacity, Europe accounts for more than 50% of the world's new wind power capacity (DWIA, 2006). Table 1 shows the mean avian mortality rate by collision at some wind farms in Europe.

The mortality rates shown in Table 1 are calculated mainly from observations in spring and autumn, originally expressed as birds per turbine per day; the rates over a year-long period could be lower.

Interpretation of mortality

It cannot be generalised that a low mortality rate is correspondent to a low risk. As stated above, collision-caused mortality depends upon a range of

Table 1. Mean avian mortality rate by collision at some wind farms in Europe (reviewed by Everaert, 2003)

Country	Place (wind farm)	Number of turbines	Avian victims per turbine per year	Study period
Belgium	Schelle	3	18	1 year
	Oostdam	23	24	2 years
	Boudewijinkan	14	35	1 year
Spain (Navarre)	Salajones	33	35	1 year
	Izco	75	26	1 year
	Alaiz	75	4	1 year
	Guerinda	145	8	1 year
	El Perdon	40	64	1 year
UK	Blyth	9	1.34	2 years
Netherlands	Zeeland	5	2–7	1 year
	Ooasterbierum	18	22–33	1 year
	Urk	25	15–18	1 year

The studies used correction factors (predator removal and search efficiency rates) to adjust the figures. This is only the number of large birds. Small birds are not included because they were not surveyed.

factors. For example, the mortality rate may increase in a place with many large birds (e.g. swans) with poor maneuverability that are generally at great risk of collision with a structure (Brown et al., 1992). Species that habitually fly at dawn and dusk (or at night) are less likely to detect and avoid wind turbines (Larsen & Clausen, 2002). The Spanish local government reports that the Navarre wind farms (see Figure 3) killed about 7150 birds, including 409 vultures and 29 eagles, in one year (Lekuona, 2001). The high mortality of raptors, such as the Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) and Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), is of particular concern because they are relatively rare and long-lived species which have low reproductive rates and are vulnerable to additive mortality.

In the Spanish case, extensive wind farms were built in topographical bottlenecks where large numbers of migrating and local birds fly through a relatively confined area due to the nature of the surrounding landscape, for example through mountain passes, or use rising winds to gain lift over ridges (Barrios & Rodriguez, 2004). In the case of Altamont Pass, mortality rates (per turbine per year) are low, but overall collision rates are high because of the large number of wind turbines (~7000 turbines). Thus, it is estimated that ~80 Golden Eagles and ~400 Griffon Vultures are killed annually by turbine collision at Altamont Pass. The raptor population is declining in this area, and the

cause is thought to be at least in part due to collision mortality (Hunt, 2001).

Direct mortality or lethal injury of birds can result not only from collisions with rotors, but also with towers, nacelles and associated structures such as guy cables, power lines and meteorological masts (Drewitt & Langston, 2006). Birds may also be forced to the ground as a result of being drawn into the vortex created by moving rotors (Winkelman, 1992). The majority of studies of collisions caused by wind turbines have recorded relatively low levels of mortality (e.g. reviewed by Erickson et al., 2001). This is perhaps largely a reflection of the fact that many of the studied wind farms are located away from large concentrations of birds (Drewitt & Langston, 2006). It is also important to note that many records are based only on corpses found, with no correction for corpses that are overlooked or removed by scavengers (Birdlife International, 2003). Accepting that many wind farms result in only low levels of mortality, even these levels of additional mortality may be significant for long-lived species with low productivity and slow maturation rates, especially when rare species of conservation concern are affected. In such cases there could be significant effects at the population level (locally, regionally, or in the case of rare and restricted species, nationally), particularly in situations where cumulative mortality takes place as a result of multiple installations.

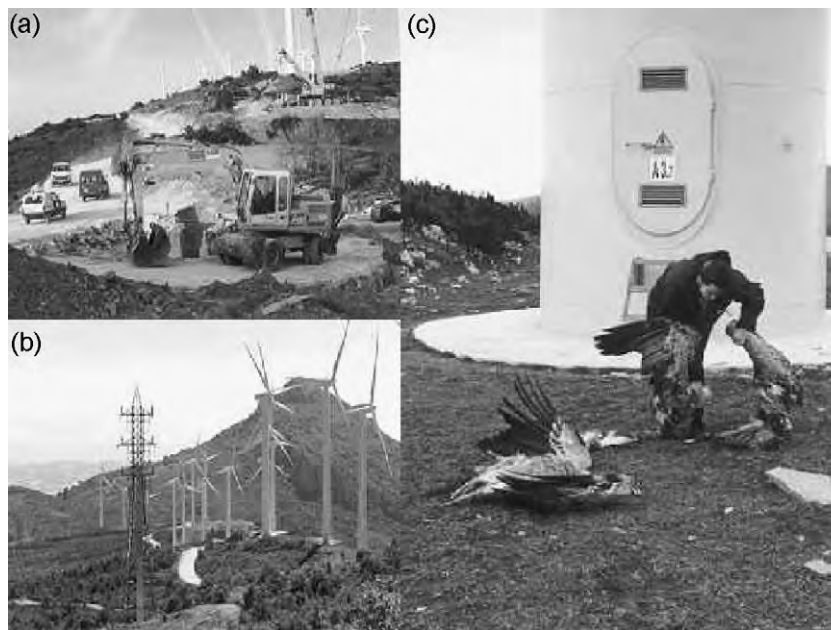


Figure 3. Birds and wind farm at Alaiz in Spain (courtesy Gurelur – Fundo Navarro para la Proteccion del Medio Natural): (a) construction work of wind farm; (b) overview of wind farm; and (c) several dead vultures.

Perception and collision

The most dangerous wind turbines (i.e. those with the highest mortality rate) are located at the ends of rows, and wind turbines that are more isolated from other turbines kill disproportionately more birds in Altamont Pass; by contrast, wind turbines situated in the interior of wind turbine clusters are safer for birds (Smallwood & Thelander, 2004). This observation suggests that birds recognise wind turbines and towers as obstacles, and they take measures to avoid wind turbines, such as attempting to fly around the turbines at the ends of strings, and flying lower to the ground or higher from the ground around the end turbines. Nevertheless, dangerous flights are still made. Raptors perform disproportionately more of their perching and flying within 50 m of wind turbines, despite the evidence that they generally attempt to avoid wind turbines while perching and flying. Red-tailed hawks and American kestrels appear to attempt to avoid end-of-row wind turbines, which happen to be where they get killed more often. Raptors are more likely to fly close to wind turbines that have slower-moving rotor blades and are mounted on tubular towers, as well as to vertical axis turbines. They also are more likely to fly close by wind turbines that are more widely spaced apart.

As stated above, birds may recognise wind turbines; however, they have some problems in avoiding them. These problems are summarised based on the published data (Duchamp, 2003):

- (i) *Vision* – the eyes of most birds are located on each side of the head, and their eyes can cover a field of vision nearing 360° in order to detect predators coming from any angle. On the downside, their quality of perception is mediocre at the limit of the 180° covered by each eye; i.e. right in front of the bird, right behind, right above and right below. This is compensated for by the flexibility of their necks which are easily twistable. But unless their heads happen to be twisted around to see what is above (or sideways to see what is in front), their vision of the wind turbines that they are flying into will be rather poor. Rabbits and non-predatory mammals usually have the same problem: for this reason, it is easy to capture them in nets. Low-flying nocturnal migrants, such as many species of songbird, are especially prone to collision with man-made structures. Nocturnal bird kills are virtually certain wherever an obstacle extends into the air space where birds are flying in migration (Weir, 1976). Raptors' vision is

superior to that of other birds, e.g. a peregrine falcon can spot a pigeon flying 3.5 km away. As raptors hunt, they often focus their eyes at great distances to detect prey. When the lens is focused on a far-away point, twigs moving in the forefront are barely visible. The danger is heightened by the fact that their eyes are fastened on the prey.

- (ii) *Group* – there is a possibility that flying in flocks may increase the percentage of casualty. The reasons are obvious: law of numbers; breadth and depth of the flock; and, the birds flying behind others have a reduced vision of what is in front.
- (iii) *Weather* – it is expected that birds will accidentally venture on the trajectory of a turbine blade when visibility is impaired by bad weather such as rain, or in darkness.
- (iv) *Flight pattern* – raptors glide most of the time to save energy. They use ascending air currents which often form along slopes and ridges, where wind plants are often located for the same reason. They drift on the wind itself, the same wind that flows through the turbines. Some raptors (e.g. Golden Eagle) practice contour flying, i.e. close to the ground. Often they pass under the turbines, but sometimes they are not low enough, especially if a gust of wind sends them upwards.
- (v) *Perching* – birds of prey commonly perch on tall structures. When the blades are standing still on days without wind, turbines become perching sites and will attract raptors. Having perched once, they will tend to come back to the site, whether the blades are moving or not. Even tubular-tower turbines may attract them for that purpose, e.g. sea-gulls were seen perching on turbine nacelles at the Tuno Knob offshore wind farm in Denmark (Birdlife International, 2003).
- (vi) *Instinct* – birds, like any other animal, can distinguish between living creatures (e.g. prey) and inanimate objects. Their instinct sometimes does not warn them against television towers, tension lines, or wind turbines.
- (vii) *Migration* – observation at the Flanders wind farms in Belgium indicates that the number of collision victims is relatively high on the routes of local migrations (Everaert, 2003). The effect of the barrier is also pointed out (Birdlife International, 2003). This effect is of concern because of the possibility of increased energy expenditure when birds have to fly farther as a result of avoiding a large array of turbines, and the potential disruption of linkages between distant feeding, roosting,

moulting and breeding areas otherwise unaffected by the wind farm (Drewitt & Langston, 2006). Erecting wind turbines on migration routes is particularly dangerous for the birds; night-flyers, with greatly reduced visibility, may not even see the rotors. Day-time migrants which tend to fly higher, and out of reach of the rotors, during good weather become more vulnerable in poor weather conditions. They also fly closer to the ground when they skirt mountain crests, which are preferred locations for wind farms. A migration route is as wide as a country; Spain, Italy, and Israel are the natural highways to Africa for most European birds (Holden & Langman, 1994). These routes are so wide that even if it is desirable to site a wind farm away from them, it is very difficult to find a place for such a wind farm. In addition, night migration routes (e.g. routes used by many songbirds) are currently not well known (Birdlife International, 2003). Preliminary research covering one or two years would be insufficient to assure that a proposed location is not potentially dangerous because there is no guarantee that migration routes will not vary from one year to another. As for migratory birds, the European Union Directive 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive) lists the threatened and vulnerable species of Europe; member states are therefore required to undertake special conservation measures for these species, e.g. classification of protection areas.

Collision risk model

Wind turbines create powerful air disturbances in their wake and around the blades themselves. These can easily throw a bird or a bat to the ground, or otherwise impair its flight. Unlike approaching cars, the blades of a turbine do not maintain a straight course; they travel on orbit. The result is that their flying victims do not notice the blade-tip until it suddenly appears above their heads, or underneath them, and strikes in a split second. It is obviously necessary to consider the effect of turbine design on bird mortality. Although there are many factors such as tower type, wind wall and so on, some factors are selected for discussion in this paper. As stated above, there is a difference in the mortality rate between a turbine at the end of a row and a turbine in the interior of a turbine cluster (i.e. congestion). There is no clear pattern between mortality and tower height in

Altamont Pass (Smallwood & Thelander, 2004). In Flanders, the number of collisions is lower in proportion to the generation capacity (kW) of the wind turbines, but it is dependent on the number of passing birds (Everaert, 2003). A high risk of collision clearly exists when a bird is in flight within the rotor's swept area (i.e. the circular area delineated by the rotating blades) and/or may be affected by the rotor's turbulence, so the following factors are selected: location of rotor (radius – hub and tip); and, rotation (rpm) and flight speed of the bird (relative to the body size). A probabilistic/kinetic model has been developed to simulate bird collision at a wind farm (for further technical details, refer to Podolsky, 2003, 2005). The output of this model is collision risk probability, which is denoted by (collision flight paths)/(total flight paths). It is necessary to consider behavioural information concerning the proportion of the population that avoids turbine blades and the proportion that is attracted to turbine blades, but real behavioural data on avoidance and attraction are unknown. Assuming that the proportion of the population attracted to turbines is small, the values 0.999 representing the proportion that avoids turbines and 0.001 representing the proportion that is attracted to turbines are adopted to run the model. The results obtained from the model run are summarised in Figure 4.

The model has two basic sets of data inputs. The first set of inputs characterise the bird, and these input data are shown in Figure 4. Each bird speed is constant in Figures 4a and b, and the collision probability as a function (8–34 m/s) of the bird speed is shown in Figure 4c. The second set of inputs characterise the design of the wind farm; 38.5 m rotor radius, 10.5 m radius at the widest point on the rotor, 2.0 m blade width at the hub, 0.1 m blade width at the tip, 2.6 m blade width at the widest point and three rotor blades (single turbine). There are two cases concerning birds' angle (direction relative to the rotor plane) of approach to the wind farm: a worst case – approach perpendicular to the rotor plane; and, a best case – approach parallel to the rotor plane. The difference between the above-mentioned two approach angles (i.e. perpendicular approach and parallel approach) is not as high as one might expect; it would be best to avoid the turbines altogether (Podolsky, 2003, 2005). It follows from Figure 4 that: (i) the hub is the riskiest part of the turbine to negotiate, even though the tip is moving faster (best to fly towards the tip) (see Figure 4a); (ii) the rotor speed does not make a significant difference in collision probability (see Figure 4b); and, (iii) bird speed also does not make a significant

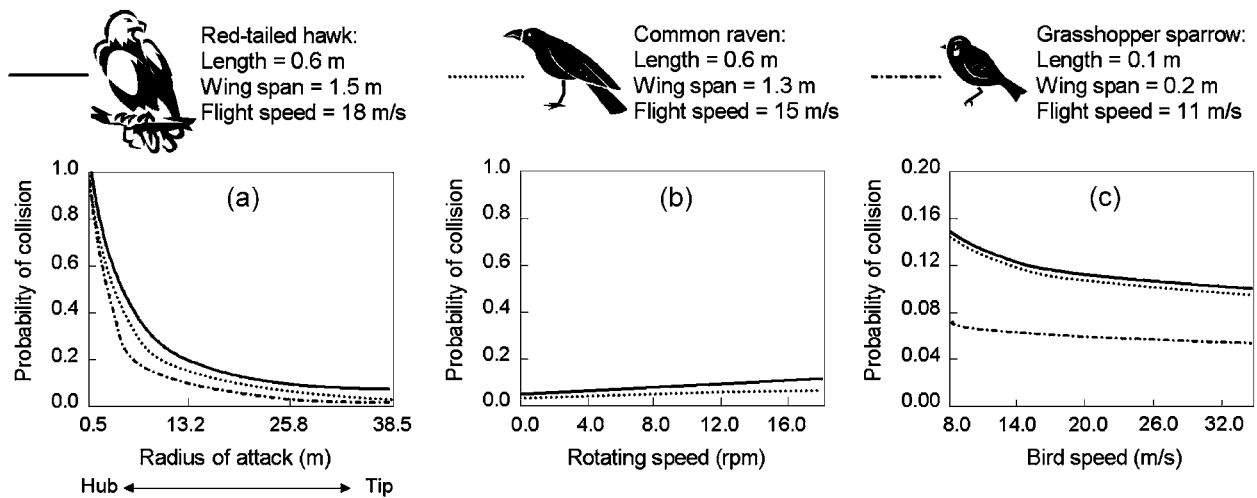


Figure 4. Risk probability of bird colliding with rotating turbine (based on Podolsky, 2003, 2005): (a) probability of collision vs. radius of attack (38.5 m blade, 14 rpm); (b) probability of collision vs. rotating speed of rotor (at 20 m for a 1.8 MW wind machine); and (c) probability of collision vs. bird speed.

difference; but larger birds are at greater risk (see Figure 4c).

Noise and anti-predator behaviour

As stated in the Introduction, the noise of a wind turbine can be considered a wildlife impact; however, it is reported that the sounds emitted by modern wind turbines are usually masked by other natural sounds in the area (OEERE, 2005; WRA, 2005). As a wind farm occupies extensive land (2600–6000 m²/MW), there is a possibility that animals living on hillsides close to a wind farm may be affected by the acoustically changed environment. The European Union Directive 92/43/EEC (referred to as Habitats Directive) aims to conserve natural habitats and wild fauna and flora; it is therefore important to consider the acoustic effect of wind farms on natural habitats. This subject is discussed based on a field survey conducted in Altamont Pass during August to September 2001 (Rabin et al., 2005, 2006).

Alarm calls and sciurid vocal communication

When danger in the form of a predator is spotted, animals may call in a pattern that is interpreted by other individuals as a warning. Upon hearing an alarm call, individuals typically react by freezing, heading swiftly towards cover, or ceasing all activity. Sometimes the alarm call of one species produces a reaction in individuals of other species

(Sullivan, 1985). Ground-dwelling sciurids (e.g. squirrels) emit vocalisations in response to predators (Macedonia & Evans, 1993). An interesting feature of sciurid vocal communication systems is that many species use both non-repetitive and repetitive call types. In the former, a discrete acoustic element is produced in temporal isolation from other vocalisations; in the latter, similar elements are produced repeatedly, with intervening silences of similar duration to the elements themselves. The alarm vocalisations produced by adult California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beecheyi*) in response to mammalian and avian predators have been well described (see Owings & Leger, 1980; Owings & Virginia, 1978). In response to terrestrial mammalian predators, squirrels typically produce multi-note vocalisations (i.e. chatter), retreat to burrows and mount promontories where they monitor the activity of the intruder. In contrast, squirrels typically respond to avian predators by producing single-note calls (i.e. whistle) followed by an immediate dash to a refuge.

Noise characterisation

As part of the above-mentioned field survey in Altamont Pass (Rabin et al., 2006), sound pressure levels were measured at each site: one set of readings was taken at the control site; and, two sets were taken at the turbine site – one while the turbines were active and the other while the turbines were inactive. Recordings of ambient noise at each site were also made at ground level near ground squirrel burrows. Ambient noise at the

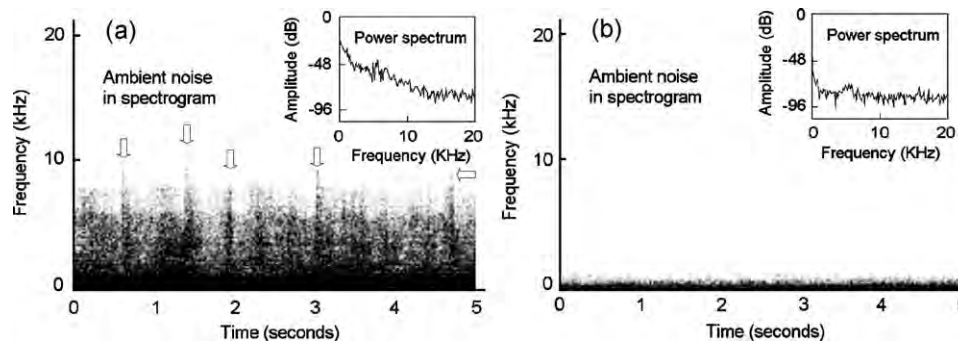


Figure 5. Spectrograms and power spectra of ambient noise at turbine site and control site (redrawn from Rabin et al., 2006): (a) turbine site ambient noise and its power spectrum. Arrows mark the spectral signatures (swoosh) of the turbine blades as they rotate; and (b) control site ambient noise and its power spectrum.

turbine site was recorded once when all turbines surrounding the site were active and again when no turbines were active. The noise characterisations at the turbine site and the control site are summarised in Figures 5a and b.

As seen in Figure 5, the average decibel level (power spectrum in Figure 5b) for ambient noise at the control site is substantially lower than that at the turbine site during turbine activity (power spectrum in Figure 5a). When the turbines are active, the turbine site has a complex spectral signature with amplitude noise extending as high as 6–8 kHz. The swooshing sound of the sweeping wind blades is identified by arrows on the spectrogram in Figure 5a. The ambient noise spectrum at the control site is much simpler, with noise produced mostly at very low frequencies by wind.

Behavioural responses

An experiment carried out in Altamont Pass (Rabin et al., 2006) is summarised in the following paragraph. A series of alarm calls were recorded from ground squirrels in the field immediately after exposure to a domestic dog simulating a carnivorous predator. Eight different series from squirrels of different ages and sex classes were used. Four of these series were obtained from four different squirrels at two turbine sites (moderate to high turbine activity) and are referred to as turbine-call-series. Another four call series were obtained from four different squirrels at a non-turbine site and are referred to as control-call-series. Predator abundance, vegetation type and vegetation density appeared to be similar for the two sites. Alarm calls were broadcast at ground level from a speaker array during a playback experiment. As alarm calls reliably elicit anti-predator responses in squirrels (Owings & Leger, 1980; Owings & Virginia, 1978),

behavioural responses to playbacks were compared with baseline behaviour. Two variants of the experimental design were performed – focal squirrels were played a control-call-series; in the other variant, a turbine-call-series was broadcast. Behaviour differences between the turbine and control sites are summarised in Table 2.

The statistic terms used in Table 2 will be briefly explained (refer to Motulsky, 1995). The F value is known as an F statistic which is commonly expressed by $\{s_1^2/\sigma_1^2\}/\{s_2^2/\sigma_2^2\}$ where σ is the standard deviation of population and s is the standard deviation of the sample drawn from population. If variances have the same size in different groups, the F value is zero. The P value is the probability with a range from zero to one, and this value is compared with the significance level. If it is smaller, the result is significant; according to the Michelin Guide scale, $P < 0.05$ (significant), $P < 0.01$ (highly significant) and $P < 0.001$ (extremely significant). Table 2 shows clear statistical differences in squirrel behaviour between the turbine site and the control site. The results shown in Table 2 are interpreted as follows: regardless of site, squirrels increase their vigilance in response to playback samples when compared with baseline (as indicated by the variable of alertness). However, squirrels at the turbine site are more vigilant overall than squirrels at the control site. Squirrels at the turbine site have a greater tendency to return to the area immediately around their burrows during playback (as indicated by the variable of shelter proximity). A high level of overall alertness at the turbine site indicates that turbine squirrels perceive themselves to be under higher risk than control squirrels. As stated above, the other conditions (predator abundance and vegetation) are similar for these two sites; in light of behavioural differences between the turbine site and the control site, it may be concluded that turbine noise affects the behaviour of squirrels.

Table 2. Behavioral differences of squirrels between turbine site and control site (derived from Rabin et al., 2006)

Behavior (variable)	Baseline vs. playback		Turbine site vs. control site	
	F-value	P-value	F-value	P-value
Alertness	21.353	<0.001	4.938	0.038
Proximity to shelter	–	–	9.238	0.006
Group size	8.048	0.015	0.598	0.454

Discussion and recommendations

Wind energy is being presented as a strategy for addressing problems associated with the emission of greenhouse gases (e.g. CO₂) and high energy dependence, thus, wind energy has a favourable image. However, the extensive land use required for wind farms (2600–6000 m²/MW) causes negative impacts on nature conservation. It is reported that wind farms kill millions of birds yearly around the world, and many of them are eagles, swans, geese, storks and other protected species (Duchamp, 2004) (also see Table 1).

According to data published in Europe (DWIA, 2006): Spain has the largest capacity of wind power in Europe, with approximately 10,000 MW installed at present; Portugal is the third largest market of wind power in Europe, and the target for wind power is ~4000 MW by 2010; and, in France, the installed capacity (390 MW) in 2005 was about three times that in 2004. Considering the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) and the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) of the European Union (EU), these European countries in particular should be attentive to adverse impacts of wind power on wildlife. For example, the following points are made in the Birds Directive: no further population decline of EU bird species; more species to have a favourable conservation status; the share of long-distance migrants (161 species) with favourable conservation status is increased from 35% (current level) to at least 50% by 2010; and the population trend of declining farmland birds is reversed by 2010.

Guidelines (Ref. no. FWS/DEPA/BFA, May 2003) from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and a report by the standing committee of the Bern Convention (Birdlife International, 2003) have clarified adverse impacts of wind energy facilities on wildlife and stated recommendations for impact abatement; the US guidelines and the Convention report should be referred to for detailed information. In addition to these recommendations, the following points derived from the discussion in this paper are advisable to harmonise wind power generation

with wildlife conservation from an environmental viewpoint:

- (i) Turbine blades currently rotate more slowly than those of earlier design (WRA, 2005), but this measure does not contribute to effectively reducing the collision risk (see Figure 4b). Though the rotor's tip moves fast, the hub is the most dangerous part. Engineers should develop a turbine form (e.g. spiral type) to reduce the collision risk at the hub.
- (ii) Correct selection of appropriate sites for wind farms can minimise the environmental effect of wind-generated electricity (WRA, 2005). The problem of how to select proper sites remains because migration routes may vary from one year to another (see the section Perception and collision). Short-term research would be insufficient to confirm that a proposed location is not potentially dangerous. Long-term monitoring, including a comparison between bird mortality before and after construction, is necessary.
- (iii) The sounds emitted by modern wind turbines are usually masked by other natural sounds in the area (OEERE, 2005; WRA, 2005), but there is a strong possibility that turbine-related noise (see Figure 5a) may interfere with the lives of animals (e.g. squirrels) beneath the turbines (see Table 2). In terms of assessing whether it is necessary to reduce turbine noise from the current level, it is necessary to conduct further research on the behavioural impacts of turbine noise on wildlife possessing vocalisation ability for alerting others to the presence of a predator; i.e. this subject implies how to set the permissible noise levels on the basis of wildlife conservation.

Conclusions

Wind energy is rapidly growing as a renewable source of electricity production; consequently, it can be considered that potential hazards to wildlife

from wind farms are becoming more serious. It is reported that technological development has already resolved most impacts of wind power on the environment (OEERE, 2005), but this paper shows that some adverse impacts remain, and their magnitudes may increase if no measures are taken. The potential harm to wildlife should be carefully evaluated at both current and proposed wind farm sites; local administrators should ensure public access to the completed assessments. It is preferable to carry out future research rather than to criticise current impacts because further information will be useful for harmonising wind power generation with nature conservation. Ultimately, one of the keys to realising sustainable development is utilisation of renewable energy without any negative influence on the environment (Kazim, 2006).

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From: [Peggy McDaniel](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 10:18:19 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I sincerely appreciate it. Our names are Robert W. Jr. and Margaret M. McDaniel and our mailing address is 175 Hodgdon Mills Road in Hodgdon, Maine.

We are writing to you for one reason and that is that we are opposed to the industrial wind project at Bowers Mt. We believe that this ill conceived project will have a negative impact on the wilderness and the scenic beauty of this entire watershed.

We have achieved a life long dream and that is we are lucky enough to be proud camp owners on Bottle Lake in Lakeville where we enjoy hiking, camping, kayaking, fishing, hunting, and snowshoeing. We chose this area to spend our senior years for all of its natural beauty and splendor. PLEASE do not allow these wind turbines to be erected on Bowers Mt. The impact on the wildlife will be severe and permanent.

Sincerely,

Robert W. and Margaret M. McDaniel

From: [Susan S. Davis](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889: Testimony for Bowers Wind Project
Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 7:11:02 PM
Attachments: [SSD-BowersTestimony6-27-11.doc](#)

Dear Fred Todd:

Attached please find my edited remarks from Monday. Thank you. My hat's off to you for your hard, and professional, work.

