



Janice Pease

(315)328-5793 janice.pease@yahoo.com 130 Beebe Rd, Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

July 19, 2018

Via Email

Honorable Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary to the PSC Re: Case 16-F-0268, Application of Atlantic Wind LLC for a certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to Article 10 for Construction of the North Ridge Wind Energy Project in the Towns of Parishville and Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County.

Dear Secretary Burgess:

Over the last few years I have met with individuals who have abandoned their homes due to the effects industrial wind turbines have on their quality of life. When I write about these individuals, you may picture a man and his wife and their hard work down the drain. Maybe you picture them tossing and turning at night, waking groggily with darkly circled eyes in the morning headed to work. I think what many forget is that there are children in these homes. Children have developing bodies and minds that need sleep, peace, wellness within the family, and they need to be able to stay in their homes.

For many parents the move is painful, but the decision is made. When you have children you know when they are not getting what they need, you feel their pain, and you will do anything to make what is wrong... right.

So this family, the Therriens, left their home of 20 years to try to regain their health and sense of well-being.

This is a cruel fate of a working poor-middle class family. A move such as this is bankrupting and often sends the family's financials into the negative. This solution is a desperate one. No one would chose to leave their home unless it was absolutely necessary, as it was for this family.

My husband and I would have done the same thing had the North Ridge "project" been successful here in Hopkinton.

I certainly would not knowingly inflict this on my children, or anyone else's for that matter.

This is not the only family story that includes abandonment of home due to industrial wind. It is time the government stops pretending there is no issue with placing industrial energy facilities near humans.

Industrial wind harms humans...especially developing ones.

Attached:

- A compilation of information about the **Therrien family**
there are video links with the Therriens speaking
- **Press Release**—*Energize Vermont launches The Vermont Center for
Turbine Impact Studies*

Respectfully,

Janice Pease

Janice Pease

**electronically signed*



The Therriens, a Vermont Family who abandoned Their Home because of Industrial Wind Turbines



JANICE PEASE · SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2017 35 Reads

I had the pleasure of meeting these fine folks and hearing their story first hand. The Concerned Citizens for Rural Preservations set up a meeting where folks could come and hear their testimony and of the hell they lived through after the turbines went up. This was an opportunity to talk to someone who had actually experienced the infrasound and low frequency, that most in our project have not had. I was able to ask questions about their health, their children, and life after the turbines.

The couple were devastated and their lives forever changed with the swoosh of the turbine blades. They spoke of sleepless nights, heart palpitations, and health concerns that prompted their abandonment of their home and that life. My heart ached listening to their recollections of their children's reactions and inability to communicate the issues, I could hear her feeling of helplessness and as a mother I felt angry. What pained me most was the close-to-tears telling of Steve Therrien and the loss of a way of life and freedom that cannot be replaced. In the end their property went up for taxes. A company, Energize Vermont, paid off the Therrien's back taxes and made an agreement to use the property for researching the turbine noise and effects. I do not have much information on this, but would be interested in a road trip up there to see what sort of information is being gathered and what the data says about the levels of noise in the home vs outside (since infrasound/low-frequency sound is not attenuated inside vs outside).

As a mother I am appalled at the lack of empathy by the supporters of Industrial Wind Power. There is a lack of recognition that large scale has the capacity to be harmful, despite the thousands of testimonies world-wide. I have personally talked with a dozen people (some online and others in person). This phenomenon is growing as the scale of turbines grows and the distance decreases. For a moment consider the possible ramifications of the mass

implementation of large scale industrial wind farms in residential areas with varied topography, geology, and particular proximity to residences. Do you feel confident that we as humans know all there is to know about the turbines and their affects? There is an awful lot of research that should, at the very least, give you pause. AS someone who has read thousands of pages about infrasound and LFN I can tell you I would not, for a moment, live next to a turbine and certainly wouldn't subject my children to that. My heart goes out to all the folks who do not have an option!

I have attached articles with links below and in the comment section you will find videos of the couple.

My name is Luann Therrien and I live in Sheffield with my husband Steve and our two children.

Have no idea what we have done or who we've done it to to deserve what we are being put through. But I do know that no one at the Government level has reached out to us to try and help us. We keep reaching out, the response back has been mostly silence.

