

TAB 16

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

**Petition of BNE Energy Inc. for a
Declaratory Ruling for the Location,
Construction and Operation of a 3.2 MW
Wind Renewable Generating Project on
New Haven Road in Prospect, Connecticut**

Docket/Petition No. 980

February 14, 2011

Prefiled Testimony of Karen Dunn

1. Please state your name and address for the record.

My name is Karen Dunn and I live with my husband at 16 Woodcrest Drive, Prospect Connecticut.

2. How far is your home from the proposed site of the BNE Energy industrial wind turbine site?

My home is 2200 hundred feet from the proposed south industrial sized wind turbine.

3. How long have you at that location?

I moved to Prospect from New Haven in 1968 with my husband and child. I have lived at 16 Woodcrest Drive since that time.

3. Why did you come to Prospect, Connecticut?

I moved to Prospect to get away from the hustle and bustle of the crazy city. I didn't move here alone. My new neighbors across the street from me lived 1 block away from me in New Haven. I never even saw them. Most of the area, we now know affectionately as "The Hill" are transplanted residents from New Haven or Waterbury. Big city living to quiet country life.¹ We

¹ The neighborhood know as "The Hill" in Prospect is located to the southeast of the center of Prospect on the east side of Route 69. It includes George Street, Lee Road, Radio Tower Road, Hemlock Road, Meadow Lane, Woodcrest Drive, and Cook Road . The houses in

moved here within a few months of each other thus cementing us as one big family.

4. What have you found to be special and satisfying about living in your neighborhood?

We were all the same, young married couples seeking a better life for ourselves and our new and budding families in a quiet peaceful place. We would meet at the bus stop, coffee in hand, and watch a little teary-eyed as the oldest of the neighborhood children would climb aboard the school bus for the first time. Babes in arms waiting for their turn. If you were running late, someone would be there to get your child off the bus. Snacks and playtime were always a street-wide affair. If you needed a ride to work, someone in the neighborhood would be going your way. Family picnics and get-togethers were the norm and your neighbors were always invited-pot luck! I have a brass plaque cemented in my lawn commemorating one of our many block parties. We blocked off the street, five grills going all at once, all joining in, sharing, laughing and dancing in the street. Heck, we even had our own parade and marathon. Complete with ribbons and medals for all. Enjoying what is important, great neighbors and great friends. Everyone helped take care of everyone else. You were never alone! That is until now. Our neighborhood, our town never let anyone down. Our Mayor Bob and our elected officials have taken care of this town very well over these many years. They have been there for us making the choices to protect and defend what is right. I believe we are great examples of Connecticut Yankee pride.

5. Why are you here today to testify before the Siting Council?

“The Hill” neighborhood are predominantly on half-acre lots, with some slightly larger. Attachment A is a map of the Town of Prospect on which “The Hill” neighborhood shaded.

My neighbors, Mayor Bob and my town's people are united in a struggle for the continuation of this idyllic life we have been able to acquire here on The Hill. We have modest homes on modest lots, just good ol' country folk enjoying the fruits of their many years of labor. We have the faith and commitment from our local government that given the chance our town officials will again make the right decisions for our town and keep industrial size wind turbines out of our peaceful neighborhoods. I am also concerned that some of my neighbors have contaminated wells from the Superfund site that is adjacent to the proposed turbine sites and our neighborhood and I would like assurances that the proposed activity will not cause the contaminants to migrate further. I also personally asked Mr. Corey of BNE Energy if he would give me assurance that the proposed industrial facility will not adversely affect the value of my home, as I am sure that it will. He responded by stating that this issue need not be addressed. I believe that my pre-existing property rights must be respected and not be subordinated to the interests of a commercial enterprise that is seeking permission to build an industrial facility in a residential neighborhood.

6. What are you asking of the Siting Council?

I would like to know, can you, as the Siting Council guarantee that your decisions regarding these industrial wind turbines will allow the continuation of our lifestyle as we now know it? I believe our Constitution guarantees the right of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Not the pursuit of the almighty dollar! I have been forced to spend my money to protect what I have worked for all my life. To protect my rights and liberties against big Government. I might not have been lucky enough to be born here but my roots are firmly planted in this soil. I know I speak for myself and my neighbors who chose this special place of

tranquility and harmony and that these monster wind turbines do not have the same rights. I, as have many others, been consumed with this battle. Time away from my family and friends to fight what is right and just! This is a home, a place, my place, a space to share with my family. A special place to enjoy my yard, my peace and quiet. We have joined forces, the neighbors on the hill. Old neighbors - new neighbors. We are the same, one common goal, to keep what we have and what we have worked for. We simply want to protect and keep our legacy, to keep watching as the newest little ones get safely on the bus.

I am asking that the Siting Council do their job and protect my home and my neighbors' homes by not allowing BNE Energy to build industrial wind turbines in a residential area.