Regards,
Susan

--

Susan S. Davis, Exec. Dir.
Friends of Maine's Mountains
PO Box 68
Kingfield, ME 04947
Cell: 207-491-2509
Home: 207-265-2001
susandavis228@gmail.com
info@friendsofmainesmountains.org
<http://www.friendsofmainesmountains.org>

Bowers Wind Project Public Hearings, June 27 and 28
Testimony
Susan S. Davis

Thank you for the opportunity to testify at these hearings.

My name is Susan Davis. I live in Kingfield, in Maine's western mountains. I represent the Friends of Maine's Mountains, an environmental preservation organization intent on preserving Maine's iconic mountain and lake environment and landscape. At this critical moment in history, our focus is to bring sensible energy policies to the state.

I am here to speak against the Bowers project.

Whenever I travel out of state and people ask where I'm from in Maine, Kingfield rarely brings a response. But no matter where I am, if I answer "Near the Rangeley Lakes," that brings an immediate, "Oh, yea!" Even Europeans with a vague sense of geography know that famous Lake Region.

Grand Lake Stream here in the Downeast Lakes Watershed elicits virtually the same response. Commissioners, I believe you have seen some of the reason why on your tour today. If any of you have enjoyed Leen's Lodge or any of the other great lodges and sporting camps here, or fished these lakes, you know the magic of this place. For me, I spent part of my honeymoon canoeing across Grand Lake and camping on an island under this amazing dark sky.

We are so glad that you have scheduled this meeting here on site.

Allow me to use three sound bites to position my comments:

First: High cost, low benefit—for a technology that may be obsolescent within ten years.

High Cost: Federal subsidies of the electricity produced by wind is \$23.47 cents a MW/hour, compared to cents (not dollars) for gas, oil, coal, hydro and geothermal. Nuclear is subsidized by all of \$1.59. (Those figures are available at the Energy Information Administration (EIA) website.)

Low Benefit: Then the regional grid, ISO-NE, buys wind power only because it is legislated through *renewable portfolio standards* that end up in expensive *power purchase agreements* with wind companies. (What effect will that have on electric rates?) Then when wind is part of the grid mix, its intermittency and unreliability require that oil, gas and other electricity generation suppliers be kept on standby should the wind not be producing the electricity required for the grid's reliability standard.

On a recent tour of Stetson, our First Wind guide told us that only half of Stetson's output was being used at the time, by Harvard University no less, not even by ISO-NE. This while First Wind was finishing up yet another linked project at the head of Lincoln Lakes. The one that's headed to link up with Bowers, in fact!

Second: Public expense for private gain. This \$23.47-cent per MW/hour subsidy comes out of our personal pockets through our taxes: a little hard to track. Easier to identify will be the utility rate increases all Maine's citizens and small businesses will bear when, by agreement between the governing parties, CMP and Bangor Hydro are allowed to pass on 12+% of the cost of the 1.4 billion \$ transmission upgrade to move the power from Maine to southern New England. And we still don't know what part of the rest of the \$25 Billion +/- upgrade in southern New England we'll have to pay. By the way, when Maine's big power users then decide to generate their own power, the small rate-payer absorbs their share, too.

My final personal sound bite is this one:

Third: Multi-million dollar industry destroys multi-billion dollar industry.

A few Maine companies, like Reed and Reed, have seen their bottom line grow. Millions of dollars. But what about our \$10 BILLION dollar tourism industry? One that produces \$500 million in tax revenue (compare that to the TIFs Big Wind gets) and employs 170,000 Mainers living where they work. Compare that to imported workers living in trailers and sending their daily and monthly checks home, not even eating out in the local community.

Not included in spoken testimony:

In Stratton, near Trans Canada's Kibby project, the community was sold on the economic benefits of the construction project. Sandy Isgro, owner of the White Wolf restaurant and hotel in Stratton, never saw a dime of that promised treasure.

All of this for a technology that will be outdated before the turbines are even depreciated. Technology is evolving so fast, the capacity to generate and use electricity without transmission is evolving as we speak.

But Maine will be left with a failed technology, an industrial wasteland dotted with 40-story towers with no money to take them down, with transmission lines that define the word GRID, criss-crossing this incredibly beautiful, and endangered, state. Our wildlife and environment will be changed beyond recognition, or recovery, from the New Hampshire to New Brunswick borders in an imperfect arc through that part of Maine that put the word "Vacationland" on its license plate.

Please deny this project.

Thank you for the chance to speak, and for all your work—I know it is a thankless job.

From: [patricia.verbeeck](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889/Bowers
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 11:18:30 AM

July 18, 2011

Dear Mr. Todd,

I have seen the wind turbines on Rt. 6 on the way to our camp on Bottle Lake. I do not like them - they are a bad sight. They don't look like they belong in the forest and the drive here is just not the same.

I know that there is a plan to have 13 of these wind towers on the mountain right across from us on Bottle Lake. The mountain is Bowers Mountain. We like to sit on the porch and look out as the day ends and it gets dark. Sometimes we look for falling stars, satellites and just enjoy the darkness.

These wind towers will ruin this and it just will not be the same for us with our peace and lack of "citylights" with the blinking lights. All of these towers will ruin other people's views also and the view when we go out to fish.

There must be some place else that these can be put that will be better.

Please vote for No on this project.

Sincerely,

Michael Verbeeck
401 Glenridge Road
Key Biscayne, FL 33149

From: [Eric Verbeeck](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP 4889/Bowers
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 11:33:08 AM

July 18, 2011

Dear Mr. Todd,

My name is Eric Verbeeck. I am a 11 year old boy. I am against this wind project. The wind turbines are way too big and way too ugly. I really do not like how much nature you have to kill.

One thing I am very upset about is that they are going to put huge wind turbines up on our beautiful mountains. Where my camp is is where we are going to see about 13 to 14 wind turbines. The worst part is they blink red lights at night and white lights during the day. The wind turbines are over 400 feet tall. They are actually taller than the Statue of Liberty. They also have to tear down so much of the forest. They are going to ruin our wonderful view.

All of these wind turbines that can be seen from many of the lakes will ruin the wonderful views that so many people come her to see.

Please vote no on this project.

Sincerely,

Eric Verbeeck

401 Glenridge Road
Key Biscayne, FL 33149

From: [phillip](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#); [Carroll, Catherine M.](#)
Cc: [Gary Campbell](#); [Kevin & Marie](#); [Tracy](#)
Subject: DP4889 Bowers Mt.
Date: Monday, July 04, 2011 7:05:32 PM

Dear LURC Commissioners,

I am writing to ask that you not approve the Bowers Mountain industrial wind plant being proposed by Champlain Wind; a subsidiary of First Wind. It is my opinion the the approval of the complex will do irreparable harm to an area known for its vast forests and numerous lakes. Due to the Expedited Wind Law – I recognize the pressure that you are under to approve it – but I ask you consider that these towers will irreparably change the nature of this beautiful region. And despite what the wind tower developers tell you – I can not believe that this will not have an adverse effect on property values – with that in mind – the point of this letter, is to express the dismay and panic we felt when we discovered that Bower's Mtn LLC was beginning to work with First Wind/ Champlain Wind to put in an industrial wind project.

My wife, Tracy Allen, and I first became familiar with the Carroll Plantation/ Lakeville area about 15 years ago when we were looking for a home. We acquired a lot on Junior Lake where her family ultimately built a house that we continue to own and use to this day but we fell in love with and purchased a 1830s era farmhouse on the Brown Road in Carroll Plantation which we made our home. Over the years, we acquired several adjoining lots in Carroll and eventually ended up with about 380 acres of woods and fields. The land included the peak of Brown Hill which is about several thousand feet from Bowers Mountain.

Our thoughts were to make this our life long home - during the course of our ownership of the land, my wife and I spent our free time creating and maintaining close to 5 miles of trails throughout the property. One of the trails ran along the ridge of Brown Hill to a small clearing that had a panoramic vista where one had an uninterrupted view that extended from Matagamon Mountain near Mt Katahdin in the north to hills south of Passadumkeag Mountain in Burlington. We enjoyed many hours of hikes during our time there.

We got our first clue that an industrial wind complex was being planned for the area just over two years ago when we were contacted by a lawyer representing Bowers Mountain LLC. The reason for his call was to ask if we would be interested in selling Bower's Mtn LLC our back 144 acres which included the peak of Brown Hill and a large stretch of its ridge line. Although he would not confirm our suspicions; we deduced then that the only reason they would want that piece of property was so that they would have an additional ridge line upon which to place wind towers. Despite the fact that we loved our home and had thought to live there indefinitely, it was then that we started having serious conversations about selling our home/ land on the Brown Road before a complex was built on the abutting property that would seriously impact the value of our property. The thought of having 400 – 430 ft towers – within 7000 feet of our home was incomprehensible. The concept of the destruction of those ridge lines, light flicker and loss on dark night skies was too much to stomach. I had been researching/ following wind power

developments in Europe and Hawaii – both of which are in decline. I am not opposed to change – just opposed to changes that are being forced down our throats and are likely to be decrepit and non-functioning within 10 years.

With the realization that this project was coming down the pike; we began the process of making improvements on the house so that we could put it on the market. During that summer, during a hike on the land, we came across a device hanging from a tree in one of the clearings. First Wind, or one of their representatives had come onto our property (on a ATV – without permission) and had cut down some small trees and cut limbs off of others and placed what turned out to be a bat monitoring device. When I asked Mr Kiely about this at a later date his excuse was that they were using out of date maps and did not realize that we owned the property. It was then that we knew for certain that a project was planned for Bowers. This was made further apparent a few months later when the Met towers were erected on Bowers and other nearby ridges.

The thought of having towers visible approximately 7000 feet from the house and much closer to the back of our property made us realize just how the character of the area would be forever changed. We also knew that the value of the property would be severely diminished once the towers went from being a idea seen only in one's imagination, and in photo simulations, to the reality of 400+ foot towers lining the ridges. It was for that reason that we took an offer that was significantly lower than the asking price for our house and land – we could not stand to take the chance of living under the shadow (flicker) of one of these projects. It will also have a negative impact on the whole chain of lakes (3 of which were visible from our house) – but that's something that we'll have to deal with if these towers go up.

I recognize that this is just one couple's reaction to the towers; but I would ask you to talk to others in areas with Industrial Wind Projects and get a feeling about the impact these projects have had on them. Despite what First Wind will tell you – there is a lot of opposition. With that in mind, I hope that you will reject Champlain Wind's project and save Bower's Mountain from destruction.

Sincerely Yours,

Phillip Daw

PO Box 765, Mineral Bluff, GA 30559

17 Bama Road, Lakeville, ME 04487

From: marvin.nancy.allen
To: [Todd, Fred](mailto:Todd.Fred)
Subject: DP4889 Bowers Mt
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:21:34 AM

Mr. Todd,

I am writing to inform you of my most strongest opposition to the Bowers Mountain wind project. I am a land and camp owner in Carroll Plantation and witnessed first hand the destruction of Stetson Mountain. I used to have a tree stand where turbine 32 now sits. In the years since the desecration of Stetson took place, I can testify first hand to the incredible wildlife damage that has been done. I have seen a total of three grouse, two moose, and one deer total on countless trips on the mountain. Where these animals used to thrive, there is now nothing but erosion, noise, and desolation. The destruction of this mountain is nothing short of criminal. I know that the developers and their highly compensated spokespersons have done a great job of hiding the truth of these atrocities from your commission as well as the Maine people. They cannot be allowed to continue to destroy our heritage with their out of state, money driven lies and deception. I beg of you, please deny this application for further destruction of yet another giant piece of what Maine is supposed to be. Can you imagine What the late Governor Baxter would say if he could see what their greedy lies are doing to this state? I have hunted and fished rural Maine for four decades and am heart-broken to see what has happened to such a treasure as what Stetson Mountain used to be. Please join us in our fight to save what is left of our state.

Regards,
Marvin Allen
11 Stickney Terrace, Unit #39
Hallowell, Maine 04347
(207)622-3661

From: [Robert Recktenwald](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP4889 first winds < Dr. Bob Recktenwald
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 10:44:44 AM

Dear Mr. Todd:

This is to express my opposition to DP4889 First Winds Bowers Mtn. Industrial Wind Proposal.

This proposal advocates only the lining of a few people's pockets at the expense of the environment,

most local land values, and the tourist industry.

Yours sincerely,

Robert P. Recktenwald
Stream Road
Vienna, Maine 04360-3011

From: [DAVID MILLER](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP4889
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 11:02:49 PM

Mr. Fred Todd

I can not believe an "educated lawyer" working for 1st Wind could possibly say "THERE IS NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT THIS WATERSHED".

I have to assume they are all from Boston and/or have never been to the site area. All of us who are native sons and daughters of Maine know that it is a world famous destination for fishing and family recreation. It's value is far beyond money. It would be a travesty to make it a unsightly nightmare to anyone who loves what Maine is all about "Vacation Land & The Way Life Should Be".

As we don't need the power (they do in Massachusetts), I suggest they build them there where they don't value wild places and nature the way we do.

Respectfully
Dave Miller
Lexington TWP

From: [Gary Stevens](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: DP4889/Bowers
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 7:34:02 AM

Dear Sir,

My family and I have been coming up to the Grand Lake Stream area for over 15 years. We have stayed at many of the lodges in the area and have used several of your Maine Guides for various recreation activities. We can not tell you how many friends and family members we have brought up over the years who have also enjoyed this absolutely beautiful area.

These wind towers are a complete EYE-SORE and a big farce with regards to what the intention of them is!!!!

Talk about defacing the mountain views and lake views that Maine is known for ask yourself would YOU want to visit an area that looks like S*!*? You have been very adamat with regards to shore land protection which has been a good thing Why would you not want to protect the mountains as well????
?

Most of your lakes in the area are all rated A-1,B-1 the most in the state of Maine in a constanted area these towers take away from this wonderful scenic beauty.

How many acres of conservation land is protected now and they are looking to purchase much more? Why do you think they are looking to do this????

Please just say NO to these out-of-state windpower people that don't care or give a damn about the State of Maine only their own finacial gains.

AGAIN JUST SAY NO NO NO NO !!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely,
Gary & Bert Stevens
PO Box 383
Sanbornville, NH 03872

From: [Gary Kuhn](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: First Winds Data.....
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 6:41:07 AM

Commissioners, here is the math on the power production information reported to LURC by First Wind. Excluding the reported down times, the capacity factors are 19.2% for Stetson I in 2009 and 21.5% for Stetson I in 2010.

The true capacity factors, taking into account the 7 week shutdown, will be about 10% larger, or 21% for 2009 and 24% for 2010.

Stetson II, which operated the last 345 days of 2010 (87.6% of the year), had a capacity factor of 20.1%.

Although, in my opinion, a power transformer failure should not be applied to an official report of power generated. If the machinery fails, that is part of the cost of doing business, and the evaluation of the capacity factor is proportionately lowered.

In addition to the cost of the wind turbine to provide power --- you still need to invest big dollars into another natural gas turbine peaking power plant to produce reliable power when the wind is not blowing. Also wind turbines don't really make economic sense unless you have wind speeds that average about 12 or 13 mph. Not many locations in Maine meet that criteria. It takes a wind speed of about 7 or 8 mph just to turn the blades of the wind turbine.

To ruin Maine's natural beauty for such a waste of taxpayers money is a senseless act motivated only by greed.

From: [David R. Darrow](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: For the Record
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:44:42 AM
Attachments: [BowersMtnDP4889PostHearingPublicComment David R. Darrow.pdf](#)

Fred,

Attached please find comments I'd like to have added to the record in the matter of DP4889.

Thanks,

Dave

David R. Darrow
3939 W. Windmills Blvd.,
Apt. 1117
Chandler, AZ 85226-1398
480-699-7149
480-293-4697
drdpi@cox.net

RE: Bowers Mtn. DP 4889

Opposition Testimony of David R. Darrow

06/30/2011

Commissioners,

My interest in this matter stems from my ownership of property on the west end of West Grand Lake, identified as "The Birches" on the USGS Dark Cove Mountain Quadrangle Map, in T5ND. It is the home of Darrow Camp. As the commission heard from Andrew Buckman, its Executive Director, they operate high quality wilderness canoe trips not only throughout the Downeast Lakes, but all over Maine and into northeastern Canada. That business enterprise is owned by The Darrow Foundation, a non-profit Maine corporation.



Before I get to my points, a bit of background should help focus them. This property has hosted actors in the local economy since it was first developed as a logging outpost during the heyday of tanneries in Grand Lake Stream in the 1880's. Later it was further developed into The Duck Lake Club, a private sporting camp that brought in clients on a 35 ft. steam boat.

It was purchased by my father, George P. Darrow, in 1956. He had looked all over New England and the eastern provinces of Canada for just the right balance of wilderness values, but with adequate access to services to enable him to operate an enterprise there.

Originally he had planned to run a sporting camp, but somehow got the idea that perhaps there was a segment of Maine's traditional children's summer camp clientele that were more interested in the canoe camping and fishing aspect of the conventional program, rather than the archery and arts and crafts aspect of it. He had been on such trips with his father as an adolescent, and had developed a passion for being in wild places. He thought there must be plenty of boys who would jump at the chance to spend a summer fishing and camping as he had.

He was guided by a simple notion. From his own experience, he concluded that time spent in a wild setting, and learning the skills necessary to do so safely and comfortably, has a profound psychological effect on young people that broadens their world view, and gives them tools to be more effectively calculated risk takers. Taking risks, of course, being what adolescence is all about.

He knew that living in a closed community and confronting the challenges inherent to wilderness travel lead to better interpersonal problem-solving skills, and they discover their individual character traits and learn how to direct their most desirable ones to benefit the greater community.

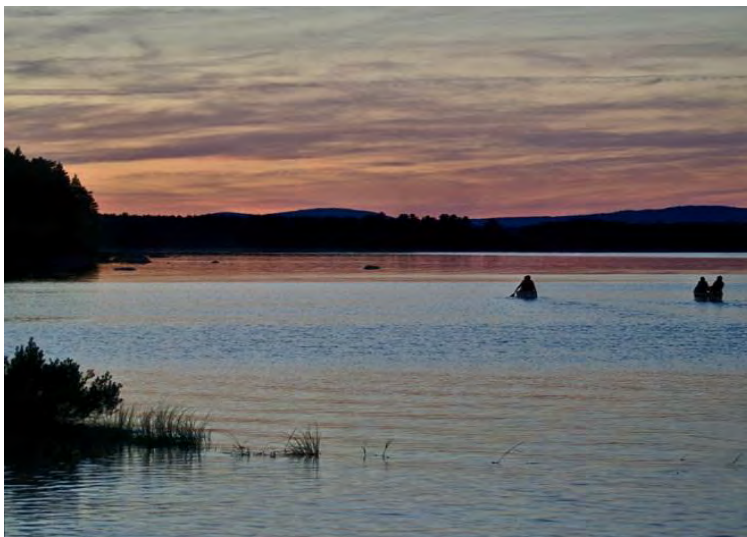
In 1957 he spent 7 weeks meandering by canoe through the Downeast lakes with 12 boys. At its peak enrollment in the mid-70's the camp had 75 kids, all of whom spent at least several days at The Birches, on trips throughout Maine, and 2 extended trips in Quebec. When you think about, pulling this off successfully is nothing short of a logistical miracle, especially considering it was all orchestrated from a remote island without road or telephone access.

You'd have to talk to Mr. Buckman to get a sense of head count (smaller) and what it takes to make all of this happen smoothly today, but I think I can safely say that it is no small feat. And it's frightfully expensive. With much of that outlay landing in

GLS and Washington County. It's worth noting here that many of the kids who come are brought to or picked up from camp by their parents. Sometimes both. Sometimes they bring the whole family. Most of them come from out of state, and they spend their money at sporting camps, motels, and campgrounds. They eat in restaurants, and buy products and services locally, as well as in Maine locations they pass through along the way. They buy fishing licenses and pay sales tax, adding revenues to state and local coffers.

George passed away in 1992 and ownership of The Birches fell to my sister Deborah and I. Both of us lived in Colo. at the time. The camp went through some tough times, but in 2000 The Darrow Foundation was formed by a group of alumni and took sole control of the enterprise. They entered into a low-cost 15 year lease agreement with my sister and I. Part of the deal is that they manage and improve the property for their own purposes consistent with the wilderness values that George, and LURC regulations, hold so dear. While we got off to a rocky start, The Foundation has kept its commitment and then some. From the water it appears as a welcoming outpost of civilization in a vast expanse of primitive remoteness.

When you step onto the dock at the north end of The Birches, you're greeted by a 270 degree vista that is primitive and pristine. With about a mile of open water on 3 sides, the centerpiece of the vista is to the north, with some boulders in the water, the rock-and-sand bar that is Birch Island with its few birch trees, and to the right, the tree-line of Bear Island with the ridgeline of Bowers Mtn. in the distance. That's 11.75 mi. away, per the testimony of Mr. Buckman. Below please find a sunset shot taken from The Birches looking north at Bowers Mt. Admittedly, it's not the greatest photo to illustrate the impact of this project, but it does give you a pretty good sense of what's about to occur.



Bowers Mtn. is the two bumps in the ridgeline left from the center to the left. At this time of the evening, the aviation lighting will be illuminated. I challenge Mr. Raphael to explain how this view, specifically protected by the language of LURC zoning, won't be significantly degraded by this project.

While I count 6 other camps and compounds on this part of the lake, none of them is visible from The Birches or the water until you get up close to them. Granted, a small sliver of Rte. 6 is barely visible in the hills to the east of Bowers Mtn., but it's hard to notice if you don't know it's there.

This property, and its surroundings, are zoned P-GP. The purpose of which "...is to regulate residential and recreational development on Great Ponds to protect water quality, recreational potential, fishery habitat, and *scenic character*." (Emphasis mine.) The location of the buildings and the use of the property pre-date LURC and its zoning requirements. Thus, the property and its use were grandfathered and a special exemption permit was granted by LURC.

I see a conflict here for the commission. While they are required by law to apply the lower scenic standard of the Wind Energy Act to the lakes inside the 8-mile exclusion zone, they still have a statutory responsibility to apply the stricter scenic standard outlined in the P-GP zoning to areas within that zoning outside of the exclusion zone. What I'm saying is that the two statutes are incompatible and the commission has to follow both laws at the same time. The one law says the commission can't consider scenic character outside the exclusion zone, the other law says they absolutely have to.

In 2007 The Darrow Foundation commissioned, without my knowledge or consent, an appraisal and "highest and best use" report performed by The Sherwood Group and Prentiss Carlisle, highly regarded appraisal and land use and planning shops in Bangor. While I didn't agree with all of their points, and found some of their detail work rather shoddy, such as putting the property in the wrong place on the map, I couldn't take issue with their conclusions. They found that the best use for the property was its current use. That is to say that it's probably unsuitable for a conventional children's summer camp. Its current use by Darrow Camp being something of a hybrid of the two great Maine institutions of children's summer camping and the local tradition of sporting camps that grew up organically under George Darrow's guidance.

They found that absent that, the best use would be as a single family seasonal compound. But they went to pains to point out that any potential buyer would have

to spend enormous sums to modify or improve the property to make it suitable for that use. They also point out that with its zoning, complying with LURC regulations and rule-making, as well as the exemption it labors under, it would be almost impossible for any buyer to improve or modify the property to their satisfaction.

Likewise, they found that conversion of the property to a sporting camp would be so costly as to render any business plan built on it to be un-viable. That beyond the fact that due to its remote, boat-in/fly-in nature, it is most likely unsuitable for a sporting camp in any event.

These conditions render the market for this property, and the value of the property that rests on that market, vanishingly small. What I extrapolate from these reports, without them actually saying it, is that, given the primitive (but very attractive) nature of the buildings on site, the most important feature, and most valuable due to its protected nature, to any potential buyer would be the view.

Which brings me to the scenario that keeps waking me in a cold sweat.

Mr. Buckman testified that should Bowers Mtn. be built, it would render The Birches unsuitable for the mission of the camp. By the time that their lease with us expires in 2015, most or all of the windmills in this project will have been erected, and The Darrow Foundation will tell my sister and I; "sorry about your bad luck, you're on your own. We're out of here!" Due to the view-shed being compromised, the few remaining possible renters or buyers, seeking primarily a primitive, pristine vista, are driven from the market.

My sister and I are left with a property that we can neither sell nor rent. I can tell you with absolute certainty that we would be unable to shoulder the burden of taxes, insurance, caretaking, and etc. for more than a year or two without deriving any income from it. Meanwhile, the fair market value of the property collapses, leaving us with few options but to let the property go at tax sale. What's the fall-out from such an event, beyond the destruction of my family's wealth?

The first effect would be a giant sucking sound in GLS as a significant steady source of revenue is withdrawn from the fragile economy that surrounds it. Next would be local businesses noticing even more revenue disappearing as families and friends of the camp stop coming to the region. State, County, and Municipal governments might start to notice dips in revenue as the withdrawal of spending starts to ripple through the larger economy.

Meanwhile, as the market value for the property collapses, it generates less and less in property taxes. Then, if the worst case played out, eventually we would become unable to sustain the taxes, and we would have to sacrifice it at tax sale. But what if, due to the harsh restrictions on development and the compromised view-shed, the taxing authority was unable to sell the property at any price? What would be the effect on market value of other sporting camps and private properties in the area?

How many of them would be able to avoid going to tax sale themselves? How many of them have mortgages, and what would be the fate of those mortgages in the face of cascading commercial property values?

Without going into the details with nit-picking scrutiny, I think I've done a fair job of illustrating the domino effect that is bound to ensue, should this project be approved, that will have effects that ripple throughout the state economy, much less the wreckage locally and regionally. This is the primary thrust of my opposition to the Bowers Mtn. project. I'm not the only one who stands to be ruined here.

While the LURC guiding statute protects me against anyone disturbing the scenic quality of my property, and protects my neighbors against anything I could do to disturb theirs, the Wind Energy Act, puts me outside the exclusion zone and allows First Wind to compromise the superlative scenic resource that we all rely on and attracted most of us here in the first place. But the Wind Energy Act doesn't allow the wholesale destruction of local and regional economies, even when they fall outside the exclusion zone.

Moving on to the effects on the scenic resource inside the exclusion zone. To set this up, I need to tell you a little more about me.

I participated in the Darrow program as a youth, and in leadership and management roles as a young man. I traveled all of the major canoe routes in Maine, with Darrow and other groups. Some of them multiple times. I traveled a few not-so-major routes in Maine as well, and went on exploratory expeditions to Quebec twice. I lived for a time in the mid-coastal region of Maine. I took my GED test to graduate from high school early in Wiscasset.

Most of my peers at Darrow took the character traits I described earlier and went on to highly productive careers that have brought untold value to their communities. All the Darrow experience did for me was imbue me with powerful wanderlust.

Astonished at the amazing landscapes I had been exposed to, I became like an addict, with a driving need to see something more spectacular every time I stepped out the door. Being an avid skier, I naturally gravitated towards the Rockies, spending most of my adult life in some of the most dramatic landscapes this country has to offer. I've lived in Jackson Hole, Wyo. and 8 different locations on the Peak-to-Peak west of the Denver metro area, in the High Mountains, and on the Western Slope of Colorado. All of them surrounded by unspeakably beautiful landscapes.

I've followed with interest the never ending battles that persist over land use, planning, preservation, and the associated water quality, wildlife issues, and others. These experiences led me to an insight during the technical session on Tuesday.

The discussion had turned to the issue of how you quantify something as subjective as a scenic resource. It occurred to me then that we as a society, and in our governmental rule-making, tend to value what is dramatic over what is pristine.

