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Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Pre-Filed Testimony of Brandy Grant

My name is Brandy Grant and I live at 12B Greenwoods Turnpike, Colebrook, CT. My home abuts the proposed turbine site located at Route 44 and Rock Hall Road. In addition, my home is located less than ½ mile from the proposed site on Flagg Hill Road. I will be sandwiched between two wind farms with up to three 492 feet turbines at each location.

I learned of BNE's petition 984 after receiving a certified letter notifying Mr. Zima of BNE's intent to petition for a declaratory ruling with the siting council for the placement of the three wind turbines on Route 44 and Rock Hall Road in December 2010. I had not received notice of the public hearing scheduled in November 2010. I learned of that hearing in February of 2011 after seeing it referred to in documents posted on the Connecticut Siting Council website.

I believe the wind turbines are not being sited in a manner that protects the health and safety of my family and my neighbors. In addition, siting the turbines in the proposed manner will have adverse effects on the habitat and overall enjoyment of the forested areas surrounding my home and the peacefulness of the town. I advocate for adequate setbacks because of the dangers large wind turbines pose to surrounding residents and wildlife. The size of the proposed wind turbines creates many risks for residents including, noise, shadow flicker, and ice throw. Colebrook is significantly colder and experiences icing in the winter months. The next town over, Norfolk, is referred to as the Icebox of Connecticut. The dangers associated with ice are relevant and are certainly increased in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. GE recommends setbacks due to ice throw, as outlined in Ice Shedding and Ice Throw –Risk and Mitigation document.¹ According to their document, blades can throw ice up to several hundred meters, which could potentially be over 2,500 feet away. Noise is also a factor that can potentially have adverse affects on health. It can cause stress, sleep disturbance, and headaches. Since I suffer from migraines, this is a major concern. Audiology Today's JulAug 2010 article, Wind-Turbine Noise: What Audiologists Should Know, found "People living within a mile of one or more wind turbines, especially those living within a half mile, have frequent sleep disturbance leading to sleep deprivation, and sleep disturbances are common in people who live up to about 1.25 miles away."² Setback recommendations are not being followed, and regulations would address these concerns. I feel that BNE has not considered the impact of placing the six turbines within such a

short proximity. The overall placement will affect the people and environment around them. Besides the impact of these concerns on our health and safety, I fear that the turbine installation would devalue our property.

I am not opposed to alternative energy, I am opposed to hasty decision making without considering all the implications a project of this magnitude will have on the community and its residents. I urge the council to review the setbacks that are being adopted by other states where this is not a new endeavor. Much can be learned from previous decisions. Especially, now that the affects are becoming more apparent. Wind energy should be sited in a manner that will protect the health and safety of residents and communities.

Sincerely,

Brandy Grant

1: http://www.gepower.com/prod_serv/products/tech_docs/en/downloads/ger4262.pdf

2: <http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/news/2010/audiology-today-wind-turbine-noise/>

Additional references:

<http://documents.dps.state.ny.us/public/Common/ViewDoc.aspx?DocRefId=%7BF6A567D4-3F56-4125-968F-28CBF62BD6F6%7D>

<http://www.fiwn.org/>

<http://phillipsmaine.com/facts/WindEnergyFacilityOrdinance.pdf>

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