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**CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
DECOMMISSIONING PLAN – COLEBROOK NORTH**

Anticipated Life of Wind Turbines

Commercial-scale wind turbines are designed for a minimum expected operational life of 20 years, but may operate for 25 to 30 years or more. As the wind turbines approach the end of their operational life, it is expected that technological advances will make available more efficient and cost-effective generators that will economically drive the replacement of the existing generators. The decommissioning plan provides financial assurance that there will be sufficient funds available for decommissioning and site restoration in the event the wind turbines are not replaced at the end of their useful life. The cost of decommissioning will be fully funded in ten years, half the expected operational life of the wind turbines.

Estimated Cost of Decommissioning

The cost of decommissioning the wind turbines is offset by the salvage value of the towers and the turbine components. As of the date of this plan, estimated cost of decommissioning, minus salvage value is \$150,000, or \$50,000 per turbine, as shown in Table 1, below.

Table 1. Estimated Decommissioning Costs and Salvage Values

Category	Decomm Costs	Salvage Value	Net Cost
Project Management (contractor costs, equipment, etc.)	\$ 600,000	\$ - 0 -	\$ (600,000)
Site work/Civil (site reclamation)	\$ 120,000	\$ - 0 -	\$ (120,000)
Wind Turbine Foundations	\$ 80,000	\$ - 0 -	\$ (80,000)
Wind Turbine Generators (towers/hub/nacelle/blades/etc.)	\$ 750,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 650,000
		Total	\$ (150,000)

Ensuring Decommissioning and Site Restoration Funds

The estimated cost of decommissioning (minus salvage value) as provided above will be updated upon commencement of commercial operations. The total updated estimated cost of decommissioning shall be funded in equal annual installments over the first ten years of project operations. On or prior to December 31 of each calendar year beginning with the calendar year in which the project commences commercial operations through and including calendar year 10, an amount equal to \$15,000 based on the estimate provided herein, to be updated upon commencement of commercial operations, shall be reserved for decommissioning and site restoration. Such annual amounts may be in the form of a performance bond, surety bond, letter of credit, parental guaranty or other acceptable form of financial assurance (the "Financial Assurance"). On or prior to the end of calendar year 15 of the project's operation, the estimated cost of decommissioning (minus salvage value) will be reassessed and an amount equal to the balance of such updated estimated cost of decommissioning (minus salvage value) less the amounts reserved pursuant to the immediately preceding paragraph will be reserved for decommissioning and site restoration. The Financial Assurance shall be kept in place until such time as the decommissioning work has been completed, provided, however, to the extent available as liquid funds, the Financial Assurance may be used to offset the costs of the decommissioning.

Decommissioning Process Description

Decommissioning and restoration activities will adhere to the requirements of appropriate governing authorities, and will be in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local permits. The

decommissioning and restoration process comprises removal of above-ground structures; removal of below-ground structures to a depth of 24 inches; grading, to the extent necessary; restoration of topsoil and seeding; and the process of removing structures involves evaluating and categorizing all components and materials into categories of recondition and reuse, salvage, recycling and disposal. In the interest of increased efficiency and minimal transportation impacts, components and material may be stored on-site until the bulk of similar components or materials are ready for transport. The components and material will be transported to the appropriate facilities for reconditioning, salvage, recycling, or disposal. Above-ground structures include the turbines, and any interconnection facilities located on the property. Below-ground structures include turbine foundations; collection system conduit and cable; fiber optic facilities; and subterranean drainage structures, if any. The above-ground structures and below-ground structures are collectively referred to herein as the "Wind Project Components."

Turbine removal: Access roads to turbines will be widened, if necessary, to a sufficient width to accommodate movement of appropriately sized cranes, trucks, and other machinery required for the disassembly and removal of the turbines. Control cabinets, electronic components, and internal cables will be removed. The rotor, nacelle and tower sections will be lowered to the ground where they may be transported whole for reconditioning and reuse, or disassembled/cut into more easily transportable sections for salvageable, recyclable, or disposable components.

Turbine foundation removal: Topsoil will be removed from an area surrounding the foundation and stored for later replacement, as applicable. Turbine foundations will be excavated to a depth sufficient to remove all anchor bolts, rebar, conduits, cable, and concrete to a depth of 24 inches below grade. The remaining excavation will be filled with clean sub-grade material of quality comparable to the immediate surrounding area. The sub-grade material will be compacted to a density similar to surrounding subgrade material. All unexcavated areas compacted by equipment used in decommissioning shall be de-compacted in a manner to adequately restore the topsoil and sub-grade material to the proper density consistent and compatible with the surrounding area.

Underground collection cables: The cables and conduits contain no materials known to be harmful to the environment. As part of the decommissioning, these items will be cut back to a depth greater than 24 inches. Cable and conduit buried greater than 24 inches will be left in place and abandoned, unless required for any future site development.

Access roads: Permanent access roads constructed to accommodate the project will remain in place unless otherwise modified to accommodate a future use of the property.

Site Restoration Process Description

Topsoil will be removed prior to removal of structures from all work areas and stockpiled, clearly designated, and separate from other excavated material. The topsoil will be de-compacted to match the density and consistency of the immediate surrounding area. The topsoil will be replaced to original depth, and original surface contours reestablished where possible. Any topsoil deficiency and trench settling shall be mitigated with imported topsoil consistent with the quality of the affected site. Following decommissioning activities, the sub-grade material and topsoil from affected areas will be de-compacted and restored to a density and depth consistent with the surrounding areas. The affected areas will be inspected, thoroughly cleaned, and all construction-related debris removed. Disturbed areas will be reseeded to promote re-vegetation of the area to a condition reasonably similar to the original condition, reasonable wear and tear excepted. In all areas restoration shall include, as reasonably required, leveling, terracing, mulching, and other necessary steps to prevent soil erosion, to ensure establishment of suitable grasses and forbs, and to control noxious weeds and pests.