JEFFREY S. BAKER DAVID C. BRENNAN JOSEPH F. CASTIGLIONE MICHAEL J. MOORE JAMES A. MUSCATO II J. MICHAEL NAUGHTON ROBERT A. PANASCI KENNETH S. RITZENBERG DEAN S. SOMMER KEVIN M. YOUNG

LAURA K. BOMYEA E. HYDE CLARKE LAUREN L. HUNT ALLYSON M. PHILLIPS KRISTIN LAVIOLETTE PRATT JESSICA R. VIGARS Young / Sommer LLC

YOUNG SOMMER WARD RITZENBERG BAKER & MOORE LLC

COUNSELORS AT LAW

EXECUTIVE WOODS, FIVE PALISADES DRIVE, ALBANY, NY 12205 Phone: 518-438-9907 • Fax: 518-438-9914

www.youngsommer.com

SENIOR COUNSEL DOUGLAS H. WARD

OF COUNSEL SUE H.R. ADLER ELIZABETH M. MORSS SCOTT P. OLSON STEPHEN C. PRUDENTE KRISTIN CARTER ROWE

> PARALEGALS ALLYSSA T. MOODY AMY S. YOUNG

Writer's Telephone Extension: 243 jmuscato@youngsommer.com

November 23, 2015

## VIA HAND DELIVERY and ELECTRONIC FILING

Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess Secretary to the Commission New York State Public Service Commission Agency Building 3 Albany, NY 12223

> Re: Case No. 14-F-0485: Application of Lighthouse Wind, LLC, for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct an Approximately 201 Megawatt Wind Electric Generating Facility in the Towns of Somerset and Yates, New York

Dear Secretary Burgess:

Lighthouse Wind, LLC ("Lighthouse Wind"), is proposing to construct a wind electric generating facility in the Towns of Somerset and Yates, Niagara and Orleans Counties, New York (the "Project"). To construct the facility, Lighthouse Wind is seeking a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need ("Certificate") from the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment ("Siting Board") pursuant to Article 10 of the Public Service Law ("PSL") and the Siting Board's rules (16 NYCRR Part 1000).

Pursuant to PSL §163 and §1000.5 of the Siting Board's rules (16 NYCRR §1000.5), Lighthouse Wind hereby files its Preliminary Scoping Statement ("PSS"). Please find enclosed ten paper copies of the PSS with a check provided under separate cover for pre-application intervenor funding as required by PSL §163(4). Please note, initially, notice was provided to the

*Buffalo News* and *Batavia News* and some of the stakeholders that the PSS would be filed on November 19, 2015. However, due to a technical error at the *Lockport Union-Sun and Journal*, the PSS notice was not published as originally requested. In order to correct their error, the *Lockport Union-Sun* agreed to publish the Notice of the PSS on November 18, 2015. Additionally, certain recipients of notice were unreachable on the original day of notice due to delivery methods. As such, out of abundance of caution and to ensure that the notice was sufficiently published pursuant to the minimum timeframes for notice, the Applicant delayed filing of the PSS until today, November 23, 2015. The Applicant notified stakeholders that the PSS would not be filed until November 23, 2015 by posting this information on its website and Facebook page. In any event, due to the additional notice, all stakeholders have been notified well in advance of the PSS filing which has also pushed back the deadline to file comments on the PSS.

The PSS follows the statutory requirements of Article 10 (PSL §163(1)) and the Siting Board's rules (16 NYCRR §1000.5(l)). The PSS contains, inter alia, a description of the proposed Project and the studies or program of studies designed to evaluate potentially significant adverse environmental and health impacts, the results of which Lighthouse Wind intends to include in its Application for an Article 10 certificate.

Also enclosed is proof of service on each of the parties identified in Article 10 and the Siting Board's rules. (16 NYCRR \$1000.5(f)) Pursuant to Article 10 (PSL \$163(2)) and Section 1000.5 of the Siting Board's rules copies of the PSS have been served on the parties identified in 1000.5(c) (See, Attachment 1).

Pursuant to Section 1000.5(d), notice of the PSS with a summary was published in the following newspapers on the date provided in the proofs of publication attached in Attachment 2.

The Buffalo News Lockport Union Sun & Journal Batavia Daily News

Pursuant to Section 1000.5(e), three days' advance notice of the filing of the PSS was served on the parties identified in Attachment 3.

Pursuant to 1000.5(g), any person, agency or municipality may submit comments on the PSS by serving the applicant at the following address:

Dan Fitzgerald 310 4th Street NE, Suite 200 Charlottesville, Virginia, 22902

and filing a copy with the Secretary.

Lighthouse Wind notes that the purpose of the PSS is to set forth the scope of studies and data collection necessary to be included in studies in support of the Application. Thus, the content of the PSS identifies the proposed study methodology and lists of information to be obtained during the pre-Application phase of this project.

Under the regulations, 1000.5(g), comments on the PSS are due 21-days from the date of filing. As identified by the Siting Board in its Order promulgating the regulations, the time frames set forth in Article 10 are necessary to provide for an efficient and timely review in the process. Further, significant delay of the PSS comment deadline may jeopardize the timelines set forth by the Company for performing the contemplated studies, many of which must be undertaken during specific seasons or under ecologically sensitive timeframes. Article 10's intent is to provide an efficient and streamlined process for approving major electric generating facilities, while ensuring that the public and interested parties are afforded opportunities for comment and participation. The time periods selected in the final regulations was the result of an extensive stakeholder involvement process which gathered voluminous input to aid in balancing the various and competing interests on these issues. Ultimately, the Siting Board's deliberate decision to retain this 21 day period that was initially proposed was the result of this balancing.

Moreover, the Applicant has conducted a robust public involvement and outreach process consistent with the Public Involvement Program Plan previously reviewed by Department of Public Service Staff. Throughout this process, the Applicant has highlighted the 21-day comment period for the PSS and has provided stakeholders with the projected PSS filing date.

Nevertheless, in lieu of the Thanksgiving holiday next week, the Applicant is willing to concede to an extension of the 21-day comment deadline. The Applicant proposes that the Secretary extend the deadline to file comments on the PSS to December 23, 2015. This timeframe will provide stakeholders 30 days to review the PSS and provide comments and is the longest extension possible to achieve the goals of the Article 10 regulations and timeframes set forth by the Siting Board. To the extent that the Secretary is agreeable to this extension of time to submit comments on the PSS, the Applicant requests that the Secretary provide it an equal amount of time to respond to comments submitted on the PSS.

Lighthouse Wind looks forward to working with the interested parties and stakeholders during the pre-application phase of this process.

Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted, Jam III Esa.

JAM/atm cc: Service List Attachments List Attachment 1: Service for 1000.5(c) Attachment 2: Notice for 1000.5(d) Attachment 3: Service for 1000.5(e)

3