Since April of last year, we have contacted First Wind numerous times, and our Governor, Senators, Congress, Meadows End, a company that owns land where most of the turbines are sited and the town of Sheffield and The President of the United States. We have filed a formal complaint with the PSB and numerous, almost daily sometimes, complaints with the Public Service Department. My doctor has contacted Lori Cragin at the Vermont Department of Health, as we have been advised by the Public Service Department to do. Mostly the response is-So sorry for your situation, but there is nothing we can do. Or we cannot set precedent by helping you. So basically.... SUCK IT UP!

Why hasn't the Department of Health talked to us? Why haven't they reached out to us to get a better understanding of what is happening to us and others living near turbines? Why has their response been as far as we can tell, nothing?

No one wants to take responsibility. Apparently we are to blame for choosing to live where we do. We consider ourselves to be hearty people. Living off grid and in the middle of no where is not easy but we love where we live.

We have lived at our home in Sheffield, for 17 years. The land has been in my husbands family since the 70's. He has invested a lot of time developing the maple sugar bush on our 52 acres.

Before the turbines were built, we felt we did not know enough about Industrial Wind to have an informed opinion. We did not oppose them being built. We did not oppose the many inconveniences during construction that comes with a project this size. We did not oppose the project, not until it was up and running and creating noise. Creating noise that unlike what the wind developers will try and make you believe- IS distinguishable above natural sounds. I have never heard anything in nature make a repetitive whoosh whoosh whoosh sound for up to five days straight. And the only thing I have heard sound like a jet flying overhead, except for these wind turbines, is a jet flying overhead. This has now been going on for over a year.

To have no one believe or understand just what we are going through is like being constantly beat down. Having people say we are making it up or worse yet putting the blame on having children. Until you live with what we are dealing with you can not understand what it is like to walk in our shoes. People have openly scoffed at us because they paid a visit to a project and think they have the slightest clue what it is like to live day after day, month after month beside a big wind project. One person had the nerve to say they had visited a project and the noise was no worse than their dishwasher. Well, I guarantee if your dishwasher was to run day and night you'd shut it off before five days were done.

We attended Sheffield's Annual town meeting and were shunned by many. By people who had previously been friendly with us. Had one person tell me every Sheffield resident is benefiting

equally from the projects wind fall. That is all well and good. But not every resident is suffering equally.

It has been said that with all power comes sacrifice and problems. The problem is, my family and other families are the sacrifice.

In order to stop the continuing damage to our health and sanity we will have to sacrifice the land where we have lived, loved and planned to spend the rest of our lives. But when it comes to sacrificing our dreams or ourselves there really is no choice. We may have no choice but to sell out for whatever we can get just so we can move. Not only will we have to give up the land that we love but also at a reduced price.

Most of the time we can hear a mechanical humming, wind direction does not matter. The noise for us is at its worst when the wind is coming from the South/SouthEast. When we are not getting the worst of it, other families are. The prospect of more storm systems blowing up the coast is about as frustrating as the noise itself. Know it's coming and not a thing we can do about it.

My husband is feeling desperate because there is nothing he can do to protect his family. I've been feeling more agitated and working on unreasonable. Not a good combination with two little ones.

Since November both my husband and myself have been prescribed antidepressants. I honestly had no idea just how bad I had gotten because it came on gradually. Didn't realize how bad I had gotten until one day my son said something that made me laugh out loud. It was then the realization hit me that I had not done that in a long time and have not done much since, even with an increase in my medication. I used to laugh all the time, dance with my children and make up silly songs. I want to do these things again.

I have a constant ringing in my ears that can be very distracting. My husband has been feeling so bad that he is currently unable to work, his doctor has pulled him from his job. It's impossible to work when you cannot concentrate due to lack of sleep, a constant pulsing in your head like a painless migraine and have the constant feeling of a head rush no matter what you are doing. Steve wakes up startled during the night in a panic state and can not go back to sleep. He has dry heaves almost every morning and has thrown up a few times. Being pulled from his job being unfit to work means he cannot collect unemployment. We have been living very frugally off of our income tax return. This money will run out, not sure what

we will do then.

Both of us have a lack of concentration. Many days we have this odd pressure in our heads. Can feel the pressure in our foreheads, cheeks even in the front teeth with a feeling of pressure as if something is pressing on the bridge of the nose. Many mornings we wake with the feeling of motion sickness.

