



PROSPECT PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

36 CENTER STREET
PROSPECT, CONNECTICUT 06712-1699

February 2, 2011

Linda Roberts
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Petition No. 980—BNE Energy, Inc. A petition for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 3.2 MW Wind Renewable Generating facility located at 178 New Haven Road.

Dear Ms. Roberts:

The Prospect Planning & Zoning Commission has reviewed the Petition filing associated with the above noted Petition, and has heard comments from both BNE Energy and the public concerning this commercial wind turbine project. Prospect's Plan of Conservation & Development, Zoning and Subdivision Regulations provide our commission with guidance for the growth and beneficial development of our Town. This includes the desire to protect and conserve the existing character of Prospect and aid in maintaining neighborhood stability and property value. Our regulations also allow for new forms and types of development which may emerge in the future. Such new development would need to be of a standard that is safe, suitable, and of a character that is appropriate for the community. With this introduction, the Prospect Planning & Zoning Commission respectfully offers our comments on this Petition for your consideration:

Section 16a-35k of the CT General Statutes clearly defines the State's policy on the development and utilization of renewable energy resources, such as solar and wind energy as essential to the preservation and enhancement of the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State. We agree with and support our State's energy policy. But Section 16a-35k also states in attaining the objectives of this policy that it be done in a manner that will not harm the environment, cause

risk of health or safety or result in other undesirable or unintended consequences. Undesirable or unintended risk to the health, safety and welfare of Prospect's residents resulting from the operation of commercial wind turbines is of great concern to the commission. We request the Siting Council in its discussions with BNE Energy require:

- 1) BNE Energy to provide expert testimony on the noise level of commercial turbines and what impact the operating noise of these 2 commercial wind turbines that will be placed nearby to a residential neighborhood will have on the quality of life, health and safety of the residents.
- 2) BNE Energy to provide expert testimony on potential safety issues of ice throw and mechanical failures involving the operation of 2 commercial wind turbines that will be located approximately 900-feet to a residential home and 1,200-feet to a major State highway (Route 69).
- 3) BNE Energy to provide expert testimony on the effect of neighboring residential real estate values that may result from the location and operation of these 2 commercial wind turbines, and also additional turbines at this same location if later approved.

The Planning and Zoning Commission believes any commercial venture of this size and magnitude does not belong in a residential zone but rather, if allowed at all, should be located within a designated commercial or industrial-zoned section of a town or city. We would in conclusion express to the Siting Council our overall disappointment in the legislative body in passing energy policy legislation without first having any kind of guiding regulations or standards in place for the development, placement or utilization of renewable energy resource facilities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald E. Pomeroy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Donald Pomeroy, Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

pc: Mayor Robert Chatfield