From: Kirsten Brown Burbank
To: Todd, Fred
Subject: Request for Public Hearing
Date: Friday, March 25, 2011 9:22:24 AM

To: LURC Staff, Attention: Fred Todd

Re: Champlain Wind/Bowers Wind Project DP 4889— Request for Public Hearing

Dear Fred,

I am writing to request that a Public Hearing be held on the above referenced project. This project, which is proposed for an area in the headwaters of one of the most important watersheds in the state, is simply too big, and has too many potentially negative impacts, to not grant Public/Technical Hearings. The Downeast Lakes Watershed is world famous, not only for its fishing, but also for its world class wilderness vacation experiences. While the term 'wilderness' maybe subjective, it is a fact that people travel to this region from ***around the world*** to experience the natural world in a way that they cannot experience it elsewhere. This area holds perhaps the largest concentration of working Registered Maine Guides, as well as the largest concentration of State recognized Class 1A and 1B Lakes in the State of Maine. The economy of the surrounding area is based largely on Tourism; tourism that is dependant upon the fact that this area is not overly developed, and that both the State of Maine, as well as private citizens have spent considerable time, money and effort to maintain the natural character of the region.

In addition to the reasons stated above; there are real concerns about the many potential problems with this project, including, but not limited to: The visual impacts of not only the Turbines themselves, but also of the new roads and associated facilities, the potential for erosion and other water quality issues that come along with such a massive amount of construction/blasting/road building, the potential fire dangers in this remote area, the effects on wildlife, including the deer/moose/bear which are important to the local economy, as well as the danger to other animals, including species like Eagles which are of National importance. And of course there are noise issues. As I'm sure you are aware, noise has been an ongoing complaint against wind projects that are currently operating in Maine, including projects by this developer, First Wind.

In my younger years, I was employed at Weatherby's Resort in Grand Lake Stream, where I have returned to fish, rest and take in the splendor of the area. I have friends who today make their living in that watershed as Registered Maine Guides and who cater to folks from all over the world each season. Many who visit are veterans, amputees, and children suffering from severe illnesses and cancer. Many who go there to fish and recreate in the outdoors seek healing - the kind that happens in a place of solitude, purity and beauty such as this.

I respectfully request that a public hearing on this project, DP 4889, be granted to the people of this region.

Sincerely,

Kirsten B. Burbank
Salem Township, Maine