We know if we do not feel well, our children do not feel well. They cannot tell us verbally, but they do in other ways. We see a noticeable change in our son's behavior. He goes from being a normally active 3 year old with an attitude problem to an unreasonable uncontrollable active 3 year old with an attitude problem, that doesn't end because he goes to sleep. When a visitor asked our 3 year old what he thinks of the wind turbines, he put his little hands up and covered his

2

ears. Most nights both of our children have restless nights and both regularly cry out in their sleep. We have no idea what kind of permanent harm may potentially be being done.

We are getting so tired of feeling like hell everyday. We feel as bad when we get up as when we go to bed. Frustrating isn't even the right word to describe how it feels to get up in the morning already feeling tired, angry and agitated.

Our children deserve better. We deserve better.

We went through hell to have our children. It certainly was not my choice to have our first child at 40. We went through loss (one at five months along), tests, and operations. On our fifth try we had a healthy boy, and we now have a one year old baby girl. And instead of the joy of raising our babies, there is a feeling of being helpless and hopeless.

Helpless to protect our children from the Industrial Wind Project that has been built behind our home. Unable to protect them from the constant noise, annoyance and sleepless nights with all the side effects that go along with

We have contacted First Wind. Their only worry is that they are in compliance, and cannot set precedent by giving a homeowner money. We told them we would need \$100,000 to \$150,000 to move a doublewide home (low end) onto a lot in Derby. This was not to buy us out, it was to move us away from their 16 Industrial Wind Factories. They say they are in compliance and everything is fine.

Some pro wind experts say 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile is too close, other studies say 1.5 miles is too close. The 16 turbines are all from just under 3/4 of a mile (5 are under a mile) to just under 2 miles from our home. The human factor of living with the constant annoyance of these machines does not matter to the wind companies.

Humans are being used as experimental guinea pigs and this is extremely unethical to impose a health risk on a community, without rigorous tests first and no response plan to address the real suffering of people like us. Turbines are huge industrial machines whose

effects on humans have NOT been proven and therefore should not be placed next to human habitation until extensive tests are carried out. You don't have to be a scientist or researcher to know, that putting a site of industrial size turbines next to humans is not an ideal situation for anybody. We need more research before any more sitings close to humans are carried out. No human should have this inflicted on them, we wouldn't impose any other sort of industrial machine next to homes but wind turbines are all about politicians showing "green" credentials and large companies and wealthy landowners making fortunes out of tax payers money, consequently ordinary people are being trampled over in the wind rush.

I thank you very much for your time.

Luann Therrien 2924 New Duck Pond Road Sheffield, Vermont 05866 Mail P.O. Box 165
Barton, Vermont 05822 Phone: (802) 673-9089 Email: lmttherrien@gmail.com

<https://docs.wind-watch.org/LUANNTH...>

Baily Therrien: Poster child for Wind Turbine Syndrome (Vermont)

Oct 25, 2013

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/plugins/social-media-feather/synved-social/image/social/regular/48x48/facebook.png><http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/plugins/social-media-feather/synved-social/image/social/regular/48x48/twitter.png>http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/plugins/social-media-feather/synved-social/image/social/regular/48x48/google_plus.png<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/plugins/social-media-feather/synved-social/image/social/regular/48x48/mail.png>[http://icons/printfriendly-icon-md.png](http://icons.printfriendly-icon-md.png)[Print Article](#)

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Baily.jpg>

.

—Calvin Luther Martin, PhD

If Wind Turbine Syndrome (WTS) had a poster child, surely it would be 2-year-old **Baily Therrien** (Vermont).

A quick review. For several years (three? four?) Baily's mom & dad have been pleading with the State of Vermont to put a stop to the industrial wind turbines that are tormenting them and their two children with WTS.

Vermont, of course, in its corporate-spun cocoon, turned a deaf ear—and continues to. The news media gave the Therriens some slap and tickle notice, and then went on to more pressing, titillating news.

Four years of pleading accomplished exactly zero results; the Therriens were being “hung out

to twist in the wind,” as the morbid saying goes.

Till readers of this website rode to the rescue!

