

**MASSACHUSETTS**

100 Fifth Avenue, 5th Floor
Waltham, Massachusetts 02451
p 781.419.7696

RHODE ISLAND

10 Hemingway Drive, 2nd Floor
East Providence, Rhode Island 02915
p 401.434.5560

VIRGINIA

999 Waterside Drive, Suite 2525
Norfolk, Virginia 23510
p 757.777.3777

October 19, 2015

Town Supervisor
Town of Somerset
8700 Haight Road
Barker, New York 14012

**Re: *Lighthouse Wind Farm
Visual Impact Assessment Information Request***

Dear Town Supervisor:

ESS Group, Inc. (ESS) has been retained by Apex Clean Energy, LLC. to conduct a comprehensive Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) for their proposed Lighthouse Wind Farm wind energy project to be located in Niagara and Orleans Counties, New York. A VIA is required by the Article X Review Process that the project is undergoing to determine the extent and assess the significance of facility visibility. The visual study area currently extends 10 miles around the proposed development area, thus the Town of Somerset is included in the assessment.

ESS is reaching out to the included cities and towns for input to assist in identifying visually sensitive resources within each community. Examples of areas that may hold visual significance in your community include, but are not limited to:

- Landmark landscapes
- Wild, scenic or recreational rivers
- Forest preserve lands
- Scenic vistas
- Conservation easement lands
- Scenic byways designated by the federal or state governments
- Scenic districts and scenic road
- Scenic areas of statewide significance
- State parks or historic sites
- National Wildlife Refuges, State Game Refuges and State Wildlife Management Areas
- Sites listed on national or state registers of historic places
- Areas covered by scenic easements
- Public parks or recreation areas
- State or federally designated trail, or one proposed for designation
- Locally designated historic or scenic districts and scenic overlooks
- High-use public areas

In order that we may incorporate any of your input in the assessment, we are requesting that the Town of Somerset provide a list of places or areas of visual significance in your community. We have provided the attached form for your convenience and use. Once you have listed any resources on the form, please place it in the enclosed envelope and return it to ESS. If you prefer, you can scan the form and email it to gperkins@essgroup.com.

We would appreciate receiving any input by October 30, 2015 so that we can incorporate it into our review.





Town of Somerset
October 19, 2015

Thank you in advance for your assistance and please feel free to contact me directly at 401-330-1236.

Sincerely,

ESS GROUP, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Perkins', written in a cursive style.

Gordon Perkins
Visualization Specialist

Attachments
Visual Resource Form
Addressed Envelope





MASSACHUSETTS
100 Fifth Avenue
5th Floor
Waltham, MA 02451
p 781.419.7686

RHODE ISLAND
10 Hemingway Drive
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NEW HAMPSHIRE
170 Commerce Way
Suite 200
Portsmouth, NH 03801
p 603.205.8511

VIRGINIA
999 Waterside Drive
Suite 2525
Norfolk, VA 23510
p 757.777.3777

February 9, 2016

Daniel Engert
Town Supervisor
8700 Haight Rd
Barker, New York 14012

**Re: *Lighthouse Wind Farm
Visual Impact Assessment – 2nd Information Request***

Dear Mr. Engert,

ESS is following up on our previous outreach of last October to inquire if you have any resources that you feel should be considered in the visual assessment. ESS Group, Inc. (ESS) is working with Apex Clean Energy, LLC. to conduct a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) for the proposed Lighthouse Wind Farm wind energy project to be located in Niagara and Orleans Counties, New York. A VIA is required by the Article X Review Process that the project is undergoing to determine the extent and assess the significance of facility visibility. The visual study area currently extends 10 miles around the proposed development area, thus the Town of Somerset is included in the assessment. Based on site visits, research, and input from local cities and towns, ESS has compiled the attached list of visual resources.

We have provided the attached form for you to use and an addressed envelope for your convenience in returning the information. If you prefer, you can scan the form and email it to gperkins@essgroup.com or simply send me an email listing the resource or an indication that there are no additional resources you wish to add.

We would appreciate receiving any input by April 11, 2016. If that timeframe is inadequate, please contact us at your earliest convenience so that we can work together in establishing a mutually agreeable timeframe. Thank you in advance for your assistance and please feel free to contact me directly at 401-330-1236.

Sincerely,

ESS GROUP, INC.

Gordon Perkins
Visualization Specialist

Attachments
Visual Resource Form
Visual Resource Table
Addressed Envelope





Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP

Attorneys at Law

Mark C. Davis
Senior Associate
mdavis@lippes.com

March 7, 2016

**VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL and
Electronic Mail (gperkins@essgroup.com)**

Gordon Perkins
ESS Group, Inc.
100 Fifth Avenue
5th Floor
Waltham, MA 02451

Re: *Lighthouse Industrial Wind Facility--Visual Impact Assessment*

Dear Mr. Perkins:

This office represents the Town of Somerset. We are writing to inform you that we have received your correspondence to Daniel Engert, Town Supervisor of Somerset, dated February 17, 2016. The Town is reviewing your request for information and compiling information accordingly. We request you refrain from completing any analysis until the Town has provided you its response to your request for information.

Please be advised that the Town reserves the right to challenge any ultimate findings made by your company, as the Town was not included in the selection of your company or the design of your assessment protocol.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark C. Davis', written over a white background.

Mark C. Davis

MCD/bew

cc: Daniel Engert, Somerset Supervisor