There's the example of Baxter State Park. From what I understand of its creation, the worry was as much about the view *from* Katadin as it was about the view *of* Katadin. That's why they protected so much forest around it. And the scars from logging operations beyond the parks boundaries are too far away to be noticeable. But times change and the parks creators could never have foreseen wind farms. So now the exultant climber on top of Katadin is greeted by Stetson I and II when they look to the south, in spite of the pains taken to keep the view from the mountain pristine.

This is the one instance I can think of where the pristine nature of the view seems to have carried equal weight to the dramatic nature of the view in policy making. I think this philosophy is worth revisiting, and scenic scoring could be formulated that uses two scales, one for dramatic and one for pristine, that would operate in dynamic tension with each other to arrive at a quantitative assessment that's broadly accepted.

I had not been on the lakes inside the exclusion zone that we visited on the Monday site visit in over 25 years. So while I recognized them, I was seeing many of the details for the first time. I was struck by the abruptness of Bowers Mt. The way that the contours are evocative of the enormous glacial forces that formed it. It also seemed higher than I expected, most noticeably from Scraggly Lake.

Bottle Lake has been developed for as long as I can remember, and I've never had much reason to go there. The view from Bottle is far from pristine. It's only mildly

dramatic, but I think it's picturesque enough that the turbines will degrade the vista enough to put downward pressure on property values.

Junior and Pleasant Lakes are a different story. Junior has experienced a great deal of development since I was last there. Fortunately, most of the development has occurred is on the western shore. This apparently is so because that's where the best view is found. I give it high marks for being dramatic, with the large body of water giving it scale for the feeling of remoteness and the mostly pristine far shore with Bowers rising dramatically behind it. The same goes for Pleasant, where the vista receives few demerits for human activity interfering with the view of Bowers from the water or the development in the south end.

To me, Scraggly is the gem of the three, with only the large house in the northeast end of the lake disrupting the pristine quality of the lake. The rangy nature of the lake combined with the topography rising abruptly from the water reminded me of some of the more beautiful mountain lakes I've enjoyed over the years. While there may be places on the lake where the turbines won't be visible, to have them visible from anywhere on the lake will destroy its emotional effect.

I say that because, for me, as we entered the lake from the thoroughfare there was a real "wow factor". This is the kind of place to be checked off on the bucket list. The kind of place that keeps you coming back, or failing that, added to the running list of most beautiful places ever been. To me it appeared utterly pristine but for the large house in the northeast leg of the lake. That house is outside the field of vision when viewing Bowers from just about any location on the lake. For that reason I ask the Commission to regard the lake completely pristine for the purposes of considering this application. As well, I think Scraggly is close enough to the project that its topographical features could echo some of the noise effects down into the lake under the right conditions.

I agree with Mr. Corrigan that the burden of proof lies with the Applicant, and that the default position of the commission should be denial unless the Applicant affirmatively proves that the project meets all of the standards set forth in the Wind Energy Act. Yet I didn't see the commission frame exactly what that burden of proof is. Is it beyond a reasonable doubt, or 76% of a certainty, as required in criminal trials? Is it a preponderance of the evidence, 51% of a certainty, the standard for civil actions?

In my view, this project amounts to a criminal "Taking" from the body public for the profit of a few, the owners of a private out of State Corporation. The pittance

being offered to a few groups as “tangible economic benefits” being purely hush money to get them to look the other way while First Wind rapes the rest of us. I understand how the cash and subsidies would be a help to those getting them. But the amounts are so trifling as to hardly scratch the surface of adequate compensation for the destruction of an economy and the ruination of a way of life.

The Wind Energy Act and the wind power industry in Maine displays all of the characteristics of an economic “Boom”. There is one characteristic that has followed every “Boom” in history. That is that they are invariably followed by a “Bust”. Without exception, the immutable truth about “Booms” is this: They begin with a lie, proceed to a farce, and end in disaster.

First Wind seems to be playing its part with relish. The outlines of a variation of the predatory private equity model are already in place; they get some seed money and start railroading projects into the pipeline. They make outrageous claims about the future revenue these projects will generate, and borrow vast sums against these blue sky claims. If they can layer derivatives on top of this borrowing to further leverage possible profits, all the better.

Even better still is if they can convince legislatures to streamline the process and include guarantees, if not outright funding. Then, before the projects are complete, and it becomes apparent that they aren’t going to produce anything like the promised revenue, they sell it off to an unsuspecting public. They base the value of the IPO not on any real value, capital, or cash, but on the debt they’re carrying backed by government guarantees. “Look” they say, “if we default, the government will make our creditors whole. So it isn’t really debt, it’s capital.”

First Wind is apparently well along in this process. They’ve filed preliminary paperwork with the SEC to do an IPO. It is noticeably absent any actual financial information, though it does say that First Wind doesn’t have to actually generate any electricity to turn a profit. I strongly doubt that we’ll get to see what First Wind’s true fiscal condition is before the commission reaches a decision on Bowers Mtn. But I won’t be surprised to see a First Wind IPO if the commission approves it.

If that happens I expect to see the People of The State of Maine to not only wind up paying for this project, but paying for it twice. First Wind’s executives take the IPO money and disappear. The stock holders are left holding a huge pile of debt. First Wind Doesn’t produce anything like revenue promised and starts getting its loans called in. The stock price collapses, the government has to cover the debt, and

there's no First Wind left to implement their decommissioning plan. Again, the People are left to pick up the tab for removing what was a bad idea in the first place.

I was impressed by the way the commission conducted this hearing. In this age of "Regulatory Capture" by corporations, I fully expected to see some deference to the applicant. What I saw was quite the opposite, with the commission going to pains to ensure a level playing field, with neither side getting any advantage. To me, this was an exercise in good government, with the body doing its job as deliberately and apolitically as possible, resisting the enormous influence regularly swung at them by corporations, and the angry rhetoric of a (figuratively) pitch-fork wielding public.

First Wind hasn't cleared the bar. They have not affirmatively *proved* that the Bowers Mtn. project won't significantly degrade the scenic character of the 1A/1B lakes inside the 8-mile exclusion zone. The testimony of the Maine Guides and residents on those lakes simply raises too many questions for First Wind's assertions to be considered beyond a 51% preponderance of the evidence, much less a 76% reasonable doubt.

When they say that it is statistically unlikely that Lynx habitat will be disturbed, it's a false choice. Here they failed to *prove* that no Lynx would be disturbed, under any circumstances.

When they point to surveys of people engaged in motorized recreation, visiting a wind farm, and being fed and boozed by the operator, and say that most people aren't bothered by wind farms, their methodology is suspect, and they haven't *proved* anything.

Mr. Raphael saying that people enjoying themselves in a town park despite the presence of turbines *proves* that people on a primitive lake won't be bothered by them is pure nonsense. His assertion that if people don't like them they can just turn their boat around wins the prize for most ridiculous statement uttered during this entire proceeding, and should be enough to completely discredit him and his supposed expertise. The guy is a hack and a shill, and his VIA should be disposed of with all the dispatch usually reserved for used toilet paper.

And they have done nothing to reconcile the lower scenic standard that the commission has to apply inside the 8-mile exclusion zone with the higher standard the commission is required to apply to P-GP zoned lands 8.1 miles from the project. They just say it doesn't matter. According to them, the commission should just

ignore its responsibility to manage lands outside the expedited area, but within its jurisdiction, in accordance with its own statutory requirement.

And shoveling a few million dollars at a few select groups does nothing to *prove* that the project won't lead to economic catastrophe. They have said nothing that could mitigate the possible domino effect that I and others have pointed to that could occur, should this project go in. Nor have they offered *proof-positive* that the area broadly will enjoy a "tangible economic benefit" as a result of their plan. All they've done is point at pure blue sky and siphon cash to certain constituencies.

It's not up to those of us who oppose this project to *prove* that the horrors that we anticipate *will* occur, all that the statute requires is we make a reasonable case that they *could* occur, to overcome First Wind's assertion that they won't. Asserting that they won't isn't enough. They have to prove that they won't. First Wind is left with the unenviable task of *proving* a negative. I don't think they've done that, and I don't think they can. If those of us in the opposition have been successful in raising even a whiff of doubt in the minds of the commissioners, they should maintain the default position of denial of this project.

If, as I believe, the opposition has buried the application for this project under a pile of doubt, the commission should deny this project affirmatively and absolutely.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. R. Darrow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

David R. Darrow

From: kmichka@aol.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: from Kay Michka
Date: Saturday, July 02, 2011 4:21:48 PM

Mr. Todd,

Thank you for passing my comments along to the LURC Commissioners.

Kay

From the Public Hearing of the Bowers Mountain Project, June 28, 2011-

My family has come straight from Junior Lake to this hearing. We paddled our kayaks amid breath-taking scenery, swam in cool water with crystal clear reflections, and gazed wistfully at Bowers Mountain, trying to banish the specter of industrial wind turbines from our minds.

We have spent our tourist dollars here, yet with unmistakable irony. We have rented a cabin at the water's edge which is very simple. It does not even have electricity. The fact that people repeatedly pay to experience this way of life in Maine proves that it is something of value...something worth driving to this area for.

So I ask you, why in the world would anyone pay for this unique non-electric experience amid such beauty and simplicity of nature under the shadow of enormous, inefficient, unreliable electricity producers which completely and negatively alter that experience simply by their mechanical, unnatural, all-encompassing, kinetic presence? My family certainly would not, and I feel certain we are not alone. As a matter of fact, I cancelled a reservation for a cabin at Folsom Pond tonight once I discovered turbines are now visible from that cabin.

I dread running the gauntlet of scenery and night sky marred with turbines most of the way back to our cabin this evening.

I am sad that my memories of this visit to this area with my husband and niece will include the disturbing imprints of those unnatural mechanical objects currently towering over the unparalleled Maine landscape along our route.

I fear for the people who live or own businesses near Bowers Mountain who quite probably will lose long term tourist dollars, if the proposed turbine development is permitted.

I ask you to deny Champlain Wind's industrial wind turbine development application for their Bower's Mountain project.

Kay Michka
Lexington TWP

From: [Dave & Debbie Tobey](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Fw: Bowers Mountain Letter!
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011 1:06:52 PM
Attachments: [Bowers MT.rtf](#)

----- Original Message -----

From: [William Nicholas](#)
To: davidtobey@earthlink.net
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2011 1:31 PM
Subject: FW: Bowers Mountain Letter!

To: governor_nicholas@hotmail.com; mattdana@passamaquoddy.com.
CC: jbissonette@afsc.org
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 2011 14:54:47 +0000
From: soctomah@ainop.com
Subject: Bowers Mountain Letter!

Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Passamaquoddy Tribe
PO Box 159
Princeton, Maine 04668

Fred Todd
LURC
Augusta, Maine

July 15, 2011

RE: Bowers Mountain – Wind Project

Dear Mr. Todd:

I would like to express my concern about the proposed wind project on Bowers Mountain. Champlain Wind, LLC, has proposed installing 27, 428-foot industrial turbines on Bowers Mountain and Dill Ridge, which rise up at the headwaters of the Downeast Lakes Watershed.

I am the Historic Preservation Officer for the Passamaquoddy Tribe and I review project applications on the impact regarding the historic properties and significant religious and cultural properties in accordance with NHPA, NEPA, AIRFA, NAGPRA, ARPA, Executive Order 13007 Indian Sacred Sites, Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, and Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice.

This proposed project is located very close to Passamaquoddy tribal lands located in Township 5 Range 1 Penobscot County and Township 5ND in Washington County.

We are in opposition to this proposed project for several reasons:

1. The Passamaquoddy Tribe has several areas set aside for traditional cultural activities within this area (T5ND, T5R1). We believe that the wind turbines would have a harmful effect on these cultural activities.
2. Located on these two tribal townships, near the wind turbine site are religious sites, places that have been used for the last 10,000 years and are currently still being used. We believe that the wind turbines would have a harmful effect also on this activity for the tribe.
3. The visual effect of these giant turbines in this pristine area would have a ripple negative effect on other activities of the tribe,

such as traditional tribal hunting for subsistence of the tribal families; tribal guiding activities in these areas will be reduced; tribal camps in the area will lose the outdoor wilderness exposure.

The Tribe has fought long and hard for years to keep this area from large developers such as the wind turbine project, we still remember the proposed nuclear waste disposal site that was proposed for this area just a few years ago, there we worked with local towns to stop that.

This proposed project will destroy the areas remoteness just as it has altered the other areas it is in now, how much is enough?

Sincerely;
Donald Soctomah
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Passamaquoddy Tribe

From: [Murphy, Donald](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: FW: Champlain Wind - Bowers Mountain Project DP 4889
Date: Thursday, June 30, 2011 9:18:12 AM
Attachments: [00011728.PDF](#)

Fred;

This came in from Haynes lawyer to me but it's for your project record.

Don

From: Dean Beaupain [mailto:dbeaupain@gwi.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 4:30 PM
To: Murphy, Donald
Subject: Champlain Wind - Bowers Mountain Project DP 4889

Don – attached are written comments from Jay Haynes for filing in the record of the Bowers Mountain project.

Dean A. Beaupain, Esq.
Law Offices of Dean A. Beaupain, LLC
Penobscot River Valley Title Services, LLC

Email: dbeaupain@gwi.net

Millinocket office:
4 Hill Street
Millinocket, ME 04462
207-723-9793 ext. 20
207-723-6447 (fax)

Bangor office:
71 Broadway, Suite 1
P.O. Box 1404 (mailing address)
Bangor, ME 04402-1404
207-947-9242
207-947-8146 (fax)

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June 29, 2011

Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Re: Champlain Wind, LLC
Bowers Mountain Project
Application DP 4889

Ladies and gentlemen:

I am a shareholder of Lakeville Shores, Inc., which leases a small portion of the project lands to Champlain Wind, LLC. I am familiar with the project and would like to submit the following comments which are based on my knowledge of the Lakeville area.

I have had a camp on Junior Lake since 1994. I have lived on the lake every summer since that time and regularly use Junior Lake, Scraggly Lake and West Grand Lake for boating and fishing during the summer months. As a life long area resident, I am also familiar with Sysladobsis Lake, Pleasant Lake and the entire watershed.

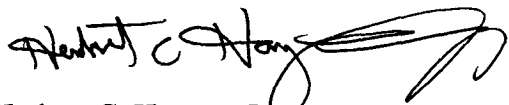
Boating use of Junior and Scraggly Lakes is primarily by local residents with camps on Junior Lake and the spring fishing season has the most boating use with use falling off over the summer with very little use in September and October. The most fishing interest is for salmon but since the fishery depends on stocking by the state and the state does not regularly stock Junior Lake, most area fishermen go from Junior Lake to West Grand Lake which is regularly stocked with thousands of salmon by the state and offers significantly better fishing than Junior Lake.

I am familiar with the guide services located at Grand Lake Stream and while they contribute a lot to that community's economy, I have seen very few guides ever make any use of Junior or Scraggly Lake. Junior Lake is approximately 12 miles by boat from Grand Lake Stream and I cannot imagine guides subjecting their sports to such a long canoe ride on a regular basis, especially if the wind is blowing which is a regular occurrence on these lakes.

I understand that construction of this project will result in turbines being seen from the lakes. I do not expect the view of turbines to impact use of the lakes in any way. While the view will be different, in my experience boaters use Junior and Scraggly Lakes because that is where their camps are located and will not stop using the lakes because the view has changed. The tower on Almanac Mountain with its flashing red light has always been visible from the lake.

I support approval of this project as compatible with the multiple use of the working forest which dominates the area and for its positive economic impact in an area of the state that sorely needs a boost.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Herbert C. Haynes, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Herbert C. Haynes, Jr.

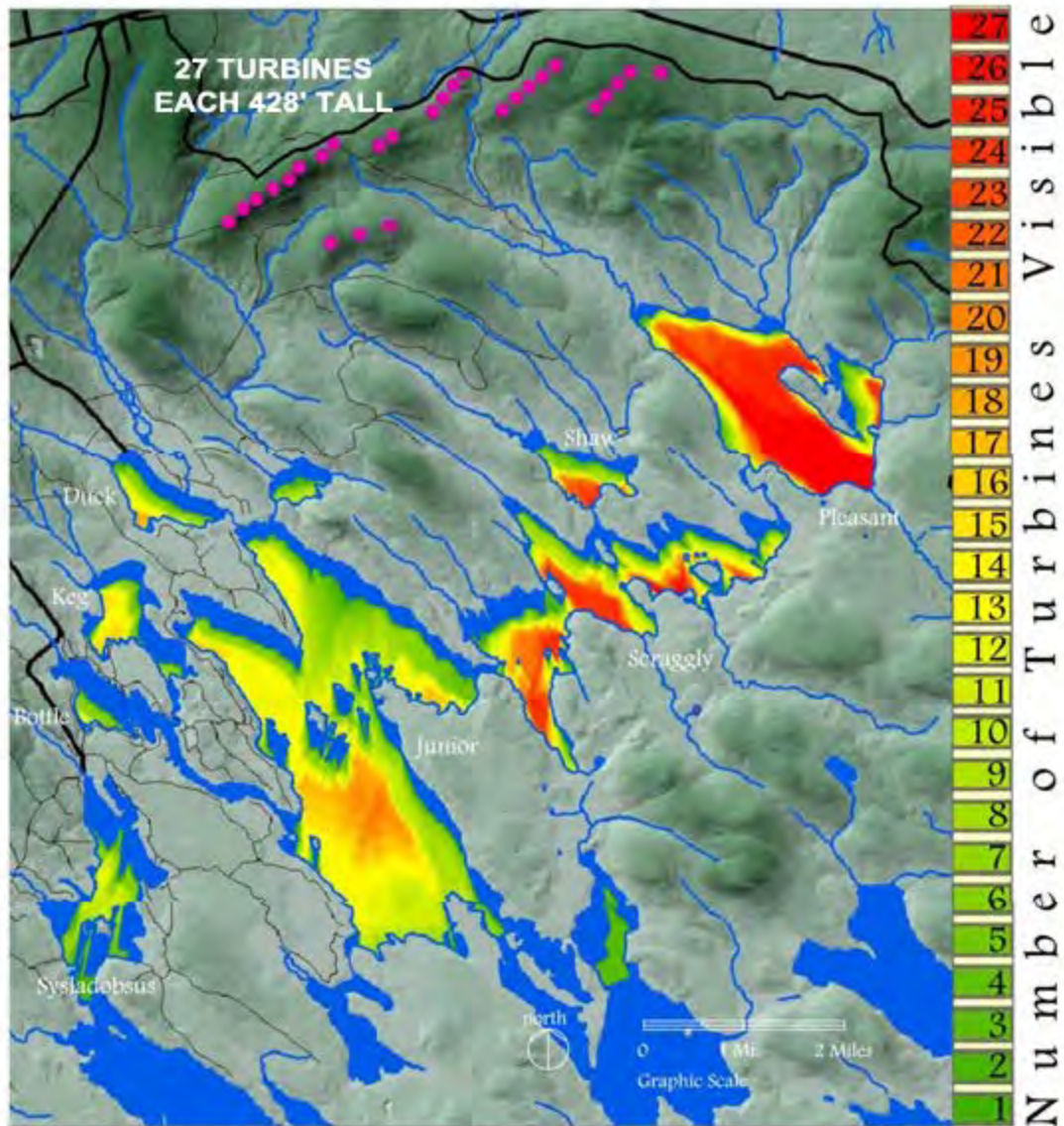
From: [jack gagnon](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#); [LURC](#)
Subject: Fw: PPDW - How many will you see?
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 7:38:05 AM

----- Original Message -----

From: [Peter Fisher](#)
To: peter@ppdlw.org
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 7:32 AM
Subject: PPDW - How many will you see?

This is a pretty dramatic exhibit made for us by Mike Lawrence, our Visual Impact Assessment expert. First Wind can run, but they can;t hide form this very clear, very dramatic graphic of how many turbines will be seen form what portion of these lakes that are within the state mandated "8 mile limit". Some of you have already seen this, others have not and need to. This pretty much tells the whole story in one simple graphic.

HOW MANY WIND TURBINES WILL YOU SEE FROM YOUR CAMP?



Learn More. Visit www.PPDLW.org

From: lakevillepaddlers@aol.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Fwd: DP 4889 -- Proposed Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 1:15:04 PM

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to deny the permit application for the proposed Bowers Mountain Wind Project. While wind power may have a place in Maine's energy future, it would be an absolute sin an industrial wind farm at this location.

My first visit to the Downeast Lakes was a canoe camping trip on Scraggly Lake. We put in at the public boat launch and spent a week at one of the public campsites. Our days were spent exploring the neighboring lakes and marveling that we were paddling the same routes the Native Americans traveled hundreds of years ago --and enjoying the same unspoiled views.

In my travels I have paddled the Alligash Wilderness Waterway, backpacked in Alaska, hiked all over Europe, and trekked in Nepal -- but I have have never enjoyed an outdoor vacation more than I did that week on Scraggly.

You have heard in other testimony that the lack of people on Scraggly and some of the other Downeast lakes means that preserving them is unimportant. I am writing to assure you that nothing could be further from the truth.

With LURC's statutory obligation to protect traditional uses such as sporting camps, it may interest you to know that the pristine vistas of Scraggly Lake inspired us to spend time at two of the many wonderful sporting camps in the region. We returned the next year for a week at "The Pines", a sporting camp on Sysladobsis. The year after that we returned for a week at Grand Lake Wilderness Retreat on Junior Bay.

If that doesn't sound like enough economic impact, please consider that we also bought a lot nearby and kept a local contractor busy most of a winter building a camp. We bought building supplies from a local mill, and provided work to a local plumber, electrician, and well driller. We use our camp throughout the year -- and support the local economy by buying supplies at local stores and hosting many guests from away. In the last year alone, we have drawn visitors from Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire -- all of whom marveled at the pristine beauty of Junior and Scraggly Lakes -- and hope to come back again.

You've heard testimony suggesting that fisherman are a dying breed, and its unimportant to preserve this traditional use. I am here to tell you that we are teaching all of our young guests to fish. One young guest now 8 years old has visited us 3 years in a row, has his own rod and reel, and hopefully will come to this region to fish every year for the rest of his life.

If there are fish to catch. Please note that we fish for Salmon in Junior Lake. Blasting on Bowers could damage this fishery.

And please rest assured that fisherman most certainly do notice the scenery. If there had been 400+ wind turbines on Bowers Mountain and Dill Ridge -- industrial structures nearly half again the size of the mountains -- I never would have chosen the region for a wilderness canoe trip, returned the following 2 years to try the sporting camps, or built a second home here. None of the many friends and family would have visited us here. And frankly -- if there are turbines on top of the beautiful ridges that draw our eyes each time we paddle or boat out to Junior and Scraggly Lakes -- its unlikely we will stay.

We invested in this region because of its pristine natural beauty. We were impressed by the vision of

the Downeast Lakes Land Trust. We were lulled into a false sense of security by the principle values and goals in LURC's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

According to LURC's own Wildlands Lake Assessment Study, this area has at least 9 lakes that are of "significant" or "outstanding" scenic quality that are located within 8 miles of the proposed project site. There is no doubt that the significant and outstanding scenic quality of these lakes depends on the undeveloped vistas. The proposed Bowers Mountain Project would have an unreasonable impact on the natural character and scenic quality of the region.

The Maine Legislature clearly intended to protect the natural character and scenic integrity of the West Grand Chain, because the region was excluded from the expedited permitting area. Please be consistent with legislative intent and deny this permit application.

Please also consider that this region is home to the Canada Lynx. Experienced Maine Guides have seen kits on that ridge, which mean there are dens. Just because understaffed state and federal agencies didn't send staff to the hearings or out to find the dens does not mean that these threatened animals aren't there and our responsibility to protect under the Endangered Species Act.

There are so many reasons to protect this area -- the scenery, the fishery, the lynx. And I will offer one more. The State of Maine, through the Land for Maine's Future Program, already has invested 9 million taxpayer dollars to preserve this area. Please protect this taxpayer investment.

The wind resource at Bowers Mountain is rated by wind experts as only "poor to marginal." The unspoiled scenery and natural character are priceless.

Thank you for considering my comments.

From: [Bussell, Jeff](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: I support the Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 10:37:56 AM

Mr. Todd,

I am a native Mainer and a home owner in Maine. I am writing to express my support of the proposed Bowers Mountain Wind Project.

I believe this project will be good for Maine. It will further the state's reputation as a leader in commercial wind power generation, further diversify the state's energy sources, and will be a boon to the local economy. I feel these benefits outweigh any negative aesthetic or ecological impacts.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Jeff Bussell

Jeff Bussell | WilmerHale

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Boston, MA 02109 USA

+1 617 526 6351 (t)

+1 617 526 5000 (f)

jeff.bussell@wilmerhale.com

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From: [dan mckay](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Is rural Maine to become Industrial ?
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 8:36:42 PM

Mr. Todd,

Please take the time to read the Comprehensive Plans adopted by many communities throughout the rural part of this State. Then, take note, that the unorganized territories became inhabited by people fed up with encroachment upon their desires to be left alone to live and let live without government intervention , without sewer and water bills, extreme property taxes, land use regulations, etc. If unorganized territories had to develop comprehensive plans, I'm sure they would prioritize it with a will to save the land against industrial development so as to preserve tradition. Good Old Maine, Love It or Leave It.

Thank You
Dan McKay Dixfield .

From: [Virginia Roseberry](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Junior Lake, Maine
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 8:01:54 AM

My sister has property on Junior Lake and I have visited several times camping, hiking, kayaking, water skiing, campfires etc. It is a beautiful lake and I would be saddened to see anyone build something that would be such an eyesore.

I vote "NO" to the Bowers Mt. project.

Do not ruin the beauty and wilderness so preserved in the great state of Maine.

I live in Central Virginia and our lakes are cluttered with power plants, power lines etc. Need I say more.

Keep the great state of Maine preserved with its lakes wilderness & natural beauty, the way nature meant it to be.

Virginia Roseberry

Orange, Va.

From: hmhchosen@aol.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Kill Bowers Mt Wind Project
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 9:29:36 PM

I currently reside in Cushing, ME but lived in Lincoln and Lee for a total of about 26 yrs. I greatly enjoyed boating in the region and know several people who make their living in outdoor recreation in the area. Please stop the destruction of this pristine area by commercial wind power.
Merritt and Helen Webster

From: [Kirsten Brown Burbank](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Letter for the Record, DP 4889 Bowers Mountain
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011 9:55:34 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to officially submit this letter for the record regarding DP 4889/Bowers Mountain as I could not make the nearly 4 hour trip to the public hearings that were held in Lincoln, Maine, on the 27th and 28th of June. I wanted more than anything to be present to give testimony as to how I feel and what I think about this application/submission by Champlain Wind, LLC.

