



December 23, 2011

Mrs. Susan M. Hudson, Clerk
Vermont Public Service Board
112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Re: Georgia Mountain Community Wind Project, PSB Docket No. 7508
**Response to Comments Submitted by ANR Re: Decommissioning Fund
and
Request for Board Approval to Proceed with Construction**

Dear Mrs. Hudson:

By this letter, Georgia Mountain Community Wind (“GMCW” or “Petitioner”) responds to the letter filed on December 21, 2011 by the Agency of Natural Resources (“ANR”) on the proposed decommissioning fund. Petitioner respectfully asks the Board to issue an order approving the fund and authorizing construction to commence.

ANR incorrectly states: “Although, the amount of the fund has not changed, the Board has amended the decommissioning plan to require removal of the turbine pads and Petitioner has revised its plan to include additional site restoration.” The Board did not amend the decommissioning plan to include additional site restoration. *See* Order of 12/9/11. Moreover, the decommissioning plan has always included removal of the pads. As explained in Petitioner’s cost estimate filed on November 4, 2011, the estimated scope of work includes: “Remove and dispose of foundation materials to an elevation two (2) feet below existing grade,” and “Remove and dispose all underground infrastructure at depths less than two (2) feet below existing grade.”

ANR also claims that the \$36,000 line item for site restoration is “insufficient to help reestablish a stable forest community.” ANR apparently continues to envision active reforestation -- something that the Board also rejected. *See* Order of 12/9/11 at 5 (noting that its order “does not require the removal of any roads associated with the project nor the active reforestation of the

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site”). Given that the Board has ruled that the decommissioning plan does not require immediate reforestation of the site, and only four turbines are involved, the ANR hardly has a basis for suggesting that \$36,000 is inadequate to fund site restoration.

This important renewable energy project needs to move forward.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly K. Hayden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Kimberly K. Hayden

cc: James Harrison
Attached Service List

**Georgia Mountain Community Wind Project, PSB Docket No. 7508
Service List**

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**Georgia Mountain Community Wind Project, PSB Docket No. 7508
Service List**

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