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/cavalry.jpg>

Within a week, people pledged \$6,000 to help the Therriens find a new home! Yes, \$6,000! Initially we thought it was \$5,000, but pledges kept pouring in, totaling \$6,000. (Update 10/26/13: Since publishing this article yesterday, pledges have climbed to \$6,200. Wow!)

Better yet, the Therriens now have all that money in hand. To say that Luann & Steve Therrien are “over the moon” with appreciation would be an understatement.

The story gets better. Earlier this week, the Executive Director of **Vermonters for a Clean Environment**, Annette Smith, launched an additional fund-raiser, and so far it’s approaching \$1,000, I am told.

Back to our poster child. The other day, Luann filed this report with the Vermont public agency responsible for logging (and immediately ignoring) complaints about WTS. (These would be the same “non-complaints” referred to by the **American Wind Energy Association** when contacted by an **ABC News** correspondent last week.)

The American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), which represents the industry, said that wind power was “an inexhaustible resource,” which did not harm the environment and provided a “direct health benefit by reducing air pollution and related health impacts, including asthma.” Spokeswoman Lindsay North, who did not comment on the Falmouth cases, said health complaints were “rare.”

“Rare” huh, Lindsay? How about “denied” and the whole issue buried under platitude and “clean energy” bullshit.

(Bullshit, except it wounds people like Baily Therrien—and that of course makes it far worse than bullshit.)

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/eco-skull3.jpg>

Luann wrote her AWEA-certified “rare” complaint at 3:30 am on October 21, 2013. She filed it as Public Comment Docket # 7156. Here’s what it said.

*Here I am up at 3:30 a.m.
Why? You really don’t need to ask that
question, do you? No, you do not!
That’s right, we’re getting “Whoosh
Whoosh Whoosh”!
Have been awake for awhile, and
repeatedly, by my baby girl Baily, who
will be 2 in January.
My sweet little petunia wakes up, cries
and tells me she is tired. That’s right,
wakes up to tell me she is tired!
Does this seem odd to anyone other than
me?*

Note to Luann: Vermont won’t reply. You know that. This is corporate and government-sponsored abuse, including child abuse.

The good news, Luann, is that readers of this site responded. An international response, as you discovered when all those checks arrived in the mail this week.

People of conscience and people who are still human beings apologize to you and your family.

Luann, we’re happy—really happy!—that Baily and Seager won’t be terrorized by these damn turbines any longer. Nor will you and Steve. We’re sorry you must abandon your beloved home in the woods.

Let us all pray, “Dear God, may Baily forget—may she never carry the emotional scars, the PTSD—of her experience with ‘clean, green, renewable’ wind energy.”

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/PTSD-eye2.jpg>

4 Comments »

1. <http://2.gravatar.com/avatar/eeaaee255b8b87b8e005066f44503d3d?s=50&d=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.windturbinesyndrome.com%2Fwp-content%2Fthemes%2Fwts-theme13%2Fimages%2Fwts-avatar.gif&r=g>**Comment by Kaz on 10/25/2013 at 8:13 pm**
<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/fearful-child.jpg>

Where is the outrage? Local, national and international outrage? A child is being abused —knowingly abused! Why isn't Baily's photo plastered all over the media?

Last week another blond-haired, blue-eyed girl needed help. She was discovered during a raid on a gypsy camp. And what happened? A world-wide appeal went out, asking for information regarding her identity. She was thought to be a victim of "human trafficking" and the media and organizations around the globe worked overtime to identify and protect her.

By all appearances, this young girl was healthy. Perhaps even happy. But her plight was seen as one of desperation and people, globally, became engaged in an effort to help her. But Baily? And Baily's brother, and the Bennett children, and the Todds, and dozens, hundreds, maybe even thousands of other youngsters world-wide. What about them? Where is the resounding cry to protect them? To remove them from danger and restore them to health and happiness? Where are the large-scale, public demands to force these wind developers to cease and desist their torture of our children? What does it take to wake people up, to shame them into action, to rid them of their fear of these powerful corporations and the governments that shelter them?

Thank God and the wonderful people who responded to this plea for donations. This young girl and her family will be able to sleep, at last. But, it's a band-aid on a gut shot. These people have had to abandon their home in order to protect their health and well-being! Since when is it okay to force people from their home?

And how many other children, how many other human beings are in the same boat? Certainly there are far, far more than can be supported financially by the generous people here.