The Bowers Mountain area of Maine is special to me because I know this application submitted to build an industrial grid-scale wind plant in this region would impact a little place with a GREAT BIG reputation that I had the privilege of experiencing as a 21 year old woman some 20 years ago, when I was employed there for the summer at Weatherby's (world renowned) Fishing Resort located in Grand Lake Stream. My sister and I were hired on to work there in the cabins and in the kitchen, and, lock, stock and barrel, we went deep into a part of Maine and lived a life (for a brief but wonderful time) that we never imagined being a part of, so deep into the Maine wilderness! We worked hard and every day - we swam at night in the cool, clear cove by the village dock, we slept under a perfect starry sky and we worked hard again the next day, usually for seven days in a row before getting a half day break to drive to Calais to do our laundry! I swear to you now that the living I made in those days at "fish camp" set me squarely and firmly on my path to self-sufficiency and eventually to home ownership, because I saved every dime I made there and I realized that in the process, I became a part of the tradition of sport fishing in Maine, too. I went on to work at another famous fishing resort closer to my home here in western Maine with the same passion and excitement for the Maine outdoors, (in eco-tourism and outdoor recreation) in a career that sustained me for well over ten years. I clearly understood the value of that Maine experience for myself, and for the many others from around the globe who came to visit our state and still do all these years later; just to take in what I had perhaps taken for granted - the splendor of the mountains and foothills, the clear blue waters of the Grand Lakes watershed, the untouched skyline, flawless days (rain or shine, they were so wonderful) and a glimpse of perfection, in a perfect and wild place. When I think back on my days in Grand Lake Stream, and I consider the destruction

and the carnage and the metal jungle that wind developers are proposing for the most excellent place Maine has to offer, I just want to weep uncontrollably. I am not an unreasonable citizen. I love Maine, I love the outdoors and I care about the future of this state for all of Maine's citizens.

The companies that want to build grid-scale industrial wind facilities in this state (and rob the common man of his future and livelihood) are selfish, short-sighted and most of all, greedy. We are NOT talking in the least bit about generating green energy.

I ask you and the committee making these incomprehensible decisions about the very future of Maine and all that it stands for, Who, WHO, will be responsible for the ruination of perhaps the greatest quality place in our state, in one of the last great wildernesses found anywhere in this great country of ours?

I feel ashamed. Ashamed that people more educated and powerful and wealthy than I, are making these kinds of decisions for the future of all Mainers, for the future of energy, and for the future of this economy. I am ashamed because in my heart of hearts, I know that this is WRONG and it is quite possible that someday, the masses will look back on this date and time and place in Maine's history and say, "that's where it began to fall apart and it was GRAND - the ruination of Maine, the Way Life Will Never Be Again."

Please STOP the Bowers Mountain project and deny DP 4889!

Sincerely,

Kirsten Brown Burbank
Salem Township, Maine

Taxpayer, Maine Native & Resident of Unorganized Territory (since 1998)

From: [Alice Barnett](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [dan_mckay](#); [Freemont Tibbetts](#); [fryewood@roadrunner.com](#); [gempaint@yahoo.com](#)
Subject: LURC Bowers Mtn
Date: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:42:59 PM
Attachments: [grandlaketxt.rtf](#)
[spruce%20mountain%202011\[1\].bmp](#)
[sprucemountain1.jpg](#)

June 2011

P.O.Box 588 Carthage, ME 04224

Hello,

My name is Alice McKay Barnett, a Maine artist living in Carthage Maine, aka gempaint.

I have written several e-mails pertaining to the "RED" flashing lights that are contrasting the deep, indigo, blue, night sky of Maine.

In the SaddleBackWind application neither Patriot Renewables nor DEP address the "RED" strobing lights. These "RED" strobing lights are visual impacts beyond the 8 mile limit the Maine Wind Law mandates as adequate.

Neither DEP nor LURC can prove that the animals will not hear these turbines. No studies have been done on habitat fragmentation since Stetson I and II have been in place.

Studies need to be done.!!!

Grand Lake Stream Water Shed gives the illusion of pristineness because of the 250 foot set-back of homes from the water shore line. LURC has enforced this mandate for years. This illusion works on these lakes. It appears pristine. 450 foot tall wind towers on the ridge lines will ruin this illusion. A ridge line is a line, uninterrupted.

DEP and LURC need to examine the water table altering processes

of drilling and blasting. Springs from high in the mountains feed the fishing pools below. An alteration in the water table cannot be fixed. Does LURC have a blasting procedure? Such as "No springs" with-in 4000 feet?

I appreciate the studying you have done and hope more studies will be made to ensure wilderness, or the illusion of wilderness, remains intact.

p.s. How can you sit in those chairs that long? God bless you.





From: [Robert Goldman](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: LURC Commissioners, RE: Bowers/Downeast Lakes
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 12:52:52 PM

> Dear LURC Commissioners,
> Like many of my fellow Mainers, I've learned alot the past couple of years about the very destructive and brutal reality of inappropriately placing massive industrial wind turbines in the mountains of Maine.
>
> The more I've learned and witnessed with my own eyes and ears, the more I've been moved to step forward and speak up for the Maine I love.
>
> The majestic natural beauty of Maine has been protected and enjoyed by generations of lucky Mainers and numerous, appreciative visitors from away. But that fragile beauty can actually be destroyed or so altered that it is no longer what many have loved about Maine, lived here to enjoy and spent precious time and money to visit.
>
> No modest amount of very temporary jobs is worth the massive ecological harm and the other huge costs and risks, of permanently desecrating Maine's magical Downeast Lakes Watershed by massive industrial wind turbine development.
>
> The damage to the region's amazing ecology and wildlife is far too extreme to allow, the physical and emotional assault against our fellow Mainers who live in the area is simply not acceptable and the massive risk to our historic and irreplaceable visitor- based economy is both crazy and irresponsible.
>
> You have the authority to reject this extremely inappropriate Bowers Mountain/Kossuth Township project. These projects were supposed to be sited "where appropriate" ... this project is the opposite of appropriately sited.
>
> I am asking you to exercise your authority on behalf of all of Maine and for the benefit of all Mainers now and those to come and reject this terribly inappropriate and destructive project.
>
> Sincerely,
> Bob Goldman
> South Portland
>
> PO Box 982
> Portland, ME 04104
>
> Phone: 207-831-5929

From: [Arnold Banner](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: LURC- First Wind's Bowers Mtn. DP4889
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 1:24:03 PM

Dear Sirs:

My wife and I are opposed to the First Wind project to build wind generators at Bowers Mountain and in that locality. While wind generation seems an environmentally preferable alternative to coal, oil or nuclear electric generation, the installation of huge towers and the associated earthwork would be an aesthetic disaster at this pristine site. Even forest clearcutting, unappealing as it is, does not cause the permanent landscape changes of the wind project. Indeed, even the economics of the project are damaging - requiring public subsidies.

We request that the LURC Commissioners reject this proposal.

Arnold Banner
Nancy H. Banner
Mount Vernon, ME

From: [Darrell Morrow](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: fen@207me.com
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 12:38:15 PM

Dear sir,

It has come to my attention that a large wind turbine project is planned for the Grand Lakes of Downeast Maine. This is a beautiful area that should remain undeveloped by an intrusive energy project that in my opinion will be yet another drain on tax payers. Maine is nearly fully energy independent and has the option for very inexpensive Canadian power if needed.

Please work towards preventing this project from moving forward.

Thank you,

Darrell Morrow
Gorham Me

From: [Colette Parmer](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 9:27:03 AM

Too many people in too many towns rush into these projects and then are so sorry to see the permanent destruction they have done afterward. Please don't let this happen to your town. There are more and more reports coming out concerning our health because of Wind Turbines, the destruction to wildlife and our land. The fact that they do not profit the town they are in and do not produce the electricity they say they will. They are not GREEN, they have to have power to make power. Has anyone ever taken a look at the process it takes to physically make these Wind Turbines and to transport them, "NOT GREEN". The only green I see is what gets waved under the nose of people chosen by the projects to benefit the project, not the towns people. Do a list or pros and cons. Take your time, there's no reason to rush this.

Please deny the Bowers Project--DP4889.

Thank you very much for your time,
Colette Parmer
179 Wilson Road
Saint Regis Falls
NY 12980
ouchmytoez@yahoo.com

Warm days were here and left 

 But they'll be back 

From: [William Gordon](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 8:00:10 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I'm writing to urge you to deny application DP4889 Bowers Wind Project because this is not an appropriate site for an industrial wind project. If this project is approved I will never vacation in that area again. I find it highly unusual that a pristine site like the one selected would be considered anyway.

For instance, in Germany and in parts of the Midwest U.S. the site selections are on cultivated farm land, where the turbines themselves are easily serviceable. Which brings to mind that the turbines themselves will need service roads that would introduce untold amounts of rain water runoff into the beautiful streams and lakes.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

William B. Gordon P.E.
21 Park Avenue
Winchester, Massachusetts 01890

From: [clydemacdonald](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 2:04:36 PM

Hello, Fred, Thanks for sending me the copy of Peter Pelletier's letter that gives assurances to LURC that the several dozen remote wind turbines on remote mountain tops will not pose a problem for the Maine Forest Service. He intimates his agency has all of the personnel and equipment that might be required.

I am giving you a heads up as I will be submitting a challenge to that testimony. I have in my possession a 92 page document that is a record, although I presume a skimpy one, of 138 turbine fires over the past ten years. Several countries as well as states in the US are represented. Australia lost the most acreage (200,000) to turbine caused fires and at least one province there has banned wind turbines from sites located near forested areas. But not the State of Maine, or other states, either..

I am of the strong opinion that there is a need for LURC to press Mr. Pelletier by asking for data on the types of equipment, their distance from the several turbine sites already approved as well from Bower Mountain, the number of firefighters available, etc. In the words of the editor of WINDWATCH who has not had access to my data, it is "not a question of if---but when." I think there is no governmental or private agency in the US that has attempted to make a record of forest fires caused by flaming wind turbines.

Anyway, I will be submitting testimony next week. And thanks again. Clyde MacDonald

From: [Frank](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Maine Hydropower advocate critical of Wind Farming
Date: Thursday, June 30, 2011 11:37:28 AM

Hi....I've actually consulted on the development of wind siting ordinances with the KCOG and the towns of Brunswick, Lisbon, and Portland; so my perspective is very much from that of government's role in protecting the public and a property owner from their own indiscretion.

Big difference between residential wind and industrial wind farming where a variety of public subsidies and impacts are involved.

As an industry; all elements of a project's impact....roads, transmission lines, operation, abandonment, impact on power grids, etc. have to be carefully considered.

As an energy alternative, these impacts must be valued and considered in relationship to the alternatives...which is why hydro is preferred in nearly all cases where a 100 year life cycle is calculated.

Once you open up a region to wind farming, you expose it to other development; just as Sunday River now spans several mountains and a 7 mile valley unsold second home lots on mountain sides....just the run off alone and its impact on streams is troubling. Once you bring power lines to the turbine, you enable residential connections and that brings in development of all kinds. Build a road and people will find a way to drive on it.

I once viewed the region acquired by PLUM CREEK in GOOGLE EARTH and was very surprised not to find 'wilderness' but a hodgepodge of roads and subdivisions—most obviously unsold! In a sense, it was a blessing to have a unified vision for this region instead of individual exploitation!

So just remember, by authorizing the wind farm, you open the are to development and exploitation; and as you should know, the last thing Maine needs is more expensive power, since it has abundant undeveloped resources in state—we even export hydro to the NE Grid; and can buy it from HydroQuebec for pennies/KwH without touching a mountain top!

If you want expertise; start with the 1992 State HydroPower Plan; and move on to the deal Vermont just struck with HydroQuebec---a deal spurred on by a proposed wind farm on the GREEN MOUNTAINS, and one which lowered the cost of power 11% this Spring!

Cheers!

Frank J. Heller, MPA
KATAHDIN ENERGY WORKS
www.KatahdinEnergyWorks.com
12 Belmont St.
Brunswick, Maine 04011
...N. New England's MICROHYDRO specialist!

From: [SANDRA L SHORE](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Mountain Wind Project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 4:55:30 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

Re: DP-4889 Bowers Mountain Wind Project Application

It has come to my attention that LURC is considering granting a permit for an industrial wind project on Bowers Mountain (DP-4889) above the Downeast Lakes in Maine. I had the opportunity to visit the area a couple of years ago, and spent several days kayaking and fishing on Junior, Keg and Bottle Lakes.

The very idea that this project could even be considered baffles me. Having a string of 27 - 428-foot tall wind turbines planted across a pristine forested ridgeline above these lakes will ruin the paddling experience of many visitors like myself. And further, I understand there will be 15 flashing strobelights on them, destroying the incomparable night sky.

I'm a resident of Minnesota and paddle regularly in the Boundary Waters in the northern part of our state. I am struck by the similarity of the Downeast Lakes to the Boundary Waters. It is a quiet, barely-developed chain of magnificent lakes. Yet the Downeast lakes have the added charm of being rimmed by forested hills. To mar them with wind turbines and flashing strobe lights will ruin the visual grandeur experienced by paddlers and campers who, like myself, travel thousands of miles to get there, to 'get away from it all'.

I urge LURC to deny First Wind's application for Bowers Mountain. Doesn't the State of Maine realize how special this area is?

Sincerely,

Cassandra Shore
5323 Lyndale Ave. N.
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

From: [sherwats2](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: my comments on bowers windproject
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011 9:58:01 PM
Attachments: [bower \(1\) \(1\).docx](#)

hello todd

I converted my comment into Words

thank you

monique aniel , md

Honorable Commissioners,

I am writing to you in opposition to the wind project proposed in the Bowers Mountain region by First Wind.

As wind projects are being debated in the State of Maine both in the organized and unorganized territories, and the multiple angles of this new technology on humans, animals and scenic impacts are slowly but clearly emerging, I urge you to appreciate the devastating consequences of the establishment of 400 foot tall, arm waving machines on the ridges of Bowers Mountain, sending pulsating, harmful low frequency noise into the adjacent valleys and filling the horizon with flashing red strobe lights in the dark night sky. It is the very essence of Maine that is at stake here. Increasingly it is becoming apparent that there is no proven environmental benefit which justifies this sacrifice.

In 2005 Beth Nagusky, then director of the Office of Energy Independence and Security made a presentation to the LURC board. One of her slides showed the electricity generated in Maine by fuel type over the last decade. After the closing of Maine Yankee in 1996, Maine's reliance on natural gas had reached 73% and its reliance on coal and oil had come down to less than 4%, hydropower and biomass were around 23%. According to a PUC chart in 2007 the use of natural gas came down to less than 50 % and hydro and biomass increased to 49%.

Yet at the LURC August meeting in 2007, Kurt Adams from the PUC, David Littell from the DEP and John Kerry from the OEIS office, at a wind power forum came to alert the board to the importance of using the concept of reduced emissions in guiding their regulatory decisions.

Maine does not produce SO₂ emissions or particulate emissions related to the use of coal or oil in the production of electricity because Maine uses less than 3 % of those fuels to produce electricity.

Yet for this very reason and for purely speculative and non- peer reviewed health reasons, Maine magnificent landscape is being sacrificed ridge after ridge.

It is worth mentioning that in its final report the Governor's Task Force on Wind Power acknowledged that there were conflicting opinions about whether wind power reduced emissions and left it up the legislature to

decide this issue “dispositively”. Governor Baldacci’s emergency bill to implement the recommendations of the Task Force was drafted to require the presumption of emissions reduction benefits even though the Task Force did not make that finding of fact. As we know, the bill came out of committee with a unanimous “ought to pass” and was passed by the legislature “under the hammer” with no debate and no roll call vote. Maine’s wind power act was not based on science, economics, or common sense. It was a political agenda foisted upon an unsuspecting public by a governor who was obsessed with his legacy as the “renewable energy governor”. We are now beginning to understand the consequences of this political agenda. Maine as we know it is under attack.

The industrial wind turbines proposed by First Wind in this project would overshadow such pristine lakes as Pleasant Scraggly, Junior, Lower Dobsi, Pocumcus, West Grand and several others, with a combined surface area 17000 acres. The area is the heart and soul of the Maine sport fishing industry. It offers an ultimate respite to the people in this country and around the globe who have come to this unique watershed for more than 100 years.

As an immigrant from Belgium who has shared this Maine wilderness with many European friends over the past 30 years I cherish the same comment made by those visitors over the past 3 decades, “Maine is the last Eastern American wilderness!” LURC is the guardian of this wilderness.

The scenic impacts of the proposed wind industrial park in the Bowers Mountain region are obvious and I know it does not need to be pressed upon the commissioners nor to the applicant.

Indeed First Wind recognizes in its scenic statement that “the fishermen who come to this watershed can orient themselves away from the turbines, or go fish in coves that hide you from that view.” First Wind is actually making the job of the commissioners easier. The company is admitting the detrimental effect on the scenic landscape it is imposing as well as the de facto financial negative consequence on the guiding industry.

In April of this year, while the legislature was holding hearings on multiple wind power related bills, I asked Ken Fletcher, director of the Office of Energy Independence and Security why scenic impacts were removed from consideration of wind farm permitting process. He responded to me that without this removal there would have been no wind farms permitted .

In his testimony to the Governor's Task Force on Wind Power in 2007, wind developer Robert Gardiner urged that scenic views should be ignored, writing that, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder, that many of his friends think turbines are awesome and that the artist Christo would be jealous of Gardiner's large kinetic sculptures on the ridges. The Task Force agreed, and so the law was changed to remove nearly all former obstacles to the permitting process of wind farm.

The commissioners have to follow the law but they do not have to allow the losses of income from wildlife guides as a consequence of permitting this project. When questioned about the scenic impacts from the project at the LURC hearing on July 6th, James Palmer, scenic consultant, admitted that wildlife guides could lose customers if the project gets built because, "the guides may be more dependent on a type of customer that is more sensitive to turbines."

At the same hearing, Mark A. Caron, MIFW regional biologist, admitted that state surveys of migration patterns of the lynx, which federal officials list as a threatened species, were somewhat lacking in the Kossuth region. When fishermen or other recreational users watch the mountainous ridges from their canoes or tent sites they do not come to be reminded of the electrical needs of the cities they just left.

I would urge the commissioners to reject this project because of the unique quality of the region and the deep historical and cultural meaning of the guiding profession connected to it.

Respectfully submitted ,

Monique Aniel ,MD
Telephone 864 54 23
POBox 345
O quossoc
Maine 04964

From: [Nina Lilja](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: NO to DP 4889, the Bowers Mt. project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 9:58:22 AM
Attachments: [nilija.vcf](#)

The evidence is in and the Bowers Mountain project was rejected by a margin of three to one by people contributing in the public hearings according to the Bangor Daily News. First Wind of Boston argues that there is "nothing special" about Pleasant, Junior, Scraggly and other class 1A and 1B lakes within an 8 mile range of the project location. Nothing special?

According to the Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment, less than 10.9% of Maine's lakes received an "outstanding" scenic characters assessment and a "significant" scenic character rating is even rarer at 7.9%. I am unclear how any logical person can equate lakes designated as being of a statewide significance as "nothing special" and furthermore how resources with "outstanding" and "significant" scenic character can be considered as "nothing special" since this classification is even rarer than the overall class 1A or 1B designation. Even the class 2 lakes within the turbine viewshed have outstanding or significant scenic character classification.

Wind turbine development will destroy the scenic character in each of these lakes and thereby reduce the value of these resources. Destroying the scenic amenities identified in the Maine Wildland Lake Assessment, destroying the character that contributes to designation of these resources of "statewide significance" is not in the best interest of the public. Lakes of statewide significance are rare in Maine and "significant" and "outstanding" scenic character rarer. The Bowers project will negatively impact status of Class IA and IB lakes as outstanding and significant. The net effect will be to degrade the classification of these rare resources. Endangered species are protected when their numbers fall below a threshold population level. It is unequivocal that this project will reduce the stock of Maine's lakes designated as having a outstanding or significant scenic character by 3.5% making what is already a rare resource even rarer. I am all for the judicious use of resources for the benefit of society. However, the Bowers Mountain project does not fall into the judicious category because of its UNREASONABLE impact upon what can be already considered scarce resource. Please consider the dominant majority of the public who agree with this viewpoint and deny First Wind's application.

Sincerely,
Nina K. Lilja
382 Long Point Rd
Lakeville, Maine

From: [Ellen Mugar](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: no to DP 4889
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 8:26:43 PM

Dear Fred Todd,

Please do not approve DP 4889. There is no redeeming reason to proceed with this monstrous industrial wind project. The adverse affect on the surrounding area would be huge.

A concerned Maine citizen, Ellen Mugar

From: [Kim Cook-Gerbracht](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Oppose Bowers Mountain Wind Turbines DP4889
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 10:07:49 PM

I have visited the Bottle Lake and the Down East Lakes region for many years and I am OPPOSED to the Industrial Wind Turbines.

Sincerely,

**Kimberly Gerbracht
1331 Briard St
Wantagh, NY 11793**

From: [Jeff Kubel](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: opposed to Bowers mtn/Dill Ridge project
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 10:42:22 AM

Mr. Todd, my name is Jeffrey Kubel and I am a resident of Maine.

I see the future of Maine as outdoors tourism.

What is presently happening in Millinocket with its loss of jobs is, in my opinion, a demonstration of the need for us to look at other ways our state can thrive in the future. Maine continues to carry about it a mystique of the lakes and woods, that while frightening to some, pulls an enormous attraction for many others that will serve us well as we compete with other states for tourism dollars. What is happening with land based wind power concerns me as it destroys views and disrupts the nature that brings people here. I live in the mid coast area and every day see the sea based turbines outside Vinalhaven--I have no problem with these as they fit into the landscape of the sea. But that isn't the case with mountain wind power. It destroys.

Certainly we need electrical power, but a mixture of sea wind, tidal and solar is the solution.

I have camped and fished in many parts of Maine--including the area south of Bowers Mountain--and 400 ft tall mountain turbines just don't have a place anywhere in our state.

I add my voice to those urging LURC to reject DP 4889, First Wind's Bowers Mt. Industrial wind proposal.

Thank-you.

This message was secured by ZixCorp(R).

From: [Canal Side Cabins, John & Mary](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Opposed to the Bowers Mountain Project
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 11:14:49 AM

Hello Mr. Todd

My name is John F Arcaro and I am writing you in behalf of myself, my wife Mary, our business Canal Side Cabins and my guiding service, all located in Grand Lake Stream. We are strongly against the Bowers Mountain Wind Project. In these times of economic struggles we do not need something else that will stop people from coming to this area. It is hard enough trying to make a living here, but we love the area so much that we are willing to work at it.

I am sorry that we could not attend the public hearings, but I had some work guiding, people from North Carolina, who traveled by car to see the pristine lakes and they truly believed that they were in the remote wilderness and said that I was very lucky to live here. I do not think they would think that windmills would have given them a wilderness experience. Grand Lake Stream has a history over 150 years of guiding, that did not happen by chance, there was a reason, please do not take that away from us.

**Sincerely,
John & Mary Arcaro
Canal Side Cabins
PO Box 77
Grand Lake Stream, Maine 04637
www.canalsidecabins.com
www.grandlakestream.com**

From: [Mariana Tupper](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [Melissa Innes](#); [Dick Woodbury](#); [Governor](#)
Subject: Opposing Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 9:42:30 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

The industrial approach to wind energy use, as proposed by First Wind, is a terrible example of what wind-power could do for Maine. I strongly oppose First Wind's Bowers Mountain Industrial Wind Project.

The scale of the project alone is hugely out of scale for the proposed site. Planning 27 industrial-size turbines is overkill: much more than can be justified in a wilderness area.

Wind energy--when planned in scale with the setting, and with attention to its impact on humans and the surrounding environment, CAN be a vital clean energy source.

Please nix DP 4889 from Maine's future. A wind-energy proposal for Maine could be SO much better than that proposed by First Wind/ Champlain Wind LLC.

Sincerely,
M.S. Tupper
Yarmouth

From: [Natasha Mayers](#)
To: [Lapointe, Jeannine](#); [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: opposing First Wind's Bowers Mountain Industrial Wind Project: Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 8:33:46 AM

I oppose First Wind's Bowers Mt. Industrial Wind Project, DP 4889, for many reasons.

It would be criminal to undermine the the tourism and recreational importance of the area so that intermittent power can be exported out of Maine. The ecological damage alone is enough to say "no" to Bowers Mt. This project will not reduce greenhouse gases, it will raise electric rates, and devastate property values. It is not an appropriate place to site an industrial wind project.

Natasha Mayers
538 Townhouse Rd.
Whitefield, Me. 04353

From: [Orloski, Mary](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: opposition to Bowers Mountain Wind Project
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 3:42:21 PM
Attachments: [ATT811528.txt](#)

I am opposed to wind power development in Maine. It is short-sighted, costs more than it yields, and will irretrievably degrade wilderness (a precious and limited resource). I am extremely opposed to noise in wilderness areas.

I am concerned about the effect of sonic frequencies on animals with hearing more acute than our own, and am unaware of good studies on that topic.

They may certainly have an adverse effect on migration, feeding and reproduction, undermining the health of the animals and New England ecosystem.

Maine should concentrate on tidal power, solar, energy conservation, and improving public transportation in it's population centers.

Thank you.

From: [Wendi Carlon-Wolfe](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Opposition to the Bowers Mt. wind project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 10:18:03 PM

Mr. Todd,

We are writing to tell you that WE DO NOT support the Bowers Mt. wind project and strongly urge you to vote to "deny" this application." We have spent the last 7 summers on Bottle Lake. We support the local economy during our extended stays. We travel to Maine to enjoy the unspoiled natural beauty - we urge you to vote no to the Bowers Mt. project and to protect this natural resource.

Sincerely,

Ken and Wendi Wolfe
1527 E. Walnut Road
Vineland, New Jersey 08332

12 Shoebox Lane
Lakeville, Maine

From: [Grazfam5](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Opposition to the Bowers Wind Project
Date: Saturday, July 02, 2011 6:56:07 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to express my concern and opposition to the Bowers Wind Project. The 428' turbines will definitely be visible from over a dozen pristine lakes and the lights will destroy the region's night sky and sense of remoteness. This entire region depends on tourism. The primary businesses are sporting lodges, fishing/hunting guides and wilderness canoe outfitters. The typical visitor comes from out of state and spends \$425/day specifically to enjoy a remote wilderness experience. They go to a lot of trouble to get here and unwind in the wilderness. If they see turbines on the horizon they will not return. These wind projects are remotely monitored and according to First Wind this project will create only three jobs. The turbines will deter return tourists putting local business owners out of business.

Please oppose the Bowers Wind Project in the interest of saving jobs and preserving this beautiful part of Maine.

Thank you,
Michelle Graziano

From: [Mike DeHart](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Please deny DP 4889 Bowers Mt. project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 9:18:15 PM

I am a 48 year old Virginia resident but I spend a lot of money coming to Maine every year so that my son can attend canoe camp (and so I can get away). I buy gas, lodging, food, gifts, camp equipment and everything else up there. I really won't spend the cash, and won't be telling my friends to (word of mouth got us there) if this lake is sporting a windmill. I can stay here in Virginia and enjoy the marred landscapes. Maine has so much going for it; my son wants us to buy a house there. He's bewildered why it should want to toss out its signature pristine flavor. I don't really know what to tell him.

Thanks for considering this critical choice.

Best regards...

Mike DeHart

From: [denise_hall](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Please deny DP 4889 the Bowers Mt. project
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 7:47:27 AM

I am a lover of Maine and am %100 against this project and urge the commissioners to DENY this development application both in terms of scenic impact, and from the potential negative financial impact that the scenic impact would create.

There have been numerous studies done that show most people do not want to recreate by industrial developments and will go elsewhere.

Please do the right thing for Maine, properly weigh First Wind's motivation for industrializing our mountains, and deny this project.

Thanks for listening,
Denise Hall
28 Blackbrook Road
Bryant Pond ME 04219

From: [Erika Lea](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Please deny DP 4889, the Bowers Mt. Project.
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2011 8:22:22 PM

Mr. Todd,

I am writing to urge you to deny DP 4889, the Bowers Mt. project.

