

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources**  
**New York Natural Heritage Program**  
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May 31, 2016

John Wojcikiewicz  
EDR  
217 Montgomery Street, Suite 1000  
Syracuse, NY 13202

Dear Mr. Wojcikiewicz:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the proposed Baron Winds Project (EDR No. 13039), located in the Towns Avoca, Cohocton, Dansville, Fremont, Howard, and Wayland, in Steuben County.

We have no records of rare or state-listed animals or plants, or of significant natural communities, at this site or in its immediate vicinity. Enclosed is a report of rare birds documented within 10 miles of the project site and rare bats documented within 40 miles of the project site, for use in assessing potential impacts of bird and bat collisions. For information on NYSDEC's environmental review of proposed wind energy projects, and for the document *Guidelines for Conducting Bird and Bat Studies at Commercial Wind Energy Projects*, please go to [www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html).

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our databases. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence at the proposed site of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other resources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

Sincerely,

Nicholas B. Conrad  
Information Resources Coordinator  
NY Natural Heritage Program



**The following rare animals have been documented in the  
general vicinity of your proposed wind power project.**

The impacts of wind turbines on animals include both impacts due to disturbance at the site of the turbines, and impacts due to flying birds and bats colliding with turbine blades. Therefore, when screening proposed wind energy projects for potential impacts on rare species, in addition to reporting rare plants and animals documented at the project site itself, NY Natural Heritage reports species of rare birds documented within 10 miles of the project site, and rare bats documented within 40 miles of the project site. These distances were determined in consultation with the NYSDEC Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources.

For information on NYSDEC’s environmental review of proposed wind energy projects, and for the document [Guidelines for Conducting Bird and Bat Studies at Commercial Wind Energy Projects](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html), please go to [www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html).

**Bats within 40 miles**

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS*</i>
<b>Eastern Small-footed Myotis</b> <i>Maternity colony</i>	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Special Concern	S1S3
<b>Eastern Small-footed Myotis</b> <i>Hibernaculum</i>	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Special Concern	S1S3
<b>Northern Long-eared Bat</b> <i>Hibernaculum</i>	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Threatened <i>and Federally Listed as Threatened</i>	S1
<b>Northern Long-eared Bat</b> <i>Non-winter location</i>	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Threatened <i>and Federally Listed as Threatened</i>	S1

**Birds within 10 miles**

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS*</i>
<b>Bald Eagle</b> <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Threatened	S2S3B,S2N

\* Conservation status in NYS as ranked by NY Natural Heritage Program on a 1 to 5 scale:

- S1 = Critically imperiled
- S2 = Imperiled
- S3 = Rare or uncommon
- S4 = Abundant and apparently secure
- S5 = Demonstrably abundant and secure

B after one of the above ranks indicates the status rank is for breeding populations only.

N after one of the above ranks indicates the status rank is for nonbreeding wintering populations only.