This shouldn't be happening. Shouldn't be allowed.

Where is the hue and cry for the victims of wind turbine abuse?

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/...>

Abandoned home of wind turbine sufferers to become wind farm research center

By [Michael Bielawski](#) / August 18, 2016 / News / [13 Comments](#)

<http://watchdog.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/plugins/wp-print/images/print.gif>
<http://watchdog.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2016/08/therrienart.jpg>

Photo courtesy of Steve Therrien

ART OF ABANDONMENT: This art drawing illustrates the tragedy the Therrien family experienced after noise and health-related impacts of wind turbines caused them to flee their home in Sheffield in 2014.

By Michael Bielawski and Bruce Parker | Vermont Watchdog

SHEFFIELD, Vt. — A Vermont home abandoned due to noise from local wind turbines is being turned into a research center to study the negative impacts of industrial-scale wind power projects.

The Therrien family property in Sheffield has been the epicenter of a debate regarding the adverse effects of wind turbines. Now it will become a dedicated research hub to study the

noise, vibrations and environmental impacts of 16 418-foot-tall nearby turbines known as Vermont Wind.

“We are going to solicit universities and research institutes to conduct studies, and we are going to make the property available to them,” said Mark Whitworth, board president of Energize Vermont, an environmental group that advocates for small-scale renewable applications.

The Therriens abandoned their home in 2014 after living there for two decades because they said the sound and vibrations from the power plant were causing sleepless nights and health problems. When the property recently went up for tax sale, Energize Vermont seized the opportunity to pay off the family’s back taxes and made an agreement to use the property for research purposes.

Steve Therrien, the former owner of the home, said he believes the center will provide a valuable service to all Vermonters.

<http://watchdog.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2016/08/therrien1-300x225.jpg>

Photo courtesy of Steve Therrien

WIND POWER VICTIMS: Steve and Luann Therrien abandoned their home in Sheffield and moved into a mobile home in Derby to get away from 16 418-foot-tall wind turbines built near their home.

“We certainly can’t get the wind companies to do the right thing for the towns. It’s a push in the right direction, with all of the other (wind turbine) projects that they are trying to put in,” Therrien told Watchdog.

“I hate to say it, but any kind of studies or testing (by the state) has been gamed. This will hopefully level the playing field.”

Whitworth agreed that something needed to be done.

“The Therrien family abandoned their home, and we want to start to figure out why,” he said. “What are the conditions that those turbines created that could cause a family to take the extreme step of abandoning their home and property?”

Energize Vermont has named the facility the Vermont Center for Turbine Impact Studies. In addition to conducting research on the turbines’ impacts on residents, wildlife and the environment, the center’s research teams will also assess the performance of state regulators in their efforts to monitor and enforce wind turbine standards.

“The State of Vermont and the Public Service Board does not seem to be interested in doing real monitoring and real measurements,” Whitworth said. “They certainly aren’t interested in enforcing the conditions that they themselves established for these wind operations.”

Another of Vermont's Big Wind critics, Annette Smith, director of Vermonters for a Clean Environment, said she is pleased with the new research initiative.

"It's become abundantly clear that nothing will ever get resolved through the regulatory process," she said. "This is going to finally be a way to gather credible information about what people are experiencing, what the noise levels are — and not just audible (noise), which is what the Public Service Board looks at, but also low frequency noise and infrasound."

Whitworth noted that the owners of the Sheffield facility, SunEdison, a subsidiary of TerraForm Power, is bankrupt, and that the project has not met performance expectations since it was built in 2012, producing only 70 percent of developers promised.

He added that another problem complicating matters is the turbines are no longer supported by their manufacturer. As the turbines fail mechanically, getting the right replacement parts will become increasingly difficult.

A LISTENING EAR: Republican gubernatorial candidate Phil Scott, shown here with Luann and Steve Therrien, is calling for a moratorium on wind development in Vermont. His Democratic challenger, Sue Minter, says wind power must be embraced as part of Vermont's clean energy future.

Therrien thinks the fight over wind power is going to have ramifications for Vermont's gubernatorial election. Republican candidate Phil Scott has called for a moratorium new industrial wind projects, whereas Democrat Sue Minter has said she will not let towns have veto power over industrial wind turbine projects.