I have been enjoying the St. Croix watershed since I was 4 months old, so that makes 34 years. Although I grew up in New Hampshire and now live in NYC, I have made a point of visiting Grand Lake Stream for every summer of my life. During rough times, it is THE place that I dream about to get me through. I gave birth to twins one year ago, and I am serious when I tell you that the westerly view from Munson Island, on West Grand Lake, was the image that I focused on through 24 hours of labor. The Bowers Mt. project would put 43 story-tall wind turbines on the very ridge that rises up in that view- the prospect of that is heartbreaking.

My extended family has enjoyed the watershed since the 1960's. Over the last 50 years, we have invited countless visitors to enjoy Maine's incredible natural beauty. Just last summer I brought five friends as guests. They have all come, hired guides, bought food and supplies in local stores, purchased fishing licenses, and then returned home to spread the word about the paradise they had experienced. They come for the peace and quiet and always remark how incredible it is that "a place like this still exists."

I strongly believe that the Bowers Mt. project would significantly alter the landscape of this special region to the extent that visitors would no longer make it a destination. Why would they fly from California or drive 10 hours from NYC to visit the largest industrial wind site in New England?

Please make the right choice. By preserving the wildness of this region you will also preserve the livelihood of those who earn their living in this area.

Thank you for your time,

Erika Lea
676 East 18th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11230

From: [Bob Weingarten](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Proposed Bowers Mt./Kossuth Township industrial wind project
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 8:07:48 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

Friends of the Boundary Mountains would like to express its opposition to DP 4889, the proposed Bowers Mt./Kossuth Township windpower project.

Having gone through the intervening process with Kibby and Sisk, we understand the political and corporate pressure on LURC to approve each and every windpower project, no matter the extent of the environmental damage being caused and the violations of LURC Chapter 10 standards and the CLUP thus entailed. I have heard the Commissioners say they are being forced to approve projects by the Expedited Wind Law against their better judgments.

But this is not legally correct and this outrageous regulatory behavior must cease! The cumulative damage being perpetuated on Maine's environment by the industrial sprawl of windpower is a high crime that is destroying our state. There is no better place for LURC to come to its senses and return to its mission than by denying DP 4889.

The Downeast Lakes Watershed is one of the largest undeveloped tracts of lakes in the United States. The Downeast Lakes region includes some two dozen lakes, many of which are connected by navigable waterways. This watershed includes more Class 1A and 1B lakes than anywhere else in Maine.

How can LURC possibly allow this treasure to be compromised by industrial windpower? We ask the LURC Commissioners to assume your mandated responsibility to protect the natural environment and existing uses of the jurisdiction and deny DP 4889.

Thank you,
Bob Weingarten
President
Friends of the Boundary Mountains

From: [Peter Fisher](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Public Comment Re DP4889
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:06:51 PM
Attachments: [Peters testimonyJune.doc](#)

To: Fredrick W. Todd, Project Planner and Land Use Regulation
Commission Members

From: Peter Fisher

Topic: Opposition to Champlain Wind, LLC's Bowers/Kossuth Industrial
Turbine Application

Public Comment for LURC Hearings on DP4889

Copy of oral comments given June 28th

I am a Maine resident and own property on Junior Lake. I don't work for H. C. Haynes, I don't work for First Wind, I have not received any donations from First Wind to any of my favorite groups or hobbies, First Wind has not agreed to pay for my camp road maintenance, they have not paid for a road race I participate in, I have not taken part in the First Wind funded annual snowmobile ride to the turbines for a free lunch, I will not shake Mr. Keily's hand following my comments, as did the lady from the Wilderness Canoe Camps, who had stated that she and her husband had lost the lease to the campground and boat landing on Pleasant Lake and who are most likely hoping to rent cabins and RV spaces to workers from the proposed Bowers project, and I don't even have the Girl Scout Wind Power merit badge sponsored by the industry.

I had previously owned a camp on Long Pond in Lincoln. The Rollins wind project now has visible turbines from that lake, along with the flashing red night lights and the ever present motion of rotating blades, forever canceling the peaceful stillness of that pond.

Now, the lake chain I am currently living on is threatened by yet another industrial wind project. The West Grand Lake watershed is a unique asset to the state of Maine. After truly experiencing this wonderful region, one would undeniably have to agree. Yet once the state has imposed convoluted terms to define and quantify the qualities of our Maine wildlands, we the common citizens are faced with the virtually insurmountable task of finding an argument for our plight that is allowable, pertinent and acceptable to the state's predefined definitions and parameters for what seems so obvious to our personal daily experiences.

In my opinion, the "cumulative effect", discussed extensively earlier today, is a reality. I experience it every time I drive from the Lincoln gazebo to the turn off from Route 6 in Springfield. With every turn and rise, one more shock of a new and altered environment is in view.

As Mr. Milligan stated today, "the region is becoming defined by the turbines".

Mr. Rafael replied earlier today, in response to a commissioner's question as to how many turbines are too many, "you'll know it when you see it".

Well, I've seen it and I know it! There are too many turbines in my daily travels. Please deny this permit request.

Respectfully, Peter Fisher

67 Deer Run

Lakeville, ME 04487

207/738-4175

From: [Evelyn N. Kalloch](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Re wind turbines
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 8:48:40 AM

I am totally against the installation of those turbines in the pristine wooded areas of Maine, disrupting life as we know it. It is also disruptive to animal and bird life, often killing them.

Besides destroying mountains and tree areas, you will find that the fishing camps and tourists will all be affected. Maine Tourism is one of our biggest features as well as hunting and fishing camps, along with snowmobile clubs.

The idea of putting them into the ocean as well is awful. Sea life and lobsters will be sorely affected causing a severe shortage seafood as well as destroying fishing livelihoods

The only ones gaining from all of this are the contractors, then they will be gone and we have those turbines left, operable or not.

I'm an ordinary senior citizen, native Mainer, done a number of things to make a living, including being a Realtor. I can see the damage being done via web sites and other means, as well as anticipating a reduction of home sales in those areas. Home owners will have no recourse!

Sincerely,

Evelyn N. Kalloch, Town of Cushing

Evelyn N. Kalloch
enkal@myfairpoint.net

From: [bud birmingham](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: RE: Bowers Mt. Wind Project
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 9:37:42 PM

My family strongly objects to any development of wind projects in the Bowers Mt. region. I am a resident of Lincoln, Me, where our beautiful mountain ridges have been destroyed by First Wind and their Rollins Mt. project. As lifelong citizens of Lincoln, who have always had a small, precious spot on Long Pond, *I am appalled that LURC would even consider the ruination of the Bowers Mt. area. Our wonderful, peaceful and beautiful mountain at Long Pond has been forever changed due to the monstrous wind turbines that have been erected. The tranquility that we have been accustomed to for all our lives, has been ruined. The night sky will never be the same, with the red blinking lights which draw your eyes to them. The majestic sight of unspoiled mountain ranges, will forever be gone, and never returned to what they once were. How the people of Maine have allowed this to happen is beyond comprehension. Maine will never be the same with turbines scattered on all of our mountain tops. The leaders of this state who have allowed this to happen, for only monetary gain, should be ashamed of themselves. We urge you to please stop the destruction of Bowers Mt. and deny the wind companies any access to this area. Thank you.*

Sincerely,

*George and Kristi Birmingham
35 Summers Way
Lincoln, ME 04457*

From: ngrland_tdstelme.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Re: Bowers Mt/First Windproject DP4889
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 12:33:59 PM
Attachments: [Bessey opposition to Bowers.doc](#)

July 9, 2011

LURC
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0022

Dear Mr. Todd,

As Maine citizens and former residents of Washington County, we would like to express our opposition to First Wind's Bowers Mountain project.

The Downeast Lakes region is already impacted by the Stetson I and Stetson II and Rollins wind projects. As you have seen, these developments are visible from miles away as one drives up Route 6. To place another industrial wind facility which would tower over Junior Lake, Scraggly Lake and others in this unique watershed would severely diminish the spectacular 'quality of place' that the region is famous for, and it stands to have an adverse effect on the traditional uses of these natural resources, as well.

We urge the Commissioners to deny First Wind a permit to build the Bowers project. There can be no mitigation, in this instance...one tower or two dozen—this is not an appropriate location for an industrial wind development.

Thank you.

Charles and Josephine Bessey
Kingfield, Maine

--

Narrow Gauge Realty
PO Box 457 396 Main Street
Kingfield, ME 04947
(207) 265-4949

From: [Eva Murdock](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Re: Champlain Wind Bowers Mt. project DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 11:09:14 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

In response to the invitation for public comment regarding Bowers Wind Project DP 4889, I submit the following as my testimony in **opposition** to this project. Many people have already expressed their reasons for opposing this development, and many of their reasons are mine as well. I would like to offer three points that I feel uniquely qualified to make.

1.

I grew up in Veazie, Maine. My family has a camp on Duck Lake that was built by my great-great grandfather around the turn of the century. I am now completing my PhD in biochemistry at the University of California, Santa Cruz. My goal is to return to Maine and raise my family there. I am not returning for the scientific opportunities in my field, which are sparse. I am returning in no small part because of my connection to Duck Lake.

This fact demonstrates that **the positive economic contributions of the Downeast Lakes region to the state of Maine go far beyond tourist dollars.** Maine, like many predominantly rural states, suffers from "brain drain." Maine's deficit of educated workers means that companies will choose not to bring their business here. The powerful connections between generations of Mainers and the places they love ultimately mean good business and economic growth for Maine. Maine's children will return and stay for the quality of life; that quality of life is being threatened by shortsighted developments like the proposed Bowers Mountain wind project.

2.

Every week, I hear news that supports the following hypothesis: an institution's disregard for science is correlated with its disregard for good, honest business practices. **Those who hold science in high regard hold truth in high regard.** I have listened to the audio transcripts of the public hearings that occurred in Lincoln on June 27 and 28, and I feel I have sufficient evidence to conclude that **First Wind does not demonstrate respect for science and its procedures, and therefore fails to earn my trust as a consumer and as a citizen.** For

example, when Mr. David Raphael of First Wind was asked by a representative of the Partnership for the Preservation of the Downeast Lakes Watershed whether a particular survey was biased or unbiased, Mr. Raphael answered that he had no basis for determining this. If I were going to use the results of a survey to make an argument, I would certainly want to know how that survey was conducted and whether it was done in a biased or unbiased way. This is not impressive science.

There were numerous examples of such failures. During the public hearings it became clear that insufficient studies regarding winter tracking of Canada lynx were performed. Also, part of First Wind's visual impact assessment document listed 24 resources as references yet did not cite any of these references or describe how they were used in the text of the document, demonstrating a lack of research integrity that would not fly in an undergraduate chemistry lab report, and additionally failing to demonstrate that the references were even read.

Yet in Mr. Raphael's pre-filed rebuttal testimony to LURC, he repeatedly complains that the Visual Quality and Scenic Character Impact Assessment report by Mr. Michael Lawrence fails to engage in an objective analysis. I do not have evidence that, with respect to the Bowers Mountain wind project, First Wind has practiced what Mr. Raphael is preaching. **The danger of careless science goes beyond harm to Canada lynx and snowshoe hare habitat. It is a warning sign of a corporation we should not trust.**

3.

New technological advancements are on the horizon for wind. Just this month, Dr. John Dabiri and his colleagues at the California Institute of Technology published research demonstrating that wind turbines can be shorter, more efficient, and occupy a smaller footprint of land. In fact, they found that "the power output of wind farms can be increased by an order of magnitude—at least tenfold—simply by optimizing the placement of turbines on a given plot of land" (Source: Caltech Media Relations Press Release, http://media.caltech.edu/press_releases/13430). The process of translating scientific research to practical, economical applications is painfully slow. In time, though, in order to stay profitable, wind companies will choose to employ the most efficient technology that is available. That means that wind farms built today will either be rendered obsolete and left standing still, or will be ripped up and rebuilt with new turbines, perhaps ad infinitum as technology continues to improve. Are we setting ourselves up to participate in a cycle of destruction and construction, every 25 years, forever?

The loss is too great. It is easier to give this land away than it will be to get it back when we recognize this mistake, and **it is a huge mistake.** Yes, there is a moral and ethical imperative for Maine and the United States to pursue clean energy solutions. But we cannot lose our hearts and souls in the process, and we must not sacrifice the places that sustain them.

Sincerely,

Eva Rose Murdock Balog

116 Cayuga Street

Santa Cruz, California 95062

(626) 485-3731

From: [DAP/GAK](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: RE: DP 4889 - Bowers Mtn Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 6:15:00 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to express my opposition to First Wind's proposed Bowers Mtn industrial wind project. The siting and scope of this industrial project in this first-class, scenic location is not only inappropriate, but an abomination to its unspoiled scenic quality and economic value to the State.

This scenic watershed, which includes the historic village of Grand Lake Stream, has been recognized and vigorously protected by the State of Maine for over a century. Additionally, the area is probably the single largest linked grouping of Class 1A and Class 1B rated lakes in the State, is unique in its history, its quality of place, and its value as a world renown fishery. Of the sixteen local lakes included in the study, LURC concluded that five of them deserve the highest rating of 1A and four were rated 1B.

I urge your continued protection of this valuable and irreplaceable resource. The "benefits" of industrial wind are highly disputable; the impacts are huge and destructive on many levels. Please protect this unique heart of Maine wilderness and vote NO to a development permit for First Wind and its industrial project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Grace Keown
227 Simpson Corner Rd.
Dixmont, ME 04932
207-234-2243

"Let us fight to free the world, to do away with national barriers, do away with greed, with hate and intolerance. Let us fight for a world of reason, a world where science and progress will lead to all men's happiness." Charlie Chaplin

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
M. Mead

From: [Elbert\(Butch\)Everett](mailto:Elbert(Butch)Everett)
To: mallen7035@fairpoint.net
Cc: Todd, Fred
Subject: Re: DP4889 Bowers Mt
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:32:23 AM

Well written piece, but should you have included specific, factual based data about the lies?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 5, 2011, at 9:21, "marvin nancy allen" <mallen7035@fairpoint.net> wrote:

> Mr. Todd,
> I am writing to inform you of my most strongest opposition to
> the Bowers Mountain wind project. I am a land and camp owner in
> Carroll Plantation and witnessed first hand the destruction of
> Stetson Mountain. I used to have a tree stand where turbine 32
> now sits. In the years since the desecration of Stetson took
> place, I can testify first hand to the incredible wildlife
> damage that has been done. I have seen a total of three grouse,
> two moose, and one deer total on countless trips on the
> mountain. Where these animals used to thrive, there is now
> nothing but erosion, noise, and desolation. The destruction of
> this mountain is nothing short of criminal. I know that the
> developers and their highly compensated spokespersons have done
> a great job of hiding the truth of these atrocities from your
> commission as well as the Maine people. They cannot be allowed
> to continue to destroy our heritage with their out of state,
> money driven lies and deception. I beg of you, please deny this
> application for further destruction of yet another giant piece
> of what Maine is supposed to be. Can you imagine What the late
> Governor Baxter would say if he could see what their greedy
> lies are doing to this state? I have hunted and fished rural
> Maine for four decades and am heart-broken to see what has
> happened to such a treasure as what Stetson Mountain used to
> be. Please join us in our fight to save what is left of our
> state.
>
> Regards,
> Marvin Allen
> 11 Stickney Terrace, Unit #39
> Hallowell, Maine 04347
> (207)622-3661
>

From: [Amanda Gural](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: re: DP4889/ Bowers Mtn.
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 7:04:01 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to let you know as a yearly visitor to Junior Lake I do not support the Bowers Mountain wind project and strongly urge you to vote to deny this application. My father Kevin Gurall is the president of the PPDW and to be honest when I first heard of the project my first reaction as someone who cares about the environment a great deal was that of support for the wind turbines. Then I started reading the information and the research and completely changed my mind. Not all wind projects are efficient, beneficial or helpful to environmental causes and the First Wind proposal is definitely NOT going to benefit the people or the wildlife of any of the surrounding areas. Wind power has a large impact on the areas where turbines are placed and it must be done with a great deal of responsibility and logic, neither of which are being applied in this situation.

Although I grew up in Portland, Maine as a child it was not until my parents relocated to Junior lake that I had really been able to experience the amazing beauty of northern Maine. We visit at least once a year with my children and have met many wonderful people whose businesses will be entirely ruined, their scenery marred and the wildlife negatively impacted by this project and it is heartbreaking. I often recommend the area to friends here in NYC for vacations, but I can guarantee if this project goes forward none of them would spend their money to look at turbines. This project is wrong for Maine and wrong for the environment, please vote to deny First Wind's application.

Thank you for your time.

Amanda Gurall
66-20 108th st
Apt 4a
Forest Hills, NY
11375

From: [Bobs](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Re: LURC
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011 1:04:04 PM

I think I made a mistake. I meant to say get rid of Those people trying to destroy our wilderness.-Sorry.

From: [Todd, Fred](#)
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2011 3:16 PM
To: [Bobs](#)
Subject: RE: LURC

Is this in regards to the Bowers wind project or the legislative proposal to dissolve LURC?

Frederick W. Todd, Project Planner
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
207-287-8786
fred.todd@maine.gov

From: Bobs [<mailto:dawnmist@roadrunner.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2011 3:12 PM
To: Todd, Fred
Subject: LURC

I am very much opposed to LURC and have been ever since this whole thing started. We should not allow anyone to destroy what we have in conservation. Thank you.

Marian F. McAleenan
11 Little Bear Lane
Rockport, ME 04856-4031

Tel. 207 594-0660

dawnmist@roadrunner.com

From: Todd, Fred
To: ["Mike"](#)
Subject: RE: TV_ Bowers Mtn./DP 4889
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:08:00 AM

The only non-public contact between FW and LURC is at the staff level. The only contact between FW and LURC Commissioners is as a group and in public settings like the hearing, a situation that Commissioners are routinely cautioned about.

Frederick W. Todd, Project Planner
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
207-287-8786
fred.todd@maine.gov

From: Mike [<mailto:zeus52@207me.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 9:41 PM
To: Todd, Fred
Subject: TV_ Bowers Mtn./DP 4889

The Channel 2 News interviewed Corrigan and Kiely tonight, with Kiely commenting that LURC sees no problems with the environment or wildlife issues. How is this? I thought nobody on LURC was allowed to voice their opinions, only take testimony so far. Am I mistaken, and has FirstWind been talking with LURC?

I see unreasonable impacts to the Downeast Lakes Watershed. If there are turbines visible I will go camping / fishing somewhere else. Industrial structures do not belong in a semi wilderness area. If we do not protect this area from development, what area would LURC see as worthy to save?

The impacts to the woods are unreasonable with the trans. lines and tree spraying excessive. None of that belongs in the DLW. For the tiny bit of power produced by a wind turbine, the env. footprint is just not worth it. When one looks at the REE mines in China and adds that to the wind turbine debit column, it becomes even more apparent that turbines do not fit in the DLW. The wind is free but everything else about wind turbines is costly.

I asked the FirstWind rep at Mattawamkeag about the Oakfield transmission lines. He was not very helpful and I got the impression he did not want to be bothered to explain his maps. He said they are in the same "corridor" as other lines. That is misleading to the general public. The trans. line will be doubled in width. A lot of people think the same corridor means the lines will be piggybacked, when it means the lines will travel side by side but the width will be doubled, and sprayed to prevent tree regrowth. That impact alone is unreasonable. When combined with all the other impacts, the Bowers project deserves to be denied. Maine should be encouraging tree regrowth to combat climate change, not cutting trees down and stopping regeneration. That was part of the Copenhagen summit on wind power, but it seems to have been forgotten. FirstWind wouldn't be interested in that, no money in it for them. It's all about the money to the developers, and they do not care anything about Maine or the citizens.

The Maine Wind Act which J. Browne keeps mentioning is a misguided pile of legislative offal which was rushed thru sneakily before anyone had a chance to debate it or investigate the pros and cons. To keep referring to that like it is the gospel is unprofessional and self serving by Mrs. Hinck/Browne. 52 legislators smartened up and we could have educated 22 or so more if given a little more time. The ones voting against doing anything to prevent problems like in Mars Hill, Freedom and V.Haven were negligent in their duties to serve the people of the State of Maine and really need to get up to speed about the false promises of wind power. Maine deserves better.

LURC needs to say no to the Bowers project. It is like buying a new Corvette, driving it around all day, but never taking it out of first gear. An expensive toy utilized at less than 20% efficiency. At least the Vette would be nice to look at and not spread for miles over a ridgeline 500 ft. in the air.

Mr. Lavery spoke at the hearing in Lincoln and admonished a speaker who hoped nobody had been bribed like in her home state of Illinois where it is common. Mr Lavery assured her that nobody had been bribed or paid off and that they all were working for free and did not take any money from anybody.

I hope that is true, but Mr Lavery was incorrect to claim something which he cannot prove. He may not know of any bribes. He may not believe anyone would accept money. Proving such an assumption is impossible, but it happened in Cohocton New York several times. Mysterious checks showed up in the mail or were placed in vehicles. There is no way to prove the bribes came from the wind developers. They could have been planted by the anti wind crowd to make it look like bribes from the wind predators. The point is one can never be sure regardless of which side one is on.

Everything about the Bowers windsprawl is unreasonable and inconsistent. The project should be denied and there should be no appeals or arguments.

Thank you.

Mike and Kim DiCenso
56 Taylor St.
Lincoln,ME 04457
207 794 2107

From: [jtalcott](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Ref: Bowers Mountain Wind project/DP4889
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:53:33 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

We are writing today in reference to the above project and would request that you deny the applicants request to build these wind towers. We believe that the construction of these industrial towers are not in the best interest of the people of the State of Maine nor are they in the best interest of local and out of state camp and property owners. Not only will they create a visual blight on the landscape they will also affect wildlife within the area with the clearing and leveling of the various mountain areas and road building that accompanies it and in general disrupt and harm wildlife indigenous to the area. Like "Mountain Top Mining" the ensuing runoff directly into our streams and lakes will be devastating to the aquatic wildlife and structure. The surrounding lake and forest areas are designated by the state as a watershed that should be preserved and cared for. How will this project help to insure this preservation continues? These areas support many small businesses and sporting services. If the area is damaged and fishing, hunting, and general outdoor activities suffer what will become of the local economy?

Most certainly we as camp and property owners will be affected as to our "quality of place". We own a small camp on Upper Sysladobsis Lake, Dobsi if you will, with our land running along the lake and up to and including the top of Bear Mountain, all totaled slightly less than one hundred acres.. We have planned on building a second smaller camp on top of Bear, nestled in the pines and surrounding woodlands, for the views and to perhaps house guests or simply to occupy on occasion when the windless nights get too hot. This will not happen if we are greeted with the sight of four hundred foot tall towers to our NE. In addition though not as important is the fact that if built and visible from Bear, our property values will decrease significantly. No one will be interested in a "vacation property" that overlooks an industrial wind complex. Our home state right now is New York. We had been coming to Maine for several years before we were able to find a camp and to save enough to purchase it. We came for "quality of place", and our hearts and minds are always in Maine living and working in New York is but a means to an end. When it is time and in the end you will find us in the mountains or on the lakes of Maine. Please do not let industrial greed and lack of forethought destroy this pristine space. We defer to your good judgement.

Yours truly,

James M. and Chae Talcott
James A., Jennifer, Jemma, and Kyler Talcott

83 Colonial Street, East Northport, New York 11731

Sys Road, Lakeville, Maine 04487

516 398-6280

From: [Tricia and Eric Hanson](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: review of the application for the Bowers Mountain project
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 2:24:02 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

Re: DP-4889 Bowers Mountain Wind Project Application

I have followed the proposed wind turbine project on Bowers Mountain (DP-4889) with some concern. My wife and I have canoed the area of Junior, Keg and Bottle lakes. I think it is not wise to place 20+ wind turbines within the scenic view of this pristine area. We currently live in Portland, Oregon and now watch the view disfigured for the National scenic area of the Columbia gorge. Here the wind turbines are outside the scenic area but now they are quite visible from the scenic area itself. Future permitting in the area has now become hotly contested.

I think you do your home state of Maine a disservice by placing these power generation towers in sight of one of your as yet relatively quite and peaceful locations. I am not familiar with the criteria that you must consider. I am writing to you to let you know that we are out-of-state tourists who appreciate the back woods nature of rural Maine where it is still relatively undisturbed. This general basis is beautiful. Don't mess it up. We would like to return.

Sincerely,

Eric Hanson
3139 SW Altadena Terrace
Portland, Oregon 97239

From: [Patricia](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Subject: Oppose Bowers Mountain Wind Turbines DP4889
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 7:52:42 PM

Subject: Oppose Bowers Mountain Wind Turbines DP4889

I have visited the Bottle Lake and the Down East Lakes region for many years and I am OPPOSED to the Industrial Wind Turbines.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Suda

25100 Sandhill Blvd., X-102

Punta Gorda, Florida 33983

From: dmahar@cox.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Testimony from LURC Hearing in Lincoln, ME on 6/26/11
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 11:21:16 AM
Attachments: [Testimony Before LURC on June 26.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Todd:

Please find attached a written version of my testimony to LURC on June 26, 2011 regarding the proposed Bowers Mt. wind power complex. Please make sure it becomes part of the public record. Many thanks.

Regards,

Dennis Mahar

Testimony Before LURC on June 26, 2011 in Lincoln, ME Regarding a Proposed
Wind Power Complex in Bowers Mountain/Kossuth Township

Honorable Commissioners:

My name is Dennis Mahar and I am a seasonal resident of Lincoln, Maine where I own a camp on Long Pond. In the winter months I live in Gainesville, Florida where I teach economics at the University of Florida. I am also a Senior Fellow at the Public Utility Research Center at the same university. Though I currently work in an institution of higher learning, I am definitely not an “ivory tower” academic with little practical experience in the real world. In fact, before moving to Florida, I lived in Washington, DC for 25 years and worked for the World Bank, by far the world’s largest development finance institution. While at the World Bank I served, among other things, as the Chief of the Environmental Analysis Division for the Western Hemisphere as well as the Chief of Training in the area of natural resources and the environment, worldwide.

Over the years I have helped design, supervise and evaluate well over 100 development projects in many sectors and in many parts of the world. The total investment represented by these projects was in the range of 4-5 billion dollars. Based on my many years of work experience, I have a strong gut feeling that the siting of industrial wind power projects along the spine of central and northern Maine does not seem to be such a good idea. Regarding the First Wind project recently installed in the Lincoln area, my personal observations lead me to believe that the developer has consistently understated the project’s costs and greatly overstated its benefits. (I should point out, however, that such a distortion of the facts is not uncommon when firms are seeking financial and political support for their proposed investments).

Speaking as a landowner in Lincoln, I feel that the Rollins Mountain wind power project has come with high costs to me personally with few benefits that I can see. For example, I have (or used to have) an exceedingly beautiful view from the dock located in front of my cabin. Indeed, the town of Lincoln website still uses a pre-2011 photo taken from my property to illustrate why people should come to enjoy our (formerly) magnificent 13 lakes and to spend their tourist dollars. When I arrived at my camp earlier this month I was shocked and dismayed to discover that eleven giant, unsightly wind turbines erected on a nearby ridge had completely spoiled the view from my dock. This major degradation of the natural environment has greatly reduced the feeling of contentment and well-being that I have always felt in the Maine woods. Moreover, my training in economics tells me that this marked deterioration of the viewscape has substantially reduced the market value of my property. First Wind continues to allege that the visual presence of wind turbines does not lower property values, but no one really believes that, do they?

