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JUL 24 2012
CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Concerning Proposed wind turbine regulations for the State of Connecticut

Members of the CT Siting Council,

July 24, 2012

According to the CT Siting Council's own website the first responsibility of the council is balancing the need for adequate and reliable public utility services at the lowest reasonable cost to consumers with the need to protect the environment and ecology of the state while minimizing damage to scenic, historic, and recreational values.

The Council's proposed regulations state in regard to impact on historic resources that the "petitioner shall submit the visual impact evaluation report to The SHPO for review." SHPO will then submit its findings to the agency - Where apparently they will continue to be relegated to the waste bin and ignored since the regulations pointedly fail to mention that the council will defer to or take SHPO's findings under consideration.

In petition 984, finding of fact (#190) "The SHPO determined that the proposed Colebrook North project would alter directly the characteristics of the Rock Hall property in a manner that would damage the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, material workmanship, feeling or association."

Does any member of the Siting Council or its legal counsel, in fact, possess any formal training or recognized higher degree in Historic Preservation? By having set the disturbing precedent of having no member of the Siting Council ever set foot on the historic resource in question which is a property listed on the National Register and protected from visual and audible impact under Federal Law - let alone be guided by The State Historic Preservation Offices' findings and recommendations - I suggest that esteemed legal counsel for the agency go back to the drawing board and propose actual regulations that really consider the State Historic Preservation Agency's input and comply with Federal Law which the Siting Council is not above.

These comments are submitted orally and to be published on the Siting Council's website as a matter of record.

Hereby Submitted,


Stella Somers
Rock Hall

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