

Elizabeth Nicklaus/OHADR/NYSDPS

To Elizabeth Nicklaus/OHADR/NYSDPS@NYSDPS

12/03/2009 11:45 AM

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Subject Fw: Upstate NY Power Corp. Case 09-T-0049 This document IS flagged as a record

----- Forwarded by Kevin Casutto/OHADR/NYSDPS on 11/30/2009 07:47 AM -----



Washburn66@aol.com

To Jeffrey_stockholm@dps.state.ny.us

11/15/2009 07:33 PM

cc Kevin_casutto@dps.state.ny.us, stomasik@dec.state.ny.us
Subject (no subject)

To: NYS Department of Public Service Three Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350 November 15, 2009

 To: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Permits
 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12223-1750

Mr. Stephen Tomasik, Environmental Analyst stomasik@dec.state.ny.us

SUBJECT: Case 09-T-0049 Application of Upstate NY Power Corp. for Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for a 50.6 mile 230kV Transmission Facility

I own property in Henderson Harbor, NY. As a citizen and taxpayer, I am very concerned about the subject project proceeding. The need for alternative energy is very important, and I fully support it, but not this current proposal.

The associated transmission facility which the DPS is holding a public hearing today, has prompted me to write this letter to be read into the minutes of the meeting and become record of our concern and complete opposition to the WTG construction on Galloo Island and the Transmission facility. In speaking with neighbors in the Town of Henderson, it is apparent that there is an overwhelming negative reaction regarding the development of the project, and we suspect you will receive many letters, similar to mine. Regrettably, I am not there to represent myself at this meeting and hope that this letter will serve to register my opposition.

We are aligned with the Coalition for the Preservation of the Golden Crescent, in an attempt to voice our concerns against these projects. This Coalition is formed to protect the Golden Crescent, a world renowned fishery, hunting area and generally scenic wonder. The area is comprised of the various towns within Jefferson County and the northern Oswego County towns. This is the exact area targeted to build the transmission facility for a poorly selected WTG project.

The 150' right of way traverses through one of the most scenic portions of our state, if not the country. It will disturb countless protected species, fragile lands, and fertile lands used for agricultural/dairy needs. This is the same area the NYSDEC placed protective custody over the Double Breasted Cormorant several years ago, and is the only known nesting area in the state for the Caspian Tern. Additionally, the area is highly dependent on its lands for the two main employers, namely tourism/recreation and agricultural, neither of which disturb, nor devastate the environment as Upstate NY Power Corporation's project will, for the short and long-term. This is an area with a great diversity in the population, migration and breeding of wildlife including birds, animals and aquatic creatures or many kinds. Henderson and Galloo Island are also of significant historical and archeological interest.

The placement of the line and the determination to use a 230kV transmission facility also concern us. In our research, we determined that the original project specifications called for 115kV transmission facility for the same WTG project. We believe it is the developer's intention to build a substantially oversized transmission facility in the hopes of luring new developers in the area, or simply have a facility to handle their future developments in the area. Furthermore, the economic evaluation for a complete subaquatic transmission facility does not seem to be present, or offered. Is this due to cost, or simply that our suspicions are correct? – build it and they will come – more developers will follow.

Unfortunately the Henderson Town Board and many Henderson citizens have only very recently recognized the significant implications of this project to the community and our quality of life. We are gravely concerned that NYS would allow a project of this magnitude, complexity and substantial negative affect to our quality of life to proceed, and NYS would provide acceptance for this project with a majority of the residents out of state at their winter homes. Why are these meetings held when the majority of citizens are not in the local area?

If this project proceeds, we will be faced with an irreversible and devastating effect to our environment, local business economy, a degraded tax base and sharply declining real estate value. We ask that NYSDPS rule against the public need for a 50.6 mile transmission facility associated with Case 09-T-0049.

Sincerely, Susan Washburn 13680 Co. Rt. 123 Henderson Harbor, NY