Last winter term, I had wanted to explore the economics of wind power development in Maine with my students at the University of Florida. In order to gather some background material I sent a cordial letter (on U of F letterhead) to First Wind offices in Boston requesting

general information on the methodology they used to calculate project costs and benefits. (I did not ask for any proprietary or confidential data). Not only did First Wind not answer my letter but they did not even acknowledge receiving it. This was a rude and un-businesslike thing for them to do, but it started me to thinking that maybe First Wind had something to hide. In my view, it is high time to shed a very bright light on the subject of wind power development so that residents of Maine, both permanent and seasonal, can know its true costs and benefits. This knowledge would allow Maine policymakers to make **fact-based** decisions on the future of wind development in the state rather than basing their decisions on the distorted **non-fact based** claims of the developers.

To conclude, I would like to make what I consider to be a reasonable and practical recommendation. It is this: LURC should immediately commission a comprehensive study of the **actual** (as opposed to the **projected**) costs and benefits of the Lincoln area wind power project. Ideally such a study should be carried out by an independent team, perhaps drawn from the faculty of the University of Maine system. In my view it is unwise, and even reckless, for LURC to continue to approve large, new wind power projects in the state before we know the actual results of similar projects already approved and under implementation. Carrying out independent technical evaluations of existing projects before moving on to new ones is internationally accepted good practice, endorsed by just about every major government or non-government organization that I am acquainted with. This should also become a routine practice in Maine. We **must learn** from our mistakes so as not to repeat them. The **only** things that we should replicate are our successes. Has wind power development in the rural areas of central and northern Maine been a success? We really don't know yet. It is imperative that we find out soon before any more damage is done.

I would like to thank the Commissioners for giving me the opportunity to speak and express my views. If you should find my recommendation to be acceptable, I would be happy to offer my services as an unpaid advisor to the proposed study team.

Dennis J. Mahar, Ph.D.
Lincoln, Maine

From: psalm1_tds.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: the Bowers Mountain Wind project
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 1:13:55 PM

July 7, 2011

Frederick W. Todd, Project Planner
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to tell you that I DO NOT support the Bowers Wind project (DB 4889) and strongly urge you to vote to deny this application. This is not an appropriate site for an industrial wind project. If this project is approved it will mean that Maine does not value its own precious natural resources in the form of scenic vistas, high quality lakes and wilderness areas, and ultimately, vacation revenues.

If this project passes, you also will have demonstrated that LURC does not value the health and welfare of its citizens who will be exposed to sound pollution and light flicker, which has been shown to cause neurological and psychological problems. (Just reference the health consequences at Mars Hill.)

Developing this area in industrial wind will make a mockery of the slogan, "Maine, The Way Life Should Be." I believe that there is ample evidence now of the devastation that industrial wind has brought to other areas of Maine. Last but not least, this project relies on stimulus dollars and is not economically sustainable. From my perspective as a tax-paying citizen of Maine, this entire project, when viewed from every angle, is a complete sham. I urge you to vote NO.

Sincerely,

Sara Alexander
280 Marcho Rd.
Etna, ME 04434

From: [George Gooley](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: To LURC re: Bowers Mtn Project
Date: Monday, July 11, 2011 11:21:06 AM

Hi Fred,

Please consider my thoughts when making a decision on allowing huge wind turbines to be placed on Maine soil. While I was first in support of wind turbines, I have since given this topic more thought & am opposed to putting them on our landscape.

Not too many years ago I believe the state hired an independent non-biased consulting company to give us insight into how to grow our Maine economy. The results were so obvious: Leverage your unique (wilderness) experience. Maine is a place that is scenic & peaceful. Every time we consider billboards, casinos, wind turbines, development around lakes, recruiting non-environmentally companies, etc, we are considering eroding these unique qualities. I believe if decisions are made looking 100yrs down the road, Maine will become an even more unique place, attracting even more tourist dollars.

It takes strong leadership, bold views, an ability to overlook short-term financial gains to make such decisions. I just ask, 'Why not put the question to the consulting firm that generated the report on how to enhance Maine's economic future?' Has this been done?

Thanks,
George Gooley
South Portland
cell 233-2755

From: [Robert Goldman](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: To LURC, RE: Grand Lakes desecration
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 2:12:35 PM

Dear LURC Commissioners,
Like many of my fellow Mainers, I've learned alot the past couple of years about the very destructive and brutal reality of inappropriately placing massive industrial wind turbines in the mountains of Maine.

The more I've learned and witnessed with my own eyes and ears, the more I've been moved to step forward and speak up for the Maine I love.

The majestic natural beauty of Maine has been protected and enjoyed by generations of lucky Mainers and numerous, appreciative visitors from away. But that fragile beauty can actually be destroyed or so altered that it is no longer what many have loved about Maine, lived here to enjoy and spent precious time and money to visit.

No modest amount of very temporary jobs is worth the massive ecological harm and the other huge costs and risks, of permanently desecrating Maine's magical Downeast Lakes Watershed by massive industrial wind turbine development.

The damage to the region's amazing ecology and wildlife is far too extreme to allow, the physical and emotional assault against our fellow Mainers who live in the area is simply not acceptable and the massive risk to our historic and irreplaceable visitor- based economy is both crazy and irresponsible.

You have the authority to reject this extremely inappropriate Bowers Mountain/Kossuth Township project. These projects were supposed to be sited "where appropriate" ... this project is the opposite of appropriately sited.

I am asking you to exercise your authority on behalf of all of Maine and for the benefit of all Mainers now and those to come and reject this terribly inappropriate and destructive project.

Sincerely,
Bob Goldman
South Portland

PO Box 982
Portland, ME 04104

Phone: 207-831-5929

From: [Mike](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: TV_ Bowers Mtn./DP 4889
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 1:56:45 AM

The Channel 2 News interviewed Corrigan and Kiely tonight, with Kiely commenting that LURC sees no problems with the environment or wildlife issues. How is this? I thought nobody on LURC was allowed to voice their opinions, only take testimony so far. Am I mistaken, and has FirstWind been talking with LURC?

I see unreasonable impacts to the Downeast Lakes Watershed. If there are turbines visible I will go camping / fishing somewhere else. Industrial structures do not belong in a semi wilderness area. If we do not protect this area from development, what area would LURC see as worthy to save?

The impacts to the woods are unreasonable with the trans. lines and tree spraying excessive. None of that belongs in the DLW. For the tiny bit of power produced by a wind turbine, the env. footprint is just not worth it. When one looks at the REE mines in China and adds that to the wind turbine debit column, it becomes even more apparent that turbines do not fit in the DLW. The wind is free but everything else about wind turbines is costly.

I asked the FirstWind rep at Mattawamkeag about the Oakfield transmission lines. He was not very helpful and I got the impression he did not want to be bothered to explain his maps. He said they are in the same "corridor" as other lines. That is misleading to the general public. The trans. line will be doubled in width. A lot of people think the same corridor means the lines will be piggybacked, when it means the lines will travel side by side but the width will be doubled, and sprayed to prevent tree regrowth. That impact alone is unreasonable. When combined with all the other impacts, the Bowers project deserves to be denied. Maine should be encouraging tree regrowth to combat climate change, not cutting trees down and stopping regeneration. That was part of the Copenhagen summit on wind power, but it seems to have been forgotten. FirstWind wouldn't be interested in that, no money in it for them. It's all about the money to the developers, and they do not care anything about Maine or the citizens.

The Maine Wind Act which J. Browne keeps mentioning is a misguided pile of legislative offal which was rushed thru sneakily before anyone had a chance to debate it or investigate the pros and cons. To keep referring to that like it is the gospel is unprofessional and self serving by Mrs. Hinck/Browne. 52 legislators smartened up and we could have educated 22 or so more if given a little more time. The ones voting against doing anything to prevent problems like in Mars Hill, Freedom and V.Haven were negligent in their duties to serve the people of the State of Maine and really need to get up to speed about the false promises of wind power. Maine deserves better.

LURC needs to say no to the Bowers project. It is like buying a new Corvette, driving it around all day, but never taking it out of first gear. An expensive toy utilized at less than 20% efficiency. At least the Vette would be nice to look at and not spread for miles over a ridgeline 500 ft. in the air.

Mr. Laverty spoke at the hearing in Lincoln and admonished a speaker who hoped nobody had been bribed like in her home state of Illinois where it is common. Mr Laverty assured her that nobody had been bribed or paid off and that they all were working for free and did not take any money from anybody.

I hope that is true, but Mr Laverty was incorrect to claim something which he cannot prove. He may not know of any bribes. He may not believe anyone would accept money. Proving such an assumption is impossible, but it happened in Cohocton New York several times. Mysterious checks showed up in the mail or were placed in vehicles. There is no way to prove the bribes came from the wind developers. They could have been planted by the anti wind crowd to make it look like bribes from the wind predators. The point is one can never be sure regardless of which side one is on.

Everything about the Bowers windsprawl is unreasonable and inconsistent. The project should be denied and there should be no appeals or arguments.

Thank you.

Mike and Kim DiCenso
56 Taylor St.
Lincoln, ME 04457

207 794 2107

From: l.hart@qwi.net
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: URGENT: Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 10:09:19 AM

July 12, 2011

To: LURC commissioners
c/o Fred Todd : fred.todd@maine.gov

I am writing to oppose First Wind's Bowers Mountain Industrial Wind Project/ DP 4889. LURC has rated the dozen lakes that this wind project will (at 43 stories tall) overshadow, Class 1A and 1B for their "statewide or national significance". The damage caused to wildlife would be catastrophic affecting thousands of animals. This is an important bird and bat migratory route and nesting area for bald eagles, herons and ospreys. There would also be irreversible damage to soils and hydrological flows producing a vast negative impact on the Downeast Lakes Watershed which has for more than a century been a mecca for all manner of outdoors enthusiasts.

I am against a project that is subsidized by our tax dollars and creates horrendous destruction to the largest remaining wild lakes region in the lower 48 states.

Please tell LURC **NOT** to approve DP 4889 and **stop this assault** on Maine's most precious watershed and National treasure.

Thank you,

Louisa Hart
9 Jordan Avenue
Brunswick, ME. 04011

From: [dan mckay](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: What is Maine have that others love
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 7:34:50 PM

How can anyone who has spent any time in Maine conjure up an idea of transforming the top of the state's mountains into a place for giant industrial generators ?. This is embarrassing to us who have worked diligently to clean up our environment for the past 40 years. From this resolve, We have come to see our state for it's beauty , shining forth through the lakes, streams, shorelines and, yes, our mountains too.

Is this the right course for Maine ? Do wind machines really fit here ? We have recovered our rivers from industrial and municipal pollution . We have cleaned our soil of hazardous chemicals. Our environmental conscious is alert now , thanks to these great accomplishments. Never did we expect to see the day our mountains would be forsaken for others to gain an advantage needlessly deserved.

Please take the time to think about where we are as a state, our visions as we move forward, our goals which sets us apart from other states and our people who radiate with pride knowing our pristine scenery is the envy of many not so lucky to be here.

From: [Ashley](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Wind Farm NONONONO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 1:33:51 PM



Please LURC do your job and protect the woods and Lakes of Maine from windmill development. People go to their camps and out to the lake to get away from development. We want to be able to see the stars and the mountains. Not hear the Whoosh- Whossh of giant windmills and get headaches from the stobe-light effect. It is not fair that these big companies ruin the lakes and woods for everyone. We do not want development on these precious things. This is a "gateway" to other development on this beautiful Lakes. This will ruin the lakes and woods and depreciate values of camps and land. Is the windmill company going to pay for that? How can you put a price on peaceful starry nights or undisturbed mossy forests? They must not do this! Soon they will want a windfarm on every mountain and every lake. Put the windmills in the ocean. We have oil wells out there!! At least windmills will not leak if they get damaged. I say No NO NO development on these precious and rare natural resources. Do your job and PROTECT THE WOODS!!!!

Sincerely, Ashley Holmes



From: [Andy Cadot](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Wind Project, Bowers Mt./DP 4889
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 9:11:45 AM

LURC
c/o Fred Todd
22 State House Station,
Augusta, ME04333-0022

Dear Mr. Todd:

I write in opposition to First Wind's Bowers Mountain Industrial Wind Project, Bowers Mt./DP 4889. As you know, this project submitted by First Wind proposes 27 forty-three story tall turbines, spread out over 4.5 miles of mountain tops and ridge-lines, that will directly overshadow one of Maine's most precious watersheds.

Proposed to be built at the very head of the watershed, this project would directly impact more than a dozen lakes, many of which are LURC rated Class 1A and 1B for their "statewide or national significance" and, if approved, will have an irreparable and permanent impact on the traditional tourism based businesses that require the scenic splendor and wilderness characteristics that the area currently enjoys.

The Downeast Lakes Watershed is a system of over 13 lakes interconnected by navigable waterways and has been attracting outdoors enthusiasts for over a century. The waters are clean, the forests plentiful, and manmade intrusions have been kept to a minimum. This makes the area a mecca for photography, canoeing, kayaking, boating, hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, skiing, ice-fishing, snowmobiling, etc. The guestbooks of the local sporting camps are full of names from all over the US and the world.

At the foot of the watershed lies the village of Grand Lake Stream, world renowned for its fishing and the century-old salmon hatchery that provides landlocked salmon to the rest of the State. This region is home to the largest number of fulltime professional guides in Maine as well as the State's greatest concentration of Class 1A and 1B lakes. Other than some timber harvesting, this region is almost 100% directly or indirectly dependent on the year-round outdoor-recreation economy.

I oppose this permit for the following reasons:

1. The visual impact will be large and will harm the unique local economy.
2. At 428' tall, these turbines will be the tallest in the State, and their flashing lights will be visible for approximately 20 miles across the lakes.
3. This is an important bird and bat migratory route and nesting area for bald eagles, herons and ospreys; unacceptable bird and bat mortality will result from these turbines. In addition, the effect of the turbine sound traveling down the slope and across these large bodies of water has not been adequately studied.
4. The value of property in the region is closely tied to its natural environment. These turbines will cause devaluation of property values.
5. The cumulative impact of the existing Stetson I, Stetson II and Rollins projects is already considerable.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

/s/ Andrew A. Cadot

Andrew A. Cadot

73 Calf Point

Roque Bluffs, ME 04654

From: [Michael Cartier](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Wind Project
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 8:08:21 AM

Hi Fred my name is Michael Cartier & I live at 559 Lakeville shores in Lakeville Me. , I am requesting that you vote NOT to pass the Bowers Mt.DP4889 wind project , I live on Junior lake & I feel this would really be very much out of character for this pristine area that we live in , if you would do this for me it would be very much appreciated ,

Thank You,

Michael Cartier

From: [scorpminx](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Wind Towers, Bowers & anywhere else in Maine
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2011 2:21:21 AM

Hello,

I am a native Mainer. I treasure this wonderful rural State, with the undeveloped woods, the rolling hills, the wide open pastures. I love all of nature's living creatures, the deer, moose, bear, the rabbits, the Eagles, hawk and other raptors.

I raised my daughter here after traveling to the other States in our country. It has been unspoiled by industrialization, aside from the pulp and paper industry. These were scattered in far flung areas of our huge State and they gave jobs to local people. They were made to clean up some environmental issues over the years. That was a good thing.

Now, huge companies from away, (out of State) have infiltrated and are rough cutting our woodlands, blasting mountaintops away and putting up 400 ft.+ industrial wind turbines. They have decimated large areas of beautiful countryside, the Maine my Grandparents called "God's Country." Peoples quality of place and lives are being blasted away and with it, all our special treasures. We have the deepest woodlands East of the Mississippi. Why are we destroying this to provide power to other States, south of us? Does their hunger for power know no bounds? Must we destroy this last vestige of beautiful, natural, hills and valleys, historic sites of early settlers (Rocky Dundee in Lincoln) disturb the peace and security of the many wild animals who have, heretofore, had a safe haven here? We, the people of Maine, feel our State is being robbed from us and raped of its natural beauty by these industrial developers!

I beg of you, do everything you can to listen to the REAL PEOPLE of Maine. Not the businessmen and contractors, who stand to make millions from this industrial build up. Please listen closely, as we are growing in numbers, and speaking more loudly. We don't want anymore of our home State destroyed to benefit huge power consuming cities in other states. Let us be. Maine people, Maine animals and Maine's hills, ridges and elevations which now give all who come to visit our special state, beautiful vistas, clear views of the night stars, aurora borealis in the colder months.

It is all so very precious! Please stop this insanity!! LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE who are speaking on behalf of all our animal friends, who live in these woodlands they are eviscerating, we are speaking out for blessed mother nature, who depends on us to protect her.

Thank-you for reading this.

I hope you will help end this desecration of the State of Maine.

Thank-you very much,
Elaine Goodwin

From: [Bill and Flo Suda](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: wind turbines
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 8:01:18 AM

hi fred

i have visited bottle lake many times in the past and do not wish to see at any time these wind turbines destroy the natural beauty of the god given county side at any time in the near future

w,e,s.

From: [Bev Olean](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [sue /lee whitely](#)
Subject: Wind turbines
Date: Saturday, July 09, 2011 5:18:01 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing in opposition to any more wind turbines being installed anywhere in Maine. I do not know how anyone can support these hideous looking eyesores being added to our absolutely beautiful scenery. I was on the Gaspé Peninsula in Canada last summer and saw how huge numbers of wind turbines on mountains and along mountain ridges can absolutely destroy the natural beauty of a previously scenic area. We do not need the additional electricity in Maine at this time, and we do not need to destroy the beauty of Maine's hilltops, mountain tops, and ridges by constructing wind turbines in many of the most beautiful areas of our unique state. Many, many people come to our state to enjoy the wilderness and the scenery, and thus many jobs are dependent on these visitors. I truly believe that these jobs will be threatened if we destroy the beauty that the visitors seek.

Please do what you can to prevent any more wind turbines from being built in Maine.

Most sincerely,

Beverly Olean
Lebanon, Maine

From: [Ellie Augur](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [Governor](#)
Subject: Wind Turbines
Date: Friday, July 15, 2011 8:38:40 AM

Eleanor Augur
148 Hollister Way South
Glastonbury, CT 06033

I'm writing to oppose the wind turbine project. Myself and my family are recreational users of Junior and surrounding lakes. We range in age from 13 to 73. It's a joy to have this area for the exploration of nature and to paddle. I'm a supporter of the scenic, wilderness character of this area.

The town I live in, Glastonbury, CT has worked hard and long in preserving such areas. We are seeing the benefits as more land is being put aside. I am against this project, am familiar with the ripple effects of such development and beg that the commissioners deny this development application.

From: [jtalcott](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Windmills
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2011 11:12:43 AM

Dear Mr. Todd,

My name is Kyler Desantis and I am eight years old. My grandma Chae Talcott is helping me type this letter to you. My Ma and Hon own a camp in Lakeville on Dobsis Lake and the property goes all the way up to the very top of Bear Mountain. When we go to the top we can see very far and all the lakes and mountains and places that we visit when we go ATViing and fishing. We fish with our canoes and kayaks in Dobsis, Big Dobsis, Junior, and Bottle Lakes. We have visited and canoed many other lakes and streams in this area and have fished some too. In winter we come up and snow mobile or ATV if there is no snow and sometimes we fish in the lakes thru the ice. In the Warm weather it is very green and beautiful and in the winter usually gray until snow then it is all white and beautiful and clean. If they build the windmills all this will change. The giant towers will look like New York and my Hon believes the bad water from under the towers and from all the trees being cut down will kill the fish and plants in the lakes we fish and canoe. Where will the deer and moose and all the other birds and animals go, they will have no home. I see the towers in Lincoln over the lake when we go thru on our way to our place, they ruined the beauty that was once there. I don't want this to happen here at our place or any other place in Maine. I have been coming here since I was very little, since I don't even remember and I love it like it is. Please don't let them spoil this place, it is like no other place on earth.

Yours truly,

Kyler

Kyler Talcott Desantis

James and Chae Talcott
83 Colonial Street
East Northport, New York 11731
516 398-6280

From: [Mayberry, Martha](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Windmills/LURC
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2011 2:05:19 PM
Attachments: [ATT907186.txt](#)

Dear Mr. Todd:

I want to tell you what I think of the proposed windmills at Bowers Mt. While I'm all for wind and solar power in general, I am against the proposed windmill project at Bowers Mt.

I feel that this project will not ultimately benefit Maine or the Maine people and I do not believe that we will see any profit or return within our State from this project. The only benefits will be seen by LURC. They will bring some money in during construction, but any profits will go to LURC and will not be shared with those of us who will remain behind with the whirling fans above our heads.

My husband, who is a master electrician, and I looked extensively into installing wind at our home for personal power generation. My husband is quite handy, has built a functioning solar panel, and looked in to wind as a solution to our rising electrical and heating bills.

The bottom line is that wind is not cost efficient. Wind power is costly to build and is subject to frequent breakdown. We found that it would take approx. 25 years to break even with wind. So, I can only conclude that Maine will never see an economic benefit from the proposed wind power installation, we will not see a reduction in our electrical rates from it, and it will generate few or no ongoing jobs for Maine.

Let's find a better solution for Maine; one that brings sustainable financial impact and jobs to our lovely State. How about solar? Take a look at the solar array near Burlington, VT or plunk an array on top of Walmart – I'd support something like that!

Martha Mayberry, CCRN

From: [Kris LaRouche](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers / Dill Mountain Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 3:10:04 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing this email in strong opposition for the proposed First Wind project on Bowers & Dill Mountain located in Kossuth Township & Carroll Plantation (proposed project). I will start by stating that my family's heritage goes back over 100 years within the proposed territories. We have vacationed in the area as children and now continue the tradition with our own children passing on all that the area has to offer: "The Way Life Should Be." I am also a Power Engineer and understand the need for clean energy which is necessary to preserve both the environment and our current way of life. In fact, I have applied to work for First Wind and some day hope to get involved with Wind Power exclusively. That being said, I have several points that I feel should be considered by LURC in making your decision. I have listed them in order of those that I feel the strongest about regarding why I do not believe the proposed project should be approved.

- Stetson & Rollins- these sites as you know are currently in operation and are within a very small radius given the size of the entire State of Maine. LURC has already approved these projects therefore nearly overloading this particular area with Wind Turbines that absolutely take away from the natural beauty of the land. Understanding how money and politics influence the world we live in makes it very clear in my mind that this area has been chosen due to a lack of both. (Ex. Why are we not discussing proposed wind farms in either Greenville and/or the Sebago Lakes Region?)
- Bowers / Dill Environmental Benefit- Forgive me if I am not entirely correct but my understanding is that the proposed project includes 27 GE Wind Turbines rated at 1.5 MW's each (40.5 MW's). A very small impact given the fact that the overall production is 1/3 what is listed on the project nameplate (13.5 MW's). I do understand that this # will grow during Phase II as it has on most of the other wind projects in Maine. A strategic business move that is all about business and making money which is what First Wind is in it for, let's not forget that.
- Future- offshore wind is the answer. 13.5 MW's is only a tiny fraction of future Wind generation and what it will someday be. Why force more wind generation on an area that is already at it's maximum per given sq. mile, especially when the answer is offshore wind not to mention other options such as tidal and/or solar in other areas of the country.
- Change- the project will change the landscape & will absolutely take away from the natural beauty that currently exists within the proposed project area. As I drive to my camp I am now drawn to the wind turbines along the way rather than natural landscape itself. I am now faced with the same not only driving to my camp but also every time we sit on our dock, boat between the miles of interconnected lakes, fish both open water as well as out on the ice, snowmobile the local trails, and everything other outdoor activity we have done over the years will now be impacted.
- Wind Mill Construction- as a waterfront landowner we are held to very stringent LURC regulations. If approved the overall construction required to install the wind mills & the impact on the environment seems a bit hypocritical and somewhat reckless given the number of turbines already installed within a 50 mile radius. Why hasn't First Wind pushed to build a Wind Farm in Western Massachusetts? Which I'm sure given the similar landscape has equivalent potential.

As I have mentioned I am for Wind as an alternative green energy source, just not this project given the number of units already installed within the area. I appreciate your consideration regarding this

delicate issue.

Kris Larouche
207-453-8182

From: [Ron Cheney](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 3:10:10 PM
Attachments: [wind_mill.doc](#)

Ronald R. Cheney
1244 Sanford Rd.
Wells ME 04090

State of Maine
Land Use Regulation Commission
Mr. Fredrick W. Todd
Project Manager
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Champlain Wind Bowers Mt. project
DP 4889

Dear Mr. Todd,

My name is Ron Cheney, I live in Wells Me. although I do not own property anywhere near Bowers Mt. I have been going to that area two to three times a year for over 40 years. My family and I have tried many other parts of Maine for our vacation (Moosehead, Rangely and others) we have never found the peace and solitude of the absolute wilderness of the GLS, Junior Lake area. In fact it is the only place my family has gone for our summer vacation for over 20 years. I know many other non-locals feel the same way as I have just returned from GLS and see the same people from Pa. NY. Etc. every year. I think the person that said it best is Randy Spencer, a GLS guide in his book Where Cold Waters Run in the Epilog. I suggest you read just those few pages to learn how most people feel about the area. I think that to put up wind towers 400 ft. tall will ruin the wild feel of this wilderness forever.

Ron and Deborah Cheney

From: [roger zimmerman](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: First Wind: Bower Mt.project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 1:43:40 PM

I am writing regarding First Wind's Bower's Mountain proposed wind project-DP 4889. I urge you NOT to approve this project. The Downeast Lakes Watershed is one of the largest relatively wild and pristine lakes regions E.of the Mississippi. It is, in fact, one of the last and largest lakes regions in the lower 48. There is nothing like it in the other N. New England states, and even the Adirondacks has nothing to compare this area with. I would like you and all members of LURC to realize that the site selected for this project is totally inappropriate. This project does little more than continue a trend of keeping us out of balance with nature.

I write as a Maine citizen and as a Registered Maine Guide. Tourism and recreational opportunities have become Maine's signature calling card at this point. As a guide, I know quite well that folks 'from away' are not coming to canoe a lake at dusk, with perhaps the call of a loon off in the distance, to stare at lights blazing from the top of industrial wind towers. The outdoor experience is significantly damaged. So what? The 'so what' is that we have precious little left of relatively wild land offering this type of experience-an experience that can be one of renewal and re-creation.

Are there other problems associated with this type of development, and this one in particular? Yes, and all give rise to negative impact:

- 1). Ecological damage. This project requires the development of infrastructure in order for the towers to be built. Associated damage cannot be mitigated in this type of setting. Blasting, road building, noise, effects on wildlife migratory patterns, e.g. bats (now struggling with a serious virus, hence further damage can be expected). The list could go on.
- 2). Traditional sporting camps may suffer business loss, at a time when some may be struggling as it is.
- 3). Property values are likely to plummet, with attendant consequences to the local tax base.
- 4). The project, while enriching the developers, does absolutely nothing regarding permanent positive effects for Maine. Familiarity with Maine's electrical requirements suggest we simply don't need the power. Hence, it will be exported out of state. How does that help average Maine citizens, and/or the state in general? It doesn't. Then for whose benefit is this project intended?
- 5). The effect on greenhouse gas emissions is negligible, and likely offset by the destruction of CO2 absorbing vegetation. That destruction occurs with mountain top degradation, which appears to be integral to this project.

I have concluded that this project has no redeeming value, is inappropriately sited, and detracts from this area's natural value, rather than enhancing it. In a word, the project is wrong. The area should be let alone, in keeping with higher value principles of conservation. It should also be let alone in keeping with LURC's primary responsibilities of appropriate planning and true land stewardship.

