



Paul J. Corey
Chairman

17 Flagg Hill Road
Colebrook, CT 06021
860.561.5101
pcorey@bneenergy.com

www.bneenergy.com

July 17, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Linda L. Roberts
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Comments on Proposed Regulations Relating to Wind Turbines

Dear Ms. Roberts:

BNE Energy Inc. (“BNE”) has reviewed the proposed wind regulations promulgated by the Connecticut Siting Council (the “Council”) pursuant to Public Act 11-245, and we appreciate the opportunity to submit comments for the Council’s consideration. In summary, BNE supports the adoption of the proposed wind regulations without any changes. We believe the Siting Council has done a tremendous job balancing the clear objective of the State of Connecticut to promote clean, renewable zero emission electrical generation projects while also protecting the public health and safety.

Although the proposed regulations impose considerable requirements on wind power developers, the requirements are manageable and will allow the development of commercial wind turbines in Connecticut in a responsible manner. BNE believes that it is important to develop reasonable regulations that provide clear guidance to developers, but that also allow some flexibility for the Council to evaluate projects on a case-by-case basis to determine whether a project is in the public interest. BNE believes that the proposed regulations achieve these objectives.

A substantial amount of the information, studies and reports required by the proposed regulations were submitted by BNE in its Petitions 980, 983 and 984 for approval to construct several clean renewable wind energy projects in the state. As is evidenced by the complete and voluminous records in those proceedings, the requirements that would be imposed by the regulations for future wind projects are substantial and will allow the Council to thoroughly evaluate the merits of any wind project proposal. The wind information that would be required to be submitted with an application for a certificate or a petition for a declaratory ruling would also provide all parties, intervenors and members of the public an opportunity to evaluate the merits of a project and participate in the proceeding in a meaningful way.

The State of Connecticut has recognized the benefits of local renewable energy development and implemented renewable portfolio standards (“RPS”) to encourage the development of

renewable energy resources not only to lessen the country's dependence on foreign oil but also to reduce the environmental impacts associated with fossil fuel sources. BNE believes strongly that clean, renewable wind generation needs to be a valuable component of the state's energy resource mix. Wind turbines are being installed in close proximity to schools, churches and homes all over New England producing clean, green, renewable energy from the wind, providing jobs and economic development in the communities, and creating significant tax revenue to local governments. Connecticut has been a leader of clean energy, but remains the only state in New England without commercial wind turbines. The Council has proposed wind regulations that offer the opportunity for wind generation to be developed in Connecticut in a reasonable manner.

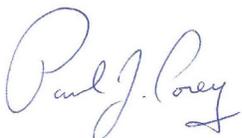
Contrary to the contention of some who oppose wind energy and do not want to see wind turbines near their homes or in their communities, wind turbines are safe and reliable. In fact, there are over 48,000 megawatts of wind energy capacity installed in 38 states across the U.S. and the vast majority of Americans support wind energy. The wind industry is not new, but well established and the technology continues to improve as companies invest billions of dollars each year in the industry. BNE recognizes, however, that wind turbines are new to Connecticut. The proposed regulations would allow the Council to carefully evaluate wind project proposals including consideration of setbacks, shadow flicker, decommissioning, ice throw, blade throw, noise and the impact on natural resources. The regulations also require a public hearing and afford parties and intervenors an opportunity to actively participate in the proceeding. Imposing additional requirements or unreasonable standards could have a chilling effect on the potential for wind turbine development in the state. Furthermore, the wind regulations can be modified in the future by the Council to the extent necessary to either streamline the requirements or impose additional conditions based on the actual experience of subsequent wind project operations in the state.

In conclusion, BNE supports the adoption of the proposed wind regulations. The regulations proposed by the Council are reasonable and strike the appropriate balance between promoting wind energy development in the state while also protecting the public health and safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

BNE ENERGY INC.



Paul J. Corey