Please: do not approve this project.

I would appreciate it if this E mail/communication were read at any public meeting, as I may not be able to attend such in person.

Sincerely,

Roger S. Zimmerman, Ph.D.

2206 Intervale Rd.

Bethel, Maine 04217 824-3763 E: zimozimmy@yahoo.com

From: [David Wilson](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:43:13 PM

I am against the Bowers Mountain wind project DP 4889 and am urging you to vote "NO" against the project. Not only am I concerned about the scenic impact that this project entails but I am also concerned about the expected property value loss.

Thank you,
David Wilson
379 Bow Lane
Middletown, CT 06457

From: [John Dieffenbacher-Krall](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission letter on Bowers Wind Project, Penobscot & Washington Counties, Maine
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 1:55:08 PM
Attachments: [2011-7-18 LURC letter p1 001.jpg](#)
[2011-7-18 LURC letter p2 001.jpg](#)

Dear Mr. Todd,

Please incorporate the attached letter as an official part of the record in the pending application review for the Bowers Wind Project. I would appreciate acknowledgement that you have received this letter. Thank you.

John Dieffenbacher-Krall
Executive Director
Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission (MITSC)
P.O. Box 241
Stillwater, Maine 04489
USA
(207) 817-3799
mitsced@roadrunner.com
www.mitsc.org



Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission

July 18, 2011

Jamie Bissonette Lewey
Denise Altwater
Cushman Anthony
John Banks
Matt Dana
Bonnie Newsom
H. Roy Partridge
Linda Raymond
Brian Reynolds
Diana Scully
Paul Thibeault

Maine Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0022
Attention: Mr. Fred Todd

Re: Land Use Regulation Commission Application Bowers Wind Project, Penobscot & Washington Counties, Maine

Dear Mr. Todd:

Please accept this letter as the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission's expression of dissatisfaction with the level of consultation to date with both the Wabanaki Tribes and the Commission itself concerning the above referenced project. Both the Passamaquoddy Tribe and Penobscot Nation specifically object to the lack of formal government-to-government consultation to date. MITSC has an ongoing concern that LURC is not attending to its responsibility to formally and thoroughly consult with the Tribes.

Additionally, MITSC maintains responsibility for reviewing any proposal that might affect the land, water or natural resource rights of the Tribes. We have, to date, received no information about this project. From this point forward, we request LURC directly notify MITSC of any proposed rule, policy change, or application that would affect Wabanaki interests. Please consider this a formal request under 30 MRSA §6212, §§5.

LURC's responsibility to consult is embedded in the Maine Implementing Act and reinforced by EO 06 FY 10-11 that the LePage Administration has strongly supported. EO 06 FY 10-11 calls for timely and substantial consultation between all State Agencies and the Wabanaki Tribal Governments "on matters that significantly or uniquely affect those Tribes."

At the July 14, 2011 meeting of MITSC, Matt Dana, the Passamaquoddy Commissioner from Indian Township, raised the Tribe's concerns about the Bowers Wind Project. The principal concern that Mr. Dana articulated on behalf of his Tribe pertains to the proximity of the project to and its potential visual impacts on a Wabanaki sacred site and ceremonial grounds that are both located in Springfield close to the Bowers Wind Project. The Penobscot Nation is also very concerned about the lack of outreach and consultation by the State regarding this project. The Penobscot Nation has over 14,000 acres that are potentially impacted by the Bowers Mountain project. No mention of these sites or lands is made in the applicant's visual analysis. MITSC views the application as incomplete until such an analysis is done.

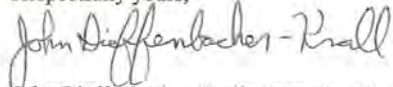
John Dieffenbacher-Krall
Executive Director
P.O. Box 241
Stillwater, ME 04489
(207) 817-3799
mitsced@roadrunner.com

The Springfield sacred site is very significant for the Wabanaki. The desecration of the area's view by the erection of up to 27 wind turbines will profoundly interfere with their ability to use this site for cultural and ceremonial purposes and compromise the Wabanaki People's ability to maintain and to protect this sacred site.

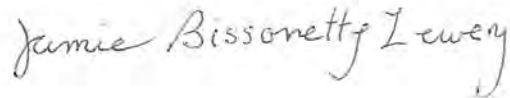
Although the application does reference a meeting between the applicant and an unnamed Passamaquoddy Governor, no date for the meeting is provided. Yet, a list of consultations is offered—including meetings with town councils and county commissions—in other words, governmental bodies. The Tribal governments should have been and, in the future, must be extended greater consideration than any local governments impacted by such a project.

The Wabanaki Tribes are not ordinary stakeholders. They are sovereign nations recognized under state, federal, and international law. LURC's seeming failure to acknowledge the inherent sovereignty of the Wabanaki Tribes undermines MITSC's responsibility to maintain an effective government-to-government relationship among the sovereigns.

Respectfully yours,



John Dieffenbacher-Krall, Executive Director



Jamie Bissonette Lewey, Chair

From: [walter](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: No wind turbines
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:51:41 PM

Wind turbines don't work. They don't generate substantial electricity, nor is it constant. Why is the government taking money from tax-payers to build these turbines, which don't work? The wind turbines will be derelicts in less than 5 years.

Inexpensive energy is a matter of life and death in Maine, because of the harsh winters. Wind turbines increase the cost of energy. We need to reduce the cost of energy. We need to increase supply with sustainable energy solutions: we need Canadian hydro power, perhaps we need a nuclear power plant, or a coal power plant, or a natural gas power plant.

From: [thomas sturtevant](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: opposing First Wind's Bowers Mt/Kossuth Township project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:14:39 PM

Dear Mr. Todd:

Please give careful consideration to the the request by First Wind/Champlain Wind to site more wind turbines in the Bowers Mt/Kossuth Township area.

As the American southwest and U.S. plains states become more parched by what I believe to be caused by global warming, it is important that New England forests, and especially those in Maine, be preserved as important water sheds for Maine people and possibly "refugees" from the American west. I believe the erection of wind turbines on Maine mountains would be detrimental to these water sheds, causing run-off that would have adverse effects on Maine's Downeast Grand Lakes.

Wind turbines at sea on special buoys, platforms or ships, such as outmoded aircraft carriers, may be a better alternative to scraping off the tops of Maine mountains to make electricity. Please try to keep Maine green and oasis-like as much of the rest of the country turns brown and paved over.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas C. Sturtevant

16 Beale Street
Winthrop, ME 04364

377-2370

From: [Leonard J. Murphy](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Please review "Lurc Final statement"
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 12:23:14 PM
Attachments: [Lurc Final statement.doc](#)

Fred, Lenny Murphy.

Please review the attached document.

Good day, these are my final comments, for now, on the Bowers wind project to LURC

From Leonard J. Murphy. Jr.
90 Energy Lane, Woodville,
Maine 04457

With all of the testimony that has been brought forward it seems very clear that this area in question is not suitable for 27 more wind powered generators, for more than several reasons! I will not expand upon most of the several reasons at this time!

One area that needs further discussion and evaluation, through much time and study, is the possibility that the blasting for the wind generator towers has caused the earthquake to be triggered just two miles away in Burlington! I have contacted the geology department in Maine, again, and discussed the likely possibilities that the repetitive earthquakes in the Bucksport area could have been caused by the repetitive blasting for the forth generator towers in the Lincoln area! I have put forward a new theory that is being tested at this time, to see if there is any direct evidence that the blasting in the Lincoln area bounced off of the earths solid core and echoed back the small tremors felt in the Bucksport area! It is true that for every action there is a reaction, so when blasting occurs for the massive tower bases there is obviously going to be some type of response!

As I have been told half of the work force of First Wind are lawyers! As we can imagine they use all possible methods at their devise to bring forward the projects that they are paid to orchestrate! Being so they are somewhat in a position of being in a conflict of interest! They are obviously not concerned with our constitutional rights, with that being said, is it any wonder why they hire mostly good looking, blond blue eyed people that have the ability and desire to promote the project in front of them at the least cost to the company! To finish this thought, we all must be careful in understanding the realities around us, and in doing so, can hopefully make a clear judgment on the issues without any personalities or possible conflicts getting in the way of truth and justice!

Please do not let money or the pursuit of a few unnecessary jobs cloud our sense of perception. One just the one issue of cumulative generators in the area should be enough to persuade your sense of well being for the area and that State of Maine, that you are sworn to protect!

To conclude, it is not an easy topic that I now discuss but the facts need to be discussed and dealt with fairly! I think it would be fair to say that the policies favoring big wind generators was in place well into the past and before you were on the committee of LURC. So it should only stand to reason that the previous governor, who was promoting wind power, seen it favorable to place as many people as he could in a position to promote large scale wind generators! That being said, I would caution anyone that is still in position because of the previous administration must truly evaluate their motives for continuing the possibility of having over 2000 wind generators on the mountains in Maine. Anyone that would have to justify to any of their friends (like former Governor

Baldacci) why they voted “Against” the Bowers Project should tell you that your ties to the previous administrators are putting you in a compromised position!

Dated: July 18, 2011

Lenny Murphy

From: [monika](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: RE: Windmills
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:48:48 PM

Dear Mr Todd!

Usually I do not get involved with opposing big Money Projects(First Wind) but we bought our camp and have paid Taxes here for 31 Years. We love it here and respect the Wildlife with which we are privileged to share our unspoiled part of Maine. Not many areas are left like this.

Our view is directly across the lake and the now unspoiled Ridges which would forever be spoiled by the hugh Windmills. We always look there because that is where we enjoyed the Northern Lights and so many Stars.

We see Eagles soaring (they have a nest right near Bowers Mountain) we have Loons and so much other Wildlife. We are concerned for all of them.

So many People are dependent on Tourism and also the many Mainers that come here for its unspoiled Beauty. Smiths Store, local Tradesmen, Guides and many more cater to the many reasorces we have here.The whole Chaine of Lakes down to West Grand will be influenced by this.

We drive 1800 miles twice a year to be here. Please do not allow this to happen.

Williams

Sincerely, Monika

From: [marc.tyler](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Rollins Wind Project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 5:03:30 PM

My husband and I have just returned from a weekend at our camp on Lake Escutassis in Lowell Maine. It is with true sadness that I am writing you this email. We are shocked at the devastation to our lake and the surrounding mountains The Rollins Project has created.

We went up this weekend with open minds as we truly believe in green energy and were hoping that there was an acceptable tradeoff for us with The Rollins Project. However, we have read about the lack of efficiency from wind turbines, the few number of much needed permanent jobs this project has brought to Lincoln and the lack of real energy benefits to the local area. Instead we see an area that was rich in natural beauty that has been ruined.

We can accept the loss in value of our camp that the our new "view" has cost us because it is a much loved family home that will not be sold. We cannot accept the change to our skyline and especially our night time star watching because of the red blinking lights that now shoot laser beams of red across our lake. It is disgusting and disheartening to have 24 wind turbines a part of our family heritage. For the first time since my father passed away Instead of wishing he were with us my husband and I both commented that we glad he did not live to see this change happen.

We invite you to come to our camp and see for yourself how the Rollins Project has affected our family. Please take our comments and think about the others in the area we can save from having this happening to when you are considering support of additional wind turbine projects.

Sincerely, Marc and Beth Tyler

From: [Leonard J. Murphy](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Testamony, last day to comply! Lenny Murphy
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:45:59 PM

Fred, please add this email and the last email, a letter I sent to the Att. General, as part of my testimony against the Bowers wind project! The Att. General's office responded, in writing, by saying their hands are tied, and they can and will do nothing to protect Baxter State Park or its surroundings, I guess it is up to us to do what is truly right! Truly yours, Lenny Murphy.!

From: [Peter Fisher](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Testimony on Bowers Mountain Project (DP 4887)
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:17:58 PM
Attachments: [MJS testimony LURC.doc](#)

Mr. Todd, Attached please find my testimony against the Bowers Mountain Project. Thank you, Mary Jane Fisher

To: Fredrick W. Todd, Project Planner and Land Use Regulation Commission Members
From: Mary Jane Fisher
Topic: Opposition to Champlain Wind, LLC's Bowers/Kossuth Industrial Turbine Application
Public Comment regarding DP4889

I would like to express my strongest opposition to the proposed Bowers/Kossuth industrial wind project as described in DP4889. I live on Junior Lake and think that the uniqueness of this chain of lakes and culture of the Grand Lakes Stream village could drastically be altered should this project go forward.

It is difficult to understand the state's perception of such regions. It would seem that if there is not a huge, daily, obvious usage of the lakes, it would be deemed underused and therefore appropriate for wind development. If it were used extensively and heavily populated with camps, it would be deemed populated and developed and therefore appropriate for wind development. What are the criteria that might designate the region as appropriate for protection and designation as a region valuable enough to protect from wind development?

Certainly, given all the testimonies provided at the hearings, I should think that you would recognize this region as a valuable asset to the state and for Maine's future. It would seem that most of the tourist investment by Maine's Department of Tourism, concentrates on the coastal regions more accessible to weekend visits from regions south of us. The West Grand watershed is a diamond in the rough. Should the proper promotion of this region as an eco-tourism destination ever be undertaken, it could be a great asset to our fragile economy.

Even without this promotion, the number of people I see using the lakes in this watershed enjoy unparalleled opportunities for canoeing and kayaking, fishing and camping. After listening to the testimony and questions from the First Wind attorney, I am appalled that Ms. Brown would suggest that fishermen and women turn their boat and look the other way when they come upon a view of wind towers. To suggest that canoeists need only to hug the shore to avoid the view of wind towers is ludicrous. I daily see boaters, canoeists and kayakers heading down the middle of the lake. Something my husband and I do regularly. After hearing the testimony and cross examination on July 6, 2011, my husband and I, along with a neighbor, boated from Junior Lake into Scraggly Lake. We turned off the motor and drifted for a while enjoying the scenic view, the sound of the loons, and the remoteness of this area. Contrary to Ms. Brown's point that the connected lakes are difficult to access as it is too shallow for boats to navigate. Ms. Brown also stated that the boat that she was in hit a rock and therefore the connectedness of these

lakes is in doubt. Perhaps her group should have hired one of the Maine Guides she has been so quick to disregard in her efforts to discredit their statements as to the unique qualities of the Downeast Lakes Region. I wonder if Ms. Brown and her group noticed that on Interstate 95 there is a large sign, obviously installed by the state of Maine, signifying the exit for the “Grand Lakes” area.

I was also struck during the testimony on June 27th and June 28th in Lincoln in that nearly all of the persons speaking for this misguided project have received financial donations, salaries or other monetary benefits from First Wind. I could not help but notice that following the testimony of Kathy Whitney, who I believe is a former manager of the campsites on Pleasant Lake was approached by Neil Kieley, shook hands and then promptly exited the room. Ms. Brown also was incorrect when she identified this woman as the “owner and operator” of this campground.

As someone who has nothing to gain from the Bowers Mountain project, and so much to lose, I request that you seriously consider the ramifications of this project. One gentleman who testified in Lincoln suggested that we “just try it” and give the turbine project “a chance”. What I don’t think he considered, and I hope that the commission will, once the destruction is done, and the turbines are there, there is no going back. The Downeast Lakes region will be destroyed forever. It is too precious a resource. The two or three permanent jobs that the project will create will not offset the jobs and tourism dollars that are so important to so many in this region.

Thank you for your service on the LURC commission. This is obviously not an easy task.

Mary Jane Fisher

768 96th Avenue N

Naples, FL 34108

and

67 Deer Run

Lakeville, Maine 04487

From: [Leonard J. Murphy](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: To.doc Baxter Park.doc Fred, please add this to my testimony! Lenny Murphy
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:36:55 PM

To: The State of Maine Attorney General, William J. Schneider. This letter is an informal response to the concerns of Baxter State Park that you are entrusted to protect! It was made clear to me, by a Baxter Park employee, that they could not write you a letter about the problems with the big wind generators because the generators were not next to The Park! I said I would respond for them and explain why they should have standing, input, in this major issue that will threaten their jobs! From the top of Mt. Katahdin objects can be seen from 60 miles in the distance, the wind generators in and around Lincoln are only 40 to 43 miles away and will be clearly seen when the sun and moon are sending light flickering in many directions at once!! Also, many areas can see Mt. Katahdin from more than 60 miles away and if the generators are in the line of sight then the generators will be seen in front of Katahdin!

When the ruling was made, many years ago, to keep the people working at The Park from having their say unless the problem was next to the park could not perceive the problems of today that can cause "The Park" harm from a great distance! It is like a mining company that was releasing pollutants in the water several miles from The Park! If the park is being negatively impacted from a distance then why would anyone want the employees' thoughts not to be considered? Baxter Park, now that The Great Northern is gone, is the only jewel in the center of The State of Maine, if you can think of another one please let me know!

If 27 more, even bigger, wind generators are put in on the Bowers Wind Project to add to the 40 generators that are ready to start spinning soon it will have an even more devastating effect on the tourist trade in the entire Katahdin region, will it not? Adding 27 more generators will also have a cumulative effect on the area as well, no one can deny that fact! The Park is being surrounded by generators that are not effective and are more costly than they are worth! Subsidized projects in Maine on a mountain top in Maine should only be built in the appropriate time of year or the project can be seen as taxation without representation and curial and unusual treatment on the employees, would it not? Please do not let bad business practices continue to install 1,800 wind generators in Maine where they do not belong! Please do not let Baxter Park continue to be encircled by non-productive eyesores, we can generate all the power The State needs by our students in our schools developing paddlewheels to install in our waterways and the waters of The World! We do not need wind power at all! Creating power from water can save The Planet and will develop 20,000 jobs in Maine alone!

It's time to get real and move into a real clean and job making energy 24 hours a day! The cost of fuel, and pollution, to build a wind generator on a mountain in Maine in the winter will probably never make-up the electricity made by the wind generators! So what is gained if the big companies are getting the monies that we can not afford to give away to unjustifiable projects?

I hope you at least call The People that work at The Park so you can better understand the effects it will have on The Park that you are responsible to protect into the future! Who will visit The Park once it is known on the internet the Mt. Katahdin has been circled by wind generators that are not as green as they are said to be?

I will not go on for pages explaining why big wind power is not effective in reducing fuel prices but will state that if the wind generators continue to invade our mountains and hills at the same rate then in just a few years a flight in a small plane will allow you no sight in Maine without a generator blade in our face, is that what The People of Maine want, I should

say not! So do not let it happen while you do have some say about the future of Maine's surroundings! The People need your leadership in this area around Mt. Katahdin to keep the atmosphere intact as it was meant to be!! We do not need to loose our resources to Companies from out of state that sell off all of our resources at a unfair cost to the People of Maine and our environment!

I will add in a couple of papers that I emailed to Lurc about the problems that installing wind generators and blasting for the generator towers can cause, etc.!

Truly yours, Leonard J. Murphy. Jr.
90 Energy Lane, Woodville, Maine
04457
Home phone 746-9212

From: [linda recktenwald](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Wind Energy Act development from Linda R.
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:58:14 PM

Dear Mr. Todd;

Legislative findings in the Maine Expedited Wind Energy Act state that wind development should be sited "where appropriate", and the Bowers Mountain Project DP4889 in the heart of the Down East Lakes Region is not appropriate.

Please say NO to Bowers Mountain industrial wind.

Sincerely,

Linda Recktenwald
Box 17
Farmington Falls, ME 04940

From: yarrow@maine.rr.com
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: windmills
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:59:32 PM

hello Mr. Todd

This letter is to reject the grand lakes windmill project and all other wind tower installations in Maine. Windmills lack versatility, cannot use other energy sources like a power plant changing from oil to coal to natural gas to a new unknown source. Windmills injure wildlife, birds in particular. The sound drives life of all kinds of life away.

thank-you

Lucia Connelly

Falmouth, Maine

From: [monika](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Windmills
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 3:04:34 PM

To whom it may concern!

Regarding the proposed windmills that First Wind wants to erect on the Ridges and Hilltops in the area where I live.

There is no Question that we need other sources of Energy besides Oil and Gas. BUT AT WHAT PRICE? Have the Economics of the Windfarms in this part of Maine been proven to be a Winner?

I would think a more in Depth Study is needed and a look at what we may loose FOREVER if this project is approved by Lurc.

Donald Williams

Respectfully,

From: [William Murdock](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt.
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:10:21 PM
Attachments: [Bowers Mt.doc](#)
[mst 11 27 1988-1.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. Todd, Attached please find my written testimony regarding the Champlain Wind Bowers Mt. Project. You may have noticed I also submitted hard copies of the same testimony, this was because I was having trouble creating the attached pdf documents I believe the problem is solved now. I want to thank you and the other rest of the Commission for the hard work you do. Please contact me with any questions.

Yours truly,

William E. Murdock

wemurdock@gmail.com
[207-945-4238](tel:207-945-4238)

Maine Sunday Telegram

101 / NO. 20

November 27, 1988

Second Class Postage



ear-cutting operation near Lombard Lake in Lakeville: Thousands of acres of the town have been divided into angles, 41 acres and larger, for sale as camp lots.

Staff photos by Doug Jones

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Carving up Maine's woodlands

Critics fear liquidation of forest

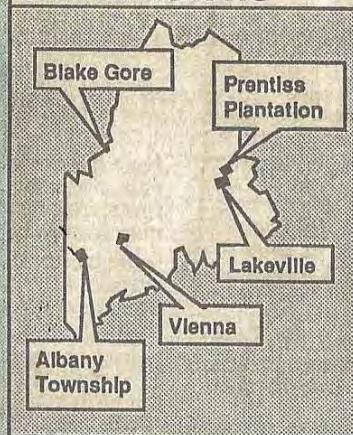
By Tux Turkel
Staff Writer

At a time when the state is concerned about a pending timber shortage, tens of thousands of acres of Maine woodland are being stripped of trees and subdivided into camp lots, removing the land from commercial forest production.

In a practice known to critics as land liquidation, owners remove most marketable trees, cashing in on the land's maximum timber value before breaking it up and selling lots for recreational use.

No one knows how much acreage is involved, because

Large lot subdivisions



Maine law requires no review, in most cases, when land more than 250 feet from water is subdivided into lots of 40 acres or more. A

tally by environmentalists shows at least 70,000 acres have been split into large recreational lots within the past three years.

While demand for some types of real estate has slowed in New England, brokers say the market for these hunting and camp lots remains strong, driven by the lure of owning a big chunk of "wilderness" for a reasonable price.

The forest industry, state policy makers and environmentalists disagree on whether camp-lot subdivision is a serious threat to the forest resource.

One view holds that Maine has millions of acres of commercial forest and that these subdivisions do not make any difference. Some observers also say woodlots of 40 acres or more are big enough for commercial harvesting.

But critics say Maine's wood supply is already tight and will get tighter if major tracts of commer-

See LAND
Back Page This Section



Selectman Ron Bradford at his camp on Sysladobsis Lake: A vocal opponent of the changing land use.

Land

cial timberland are converted into camp lots. People who buy these lots, they say, generally will not tolerate bulldozers and chainsaws tearing up their woody retreats.

Critics add that those 40-acre lots can be further subdivided until all forestry opportunities are gone.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the federal Environmental Protection Agency are studying whether the filling of wetlands for roads that accompany these cut-and-sell projects in Maine should be reviewed under federal law and treated as development — not forestry.

"The question the corps is asking us," says Pam Shields, a wetlands specialist at the EPA in Boston, "is: Are these timber harvesting roads, or are they for subdivisions?"

Fast money

Converting woodland to recreation property has gone on for generations in Maine, but it has generally happened on a small scale. Now, skyrocketing land values and demand for recreational property have created a new dynamic. Forest landowners today can make quick money by selling off large tracts, rather than waiting 40 years for trees to mature.

Most of the large-lot subdivisions being carved out of the forest are appearing in the unorganized territories, the vast northern and eastern woodlands that comprise half of Maine. The largest, and perhaps most controversial, example of this trend can be seen in Lakeville, a tiny town east of Lincoln.

The remote, 39,000-acre town features 10 lakes and 6,000 acres of water. Logging roads trace the landscape. Heavy cutting has created scores of scarred clearings where few trees stand. Trucks and harvesting equipment move methodically along the road network and through the woods.

On a table in the converted one-room school house that serves as Lakeville's town hall is a pile of survey maps. The maps show how thousands of acres of Lakeville have been divided into rectangles, 41 acres and larger, for sale as camp lots.

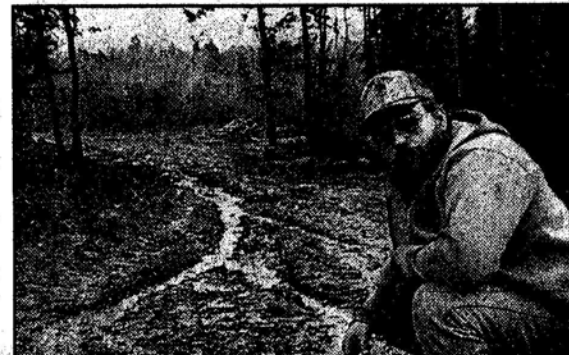
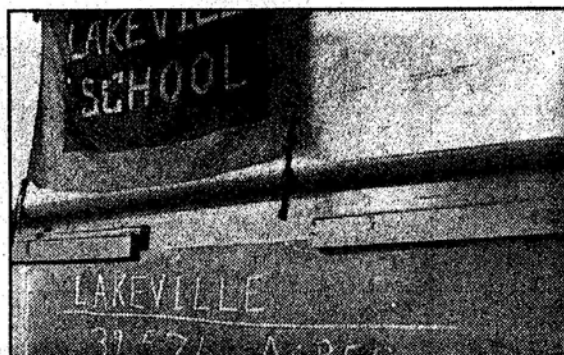
Cutting practices became controversial 13 months ago, when the Penobscot Indians sold 7,500 acres to Sysladobsis Realty Trust of Bangor. Since then, H.C. Haynes Inc. of Winn, a large logging firm, has purchased two, 700-plus acre parcels.

In less than a year, Lakeville's 26 year-round residents and 200 summer residents have watched as loggers and developers have divided or cut up about 9,000 acres of the town.



Aerial photograph shows lighter-colored clear-cut acreage behind the darker tree-lined shore of Junior Lake.

Staff photos by Doug Jones



residents and 200 summer residents have watched as loggers and developers have divided or cut up about 9,000 acres of the town.

It is easy to see why Lakeville is so attractive for this type of development.

The country is hilly and has a rugged beauty. Most of the waterfront is undeveloped and remote. But the area is accessible, less than 90 minutes from Bangor by car.

Lakeville has little control over its destiny. An unorganized plantation until 1981, Lakeville is now an incorporated town, but its population is so small it cannot find enough interested residents to form a planning board or enact land-use laws.

The town relies on the state's Land Use Regulation Commission to regulate development, although the 40-acre exemption means the agency has no jurisdiction over much of what is taking place.

Sportsmen turned away

Lakeville's most vocal opponent to the changing land use is selectman Ron Bradford who, with his wife, Katharine, run the 100-year-old Spruce Lodge sporting camp on Sysladobsis Lake.

Intense logging activity in the area now threatens the environment that has brought sportsmen from all over the country to Spruce Lodge. Already, Bradford says, hunters have been turned back by no-trespassing signs, and timber operations are degrading streams that feed the salmon-rich lakes.

Touring the area with Bradford after a rainstorm in early November, the Telegram saw evidence to support the latter claim: Muddy water washing down logging roads into streams. A major brook flowing into Sysladobsis Lake also appeared turbid.

Bradford and other concerned residents have spent the last year writing letters to politicians and circulating a petition aimed at controlling harvesting practices. In August, more than 80 residents crowded into Lakeville's town hall to complain that the cutting was ruining the town.

Their persistence has gotten some response.

Investigators from LURC have visited Lakeville and are following up on alleged environmental violations by both Sysladobsis Realty Trust and Haynes. LURC also believes at least one lot on Junior Lake has already been re-subdivided without the required state review.

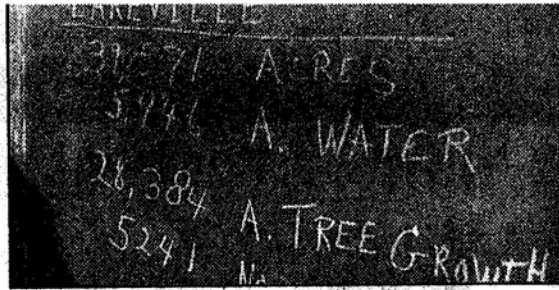
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has also examined the area and is looking into possible illegal filling of wetlands by Sysladobsis Realty Trust's sales partnership, ERA Trott-Putnam of Bangor.

But overall, there is little Lakeville can do to prevent much of the town from being cut and subdivided, because most of the action is legal.

"We have long recognized that these large-lot subdivisions are causing significant land management changes," says LURC assistant director James St. Pierre. "In the short term, people may not see many visible changes. In the long term, they will."

The development of Junior Lake also shows that Maine law is at odds with state policy.

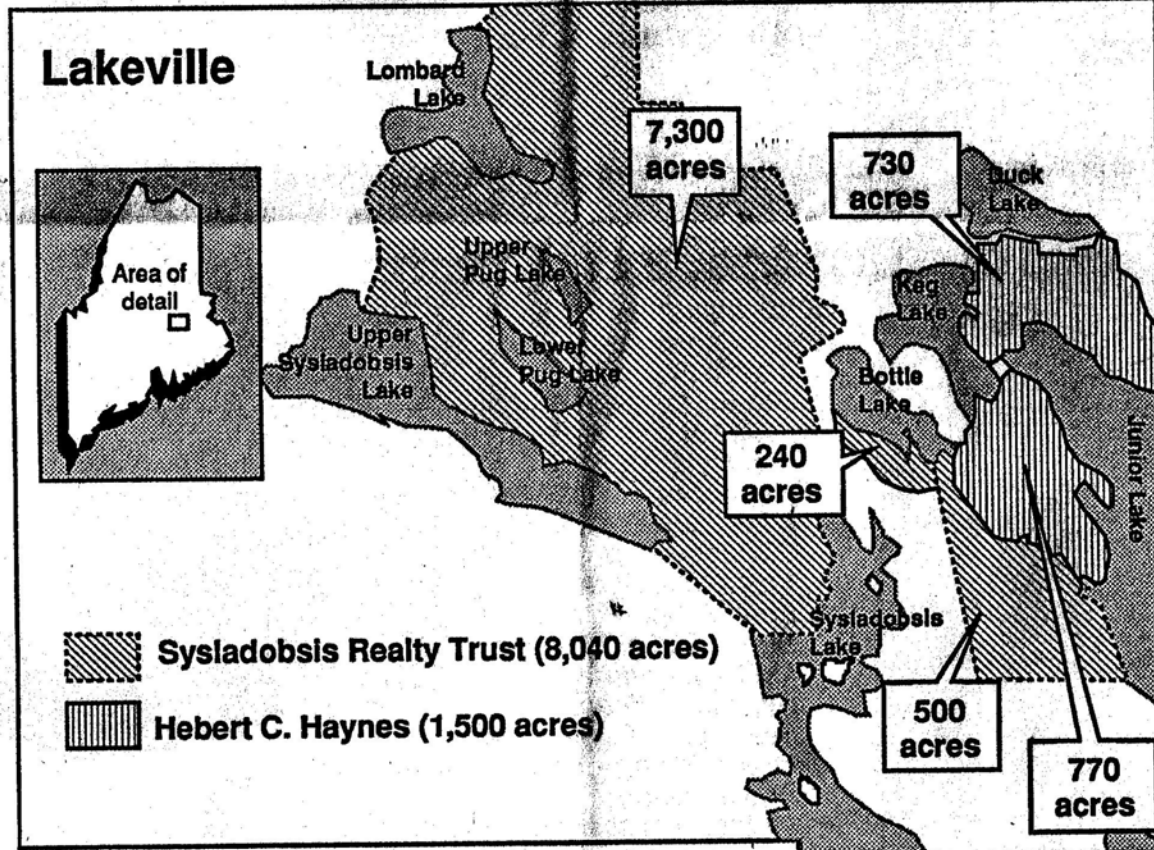
Junior Lake is the only water body in Lakeville designated Class 1 by LURC for its proposed management program for Maine's wildland lakes. It is



Keeping track: notes from a recent meeting of the Lakeville selectmen on the town hall blackboard.



Lakeville Selectman Ron Bradford shows muddy water washing down a logging road after a November rain storm.



unsuccessfully argued last spring to eliminate the exemption as part of the state's new growth management laws.

"It's the weak link in our land-use planning program," says resource specialist Jerry Bley. "It strikes me as odd that if I want to divide my 10 acres in the town I live, I need to go to the planning board, yet people are dividing thousands of acres with enormous consequences and don't even have to file an application."

and Sandy Bay Township, near the Quebec border. It has filed a lawsuit and is seeking a preliminary injunction in Superior Court in connection with timber harvesting violations at a large-lot subdivision on 3,600 acres. Named in the complaint are Dewayn Shaw of Gorham, Cedric and Marie Thomas of Cape Elizabeth and Timberlands Management of Jackman.

The complaint charges that 14 streams and stream channels that feed the Penobscot River were filled, altered, silted, redirected or crossed during road

partnership, BSA Trout-Fullam of Bangor.

But overall, there is little Lakeville can do to prevent much of the town from being cut and subdivided, because most of the action is legal.

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The development of Junior Lake also shows that Maine law is at odds with state policy.

Junior Lake is the only water body in Lakeville designated Class 1 by LURC for its proposed management program for Maine's wildland lakes. It is considered a "gem lake" because of its pristine qualities.

But loggers are cutting most of the wood from the middle of the lake's Long Point, leaving a strip of trees near the shoreline.

The subdivision is known as Lakeville Shores and it was created by a subsidiary of H.C. Haynes. A map at town hall shows the project was filed last April 15, four days before a new law took effect regulating such developments.

The 17 lots start at \$55,000. A real estate ad from The Maine Sportsman calls them a "once in a lifetime offering, 40 plus acres with extensive frontage on one of Maine's finest salmon lakes in God's country."

LURC wants to create a quarter-mile restrictive zone around the shores of gem lakes and prohibit car and truck access. But these proposals have yet to be officially adopted by the state. In the case of Junior Lake, it is already too late.

40-acre law blamed

Critics place much of the blame for unregulated recreational subdivisions on the 40-acre exemption.

Under pressure from environmentalists, the Legislature last spring amended the exemption to require regulatory review of large-lot subdivisions near water. But as a concession to landowners and developers, it retained the exemption in the back country.

Owners argued that development was not a problem away from lakes and streams. But the creation of major subdivisions for remote hunting and camping lots has persuaded some officials that the practice could pose a threat to future timber stocks.

"If the issue is long-term viability of Maine's forest resource, then taking care of the 40-acre exemption only in shoreland is no answer," says assistant attorney general Jeff Pidot. "In fact, the highest value and most productive timberland is not in the shoreland area, anyway."

A former director of LURC, Pidot also points out that the law further allows large lots to be resubdivided in two every five years. Over time, he expects many lots to shrink and be completely eliminated from the timber base as new owners resell.

That trend, already seen throughout southern New England and more recently southern Maine, worries the Natural Resources Council of Maine, which

unsuccessfully argued last spring to eliminate the exemption as part of the state's new growth management laws.

"It's the weak link in our land-use planning program," says resource specialist Jerry Bley. "It strikes me as odd that if I want to divide my 10 acres in the town I live, I need to go to the planning board, yet people are dividing thousands of acres with enormous consequences and don't even have to file an application."

At Sysladobis Realty Trust, partner Douglas Schmidt says he does not think recreational lots hurt Maine's forest resource because major paper companies are retaining most of their land, and because many camp lots will be logged in 30 years by small-scale operators.

He also says his company is doing nothing wrong in its harvesting practices.

"We cut along the lines of all the large contractors," Schmidt says. "You take the marketable timber where possible and it regrows. Under present standards, that's acceptable."

Schmidt supports the 40-acre exemption and says closing it would require the company to go through regulatory approval, which would drive up land prices. Schmidt points out that deeds to his camp lots only allow for one further division.

Looking ahead, Schmidt says the company will probably do more developments away from the water, to avoid regulatory review.

Controversial projects

The 40-acre exemption has been used to create several other major subdivisions, some of which have become controversial.

In Albany Township, a developer and logger were fined \$10,000 by the state last spring for timber-harvesting, road-building and water-crossing violations on land sold by CS&G Timber Co. of Bethel.

The violations took place during the creation of a 1,000-acre subdivision on French Hill in western Maine. A settlement agreement was ultimately reached between the attorney general and JAE Realty Trust of Framingham, Mass., and Alvin Yates Logging Inc. of West Paris.

Part of the settlement required the companies to take remedial action to prevent erosion and stream siltation by last May 15.

But during an October site visit, LURC investigators found that some repairs apparently had never been done and others had been poorly carried out. St. Pierre of LURC said two weeks ago that his staff had not had time for a follow-up visit.

Meanwhile, ads for the property have run in Maine and Boston newspapers, featuring a hilltop lot with an asking price of \$80,000.

The state is also seeking legal action in Blake Gore



770
acres

and Sandy Bay Township, near the Quebec border has filed a lawsuit and is seeking a preliminary injunction in Superior Court in connection with timber harvesting violations at a large-lot subdivision on 3,600 acres. Named in the complaint are Dewe Shaw of Gorham, Cedric and Marie Thomas of Co. Elizabeth and Timberlands Management of Jackma.

The complaint charges that 14 streams and stream channels that feed the Penobscot River were filled, altered, silted, redirected or crossed during reconstruction in 1987. It also says the developer failed to comply with LURC rules designed to protect the environment.

The complaint says the developers failed to he LURC warnings and settlement attempts, and continued logging and advertising 40-acre lots.

The developers have denied illegal actions.

In the eastern Maine township of Prentiss, Dyer interests of Bangor has extensively logged a 6,610-acre tract that was sold last summer for \$696,570 Patten Corp.

Patten plans to use the existing logging road network to create a subdivision of lots ranging from 50 to 150 acres, according to company executive vice president Craig Higgins. It has already created a 16-acre subdivision on 730 acres.

The Prentiss site is notable because it contains lakes and is considered a prime example of the market for large camp lots away from water. Higgins says Patten bought the land because of the road network and the expectation of good deer hunting. It says a forestry management plan will probably be included for the remaining land, although previous cutting practices eliminated that option on the 730-acre parcel.

Lots will be offered from \$16,000 to \$32,000. Higgins sees the market as people in southern Maine and Boston who want a large parcel of inexpensive land for hunting and camping.

While most large-lot subdivisions are created in LURC territory, one venture under way by H. Haynes is proving controversial in the central Maine town of Vienna, northwest of Augusta.

Haynes is logging and selling lots totaling 1,000 acres on Vienna Mountain. Residents have raised questions about the environmental impact of the work. The town is now considering a timber harvesting ordinance that would regulate clear cutting and other practices now under way in Vienna.

Haynes says he is doing nothing wrong in Vienna and he blames local press coverage for exaggerating any problems.

Forest industry divided

The forest industry is split on whether recreation subdivisions threaten Maine's timber resource and whether the 40-acre exemption should be eliminated

The range of disagreement is evident in discussions with directors of the Maine Forest Products Council, an influential trade group.

Roger Milliken is vice president of Baskahegan Co. of Brookton, which manages 100,000 acres in northern Washington County. He is critical of subdivision harvesting practices.

"Trees are being cut indiscriminately," Milliken says. "They're being cut to the degree there are markets for it. It's not forest management. It's forest liquidation."

Milliken says the 40-acre exemption fuels the practice. He blames state lawmakers for allowing the loophole to remain open.

"It's like coming to a toll booth with six red lights and one green light that says '40 acres' on it," Milliken says.

Earle Bessey is president of E.D. Bessey and Son of Hinckley, which manages woodland in central Maine. Bessey, who is also head of the forest council, says recreational subdivisions pose a challenge for the industry, but one that can be met.

The key will be convincing landowners to manage these smaller lots and allow selective, careful logging operations. At the same time, Bessey admits some owners won't be receptive to logging on any scale.

"They feel the world is crowding in on them, and 40 acres may be their contribution to wilderness," Bessey says.

The forest products council, which represents many landowners, opposed removing the 40-acre exemption in the Legislature last spring. Bessey maintains that position today. He says policy makers should instead focus on ways to help make it economical for owners to keep their land in forest, in the face of rising market values for recreation.

"The temptation to sell is substantial," Bessey says.

Government action

Recreational subdivisions and the 40-acre exemption are shaping up as an issue for the Legislature to tackle this winter in Augusta. And in an important development, they have caught the attention of federal environmental regulators.

The Maine Audubon Society has been studying timber harvesting standards in other states and is drafting legislation to promote what it sees as more productive forestry practices.

It is considering mandatory harvest plans, reforestation and replanting, incentives to keep land in timber production and a pool of money for the state to buy development rights when important timberland is threatened with conversion.

Beyond the debate over timber resources and cutting practices in Maine, federal regulators in Boston have just identified forest subdivisions as a matter of regional interest.

Earlier this fall, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers received a complaint about logging in Lakeville conducted by Trott-Putnam Real Estate (Sysladobsis Realty Trust).

Upon investigation, the corps found what it says was illegal filling of wetlands in a number of locations for road building. The federal Clean Water Act allows minor wetland filling for logging operations.

"But it appears that the purpose of the roads and the filling is for land development," says Brian Valiton, an official with the Army Corps in Waltham, Mass.

The Army Corps is asking the federal EPA whether the subdivision is exempt from review under the logging provision. If not, Valiton says the case has "enormous implications" for similar projects in New England.

Valiton says Lakeville could set a precedent that would require recreational subdivisions to assess the environmental and economic impacts of land clearing, erosion and road building. These considerations are required of other major commercial and industrial developments.

From: [Dave & Debbie Tobey](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mt.
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:58:41 PM

Dear Fred Todd and L.U.R.C. Commissioners

My Name is Deborah Tobey from Grand Lake Stream, I'm writing to help with information that wasn't properly answered at the hearings in Lincoln on the proposed Bowers Wind Project.

My husband and I for years Leased two campground from Georgia Pacific,(Washington County Campgrounds Inc.) one located at Pleasant Lake the other at Pocumcus Lake. To satisfy the FERC licensing they wanted these two campgrounds managed professionally to support the large number of campers that come every year to recreate on these lakes, mostly within the eight mile limit around Bowers Mt, and Dill Ridge. The Pleasant Lake campground, licensed under the Dept. of Health had a limit of 28 camp sites. For the duration that we leased and operated this site our records prove that we experienced 90% occupancy from Memorial weekend to Labor Day weekend. I clearly remember how many of the campers mostly retired enjoyed the remoteness and beauty the are provided. For many that were used to going to the Allagash region in their younger days said this was comparable and closer to home for them. I clearly remember one party that would say " we have a little piece of heaven right here on earth don't ever let it change".

For thirty eight years I've worked in sporting camps cooking, cleaning and waiting on tables, along with working at the local store I've met a lot of folks who come back to this special area because we haven't changed. Now a negative change faces us if these wind towers are allowed in, our scenery from these lakes will be spoiled forever. They will dominate the sunsets forever. If you let them in do you have a plan to help us make a living when we loose what we worked so hard to preserve for so many years? Please vote NO on the Bowers Project.

Sincerely,
Deborah Tobey
p.o. Box 74
Grand Lake Stream
Maine, 04637

From: [Bollie Bollenbach](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Cc: [Pat Defilipp](#)
Subject: Bowers Permit Application
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:03:21 PM
Attachments: [Letter to the Editor 7-15-11.pdf](#)

Fred, I attach a copy of my Letter to the Editor that ran last Friday in the Press Herald. First Wind contacted us and would like it to be a part of the record for this permit application.

Many thanks,

Bollie Bollenbach

Portland Press Herald

July 15, 2011

Letters to the editor, July 15, 2011

Sight of a wind turbine hardly deters

I love to fish and canoe on Maine's wonderful rivers and lakes. Over the last six years, I have enjoyed these recreational activities every summer with my son and other father-son combinations. I will continue to enjoy these activities as Maine advances and includes wind power in its energy mix.

Your Maine Sunday Telegram cover story on June 26 about wind turbines ruining the view for fishermen caught my eye, but no one called me, or scores of others who might have provided you with a different opinion.

The opinion that wind turbines might deter individuals from coming to Maine is nonsense. The great "experience" every year is driven by catching fish, views of water and trees, sun, and the camaraderie within the group.

It is my opinion that wind turbines do not ruin views. In fact, I find them quite striking and beautiful. I believe many others including my canoe group and other avid canoeists or anglers feel the same way.

It is also my opinion that many visitors to our state might actually enjoy our scenery even more knowing that we are producing our own, clean energy and reducing our country's dependence on Middle East oil.

Bollie Bollenbach
Cape Elizabeth

From: [Scott Gundy](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Wind Project - NO
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 4:04:09 PM

Dear Fred:

My name is Scott Gundy (6 Walker Road, Manchester, MA 01944) and I am writing to tell you I Do Not support the Bowers Wind Project and urge you to vote to deny this application.

I have traveled throughout the great state of Maine over the past twenty years on business and mostly for recreation and vacationing pleasure. I have nothing against wind energy ideas and projects that would help the overall energy needs. However, after understanding the details of where this project will take place , I am shocked this is even being considered. Why an industrial type project in a fishing/hunting/recreational pristine wilderness area that thrives on the related tourism/jobs/revenues ??? The opportunity cost of doing this far outweighs any benefit(s) that may develop.

Please consider here my vote to deny the application for the Bowers Wind Project / DP4889. "NO" to the project that will change the beautiful wilderness which draws my family and friends to Maine !

Thank You

Scott Gundy
No to DP4889

From: [Dan](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain Application #DP 4889
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:34:02 PM

Daniel P. Remian

640 Pleasant Point Road Cushing, ME 04563
207-354-0714 E-mail: n7cd@gwi.net

Application #DP 4889, Bowers Mountain Wind Project

Dear Fred,

I have read your 2010 CLUP and had previously read LURC's 1997 CLUP; these are great Comprehensive Plans. In reviewing Chapters 5.2, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, and especially chapters 5.9, Recreational Resources, 5.10 Scenic Resources and 5.11 Water Resources, I cannot find where the Bowers Mountain project fits or does not violate the intent of this great plan to protect our valuable resources. Your standards have been somewhat compromised by the Wind Act, however, based on your standards and criteria this project can be and should be denied for the benefit of the people of Maine.

A recent article in the Magazine of the Maine Municipal Association titled "Quality of Place Matters in Maine," stated "Maine's unique quality of place underpins our economy and our prospects for prosperity and that quality of place is an essential source of income and jobs". Economic studies have shown that the use of our lakes brings \$1.8 billion into our state's economy every year supporting 52,000 jobs. Our State Planning Office study found that wildlife related activities brought in a massive \$1.3 billion. Scenic rural character draws in tourists and recreationists and is Maine's largest industry with \$10 billion in sales and services and 140,000 jobs.

The Brookings Institute's report, "Charting Maine's Future," stated that Maine's quality of place is under threat, diminishing future economic prospects. When lake aesthetics are degraded, recreational use and property values diminish, which harms all the people of Maine.

In recognition of our resources and what the quality of place means to the people of Maine and our guests from away, I strongly urge you to deny Application #DP 4889. There are very few benefits from this project and the potential of much destruction to our resources and #1 industry. LURC should not approve this project.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Remian

From: [Cameron Balog](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bower"s Mountain Public Comment
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:47:36 PM

July 17, 2011

State of Maine

Land Use Regulation Commission

Mr. Frederick W. Todd

Project Manager

22 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Champlain Wind Bowers Mt. project

DP 4889

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to state my opposition to the Champlain Wind/Bower's Mountain Proposed Wind Energy Project. I would also like to thank the Commission for their consideration of this difficult issue and the opportunity to submit a statement during the public comment period.

My opposition is based primarily on lessons learned through a career in forestry and resource management. I work in fundamentally complex multiple land use systems and understand the requirement for land managers to balance natural, cultural, and economic concerns. The lands of the Downeast Lakes Region have supported individuals and commercial operations for centuries. The large local opposition, from the individuals who will be most drastically affected, shows strong evidence that the developer has not demonstrated permanent land change to the area is justified.

Recently I married a woman from Maine and am incredibly lucky to have been

welcomed into a family with generations of close ties to the land near the proposed development. I am from away but am a frequent visitor and future resident of the state. The proposed development area is one of the most beautiful landscapes in the world and must be preserved for the generations that follow. This preservation should not take form of traditional conservation; it must provide enduring gains so entire communities can continue to grow on their land. The Bower's Mountain Wind Project promotes everlasting alteration to the land while bringing short-term local jobs and moving both the profits, along with the electricity produced (reference ISO New England), out of the state of Maine.

Sincerely,
Cameron Balog
227 Pereza Circle
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
805-698-2541
cameron.balog@gmail.com

From: [George Elliott](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain wind turbine project
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 3:47:50 PM

Dear Mr. Todd,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Champlain Wind/Bowers Mountain wind turbine project. In a nutshell, I think the damage that the project will do to one of Maine's most picturesque natural environments will far exceed any benefits to the State that the project would provide. In fact, I see almost no benefits to the State. Outside of a few permanent jobs, how does the State gain? It is my understanding that the energy produced by the turbines, in addition to being variable, will cost more than power produced by conventional power stations. It is also my understanding that the power will be placed on the grid to be sold throughout New England. Let's face it, the only reason these turbines are being put up is so that a company can take advantage of available government money to make a profit.

I hope that the LURC will see the benefit of protecting Maine's irreplaceable natural treasures from exploitation. If we look at the situation strictly in terms of money (Champlain's approach), the loss in tourism dollars because of projects like the Bowers Mountain project will far offset any monetary gain to the State. But, worst of all, the Bowers Mountain project will be destroying parts of Maine's natural environment in a way that can probably never be recovered. I hope you and other members of LURC will see it as your duty to protect Maine's natural resources for all its people and for future generations.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

George H. Elliott
106 Balsam Rd.
Bangor, ME 04401

From: [David Wilson](#)
To: [Todd, Fred](#)
Subject: Bowers Mountain
Date: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:46:28 PM

I would like to state that I am against the proposed Bowers Mountain project and would like to encourage you to vote "NO" on the issue. I vacation in the area frequently and enjoy the views and tranquility of the area, please do not allow it to be spoiled.

Thank you,
Barbara Melia
379 Bow Lane
Middletown, CT 06457

From: [Jackson, Ellen](#)
To: [Jackson, Ellen](#)
Subject: FW: TESTIMONY REGARDING BOWERS MOUNTAIN PROPOSED WIND FARM (Project DP4889)
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 10:55:51 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Clark [<mailto:hemlockssandy@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2011 3:14 PM
To: Todd, Fred
Subject: TESTIMONY REGARDING BOWERS MOUNTAIN PROPOSED WIND FARM (Project DP4889)

Dear Mr. Todd,

I would like to enter this e-mail as my testimony in opposition to the proposed project to erect wind turbines on Bowers Mountain. Although I was born and brought up in Baileyville, Maine and I spend summers in Grand Lake Steam, I am currently a resident of Summerfield, Florida.

One of the gentlemen who gave testimony in favor of this project at the hearing in Lincoln on June 28th made the argument that the Downeast Lakes area is not a wilderness area due to the level of development that has taken place here in the past. The implication was that we shouldn't be concerned with preserving the pristine beauty of this area because we already have degraded it with roads, telephone lines, homes and businesses.

I suppose it may be true that Daniel Boone or Jim Bridger wouldn't describe the Downeast Lakes area as "wilderness". But in today's world it is just about as close as one can get. If you ask any one of the thousands of annual visitors to the region who come here for the superb fishing, hunting, boating or other outdoor activities we have to offer, I know they agree it is wilderness to them, especially when compared to where they might live. The "wilderness" aspect of this area is precisely why they come here in the first place and it is why they return year after year.

There is one other point I'd like to make that hasn't been made yet to my knowledge. Washington County has been traumatized over the past 125 years by industries that have eventually closed doors due to inability to make money. In the late 1800's the village of Grand Lake Stream was home to the worlds largest tannery which employed hundreds of people in the area either in the process of tanning or supplying the mill. New tanning technology eventually made the mill uncompetitive and it folded in 1898. Many local people found work at the time guiding and hosting out of state fishermen and hunters, a tradition that carries on to this day. In the years since, we've seen the demise of much of the coastal fishing industry and with it the closure of sardine canneries that employed many residents. The pulping mill in Baileyville seems to be more stable under new ownership, but it used to employ many more locals in woods harvest operations and it closed lumber, chipboard and paper production over the years due to inability to make money.

The "wilderness" and pristine aspect of the area continues to be the brightest spot economically. It attracts retirees like my husband and I to build summer homes and employ local people for construction and services for ourselves and our guests. One gentleman who testified in opposition to the project on the 28th said he spends between \$500,000 and \$800,000 annually to maintain and service his several homes and camps in the area. There are many non-residents, like my husband and I that, while we can't claim numbers like the fellow just mentioned, spend many thousands of dollars for local labor and services because we want to spend our summer months in this area. Add the economic benefit of summer residents to that vacation visitors and you have a growing and profitable industry that exists because of the area's pristine beauty. Now you have some people proposing that you allow development of a huge operation that will destroy the skyline day and night in this area and the operation itself is just another new money losing business. No rational business person would invest in this project without the huge tax payer funded subsidies it is promised. It is frightening that we might trade our most precious asset for yet another business that can not make money either short or long term.

I urge the LURC Board refuse approval of this project.

Sandra Clark
PO Box 196
Grand Lake Stream, ME 04637

From: Jackson, Ellen
To: Jackson, Ellen
Subject: FW: Bowers Mountain Project
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 3:27:57 PM

From: Lindsay Wheaton [mailto:info@grandlakelodgemaine.com]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:06 PM
To: Todd, Fred
Subject: Bowers Mountain Project

July 18, 2011

To LURC commissioners:

Please oppose the Bowers Mountain wind project. I was born and raised in Grand Lake Stream and make my living from the natural resources of the area. I am a Guide, Lodge Owner and canoe builder.

The state of Maine recently proved the importance of preserving this area with the Land for Maine's Future Board decision to give \$1.25 million dollars to the Downeast Lakes Land Trust. The purpose of this grant is to help preserve the natural resources and provide recreational access. It would be a mistake to impair the very nature of the grant and approve the wind project.

As a third generation guide in this area, I have seen changes in our visitors to the area from the traditional "hook and bullet" guests to more of the eco-tourists. These guests are more interested in their natural surroundings and viewing wildlife. In fact, they are more sensitive to their surroundings than the traditional fishermen.

We have one economy in Grand Lake Stream – tourism. Please be consistent with other state agencies and vote to protect the unique culture of our area.

Christopher Wheaton