"On the Minter side, I would have to say follow the money," Therrien said. "She doesn't realize the ecological damages caused by these things, and nobody is going to know for a period of time. But we've had people go there and be like, 'there's no birds, there's no deer, the wildlife is just gone.'"

He said Minter's strong support for giant wind power companies will cost votes.

"I one hundred percent believe that there is going to be a backlash on whoever is for them, and of course on Minter," he said. "She is not going to get any votes from the Northeast Kingdom. She will probably have a hard time getting any of the rural areas like Grafton or Swanton. She is going to get all her votes from Bennington and Chittenden counties."

Therrien said while he thinks Republican Phil Scott is better on wind, he would still like to hear more from him on the issue.

"Phil Scott, I don't think he's strong enough on curtailing these things, but he's a better shot than Minter. I believe Phil wants to put a moratorium on them, but he didn't say that he wants to completely stop them."

Whitworth reiterated Therrien's comments.

“From everything that I’ve read about Sue Minter, she is interested in doubling down on Shumlin’s agenda,” he said, “and not just on issues related to renewable energy.”

Contact Michael Bielawski at mbielawski@watchdog.org <http://watchdog.org/273828/vt-center-for-turbine-impact-studies/>



Janice Pease <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Raci04GUC8>



Luann Therrien of Sheffield Speaks to PSB, May 13, 2014

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview ·  1 · August 26 at 8:29pm



Janice Pease <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4larrLlrDkw>



Steve Therrien of Sheffield Speaks to the PSB, May 13, 2014

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview ·  1 · August 26 at 8:30pm



Janice Pease <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTAI1JOWa2g>



The Therrien Family of Sheffield VT Speaking in Grafton VT March 1 2013

Vermonters Steve Therrien of Sheffield speaking in Grafton March 1 2013. See...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview ·  1 · August 26 at 8:31pm



Janice Pease https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10jHdaZv_V0



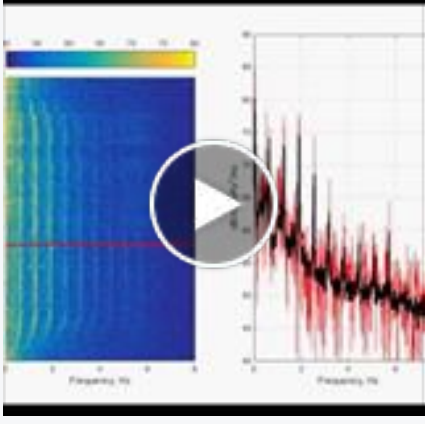
Therriens and First Wind's Sheffield Wind Turbines, Feb. 4, 2014

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview ·  1 · August 26 at 8:34pm



Janice Pease <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fd64sxabuMM>



Wind turbine infrasound inside a house, 240X speed

Wind turbine infrasound recorded by a microbarometer inside a house 1.5km away from the nearest turbine. The power plant consist of 8 pcs Vestas V112 3.3MW t...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview ·  2 · August 26 at 8:35pm

Press Release—Energize Vermont launches The Vermont Center for Turbine Impact Studies

 energizevermont.org/2016/08/press-release-energize-vermont-launches-the-vermont-center-for-turbine-impact-studies

Aug 16, 2016 by EV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2016

East Burke, VT

Contact: Mark Whitworth

802.424.0540

Email: Mark@energizevermont.org

Energize Vermont launches The Vermont Center for Turbine Impact Studies

Therrien family property in Sheffield will serve as a laboratory and classroom

Energize Vermont is establishing the Vermont Center for Turbine Impact Studies. The Center will promote scientific research into the impacts of industrial wind development on Vermont's citizens, wildlife, and environment. The Center will also investigate the effectiveness of state regulators in defining, monitoring, and enforcing the operational and environmental standards for industrial wind turbines.

Energize Vermont has entered into agreement with the Therrien family under which the Center can make the family's Sheffield property available to researchers and educators as a laboratory and classroom. **The Therrien property abuts Vermont Wind's turbine complex of 16 418-foot tall turbines.** Vermont Wind is owned by a subsidiary of the bankrupt Sun Edison.

The Sheffield turbines began operation in 2012 and have **never met expectations (current production is about 70% of what promoters promised).** The turbines, no longer supported by their manufacturer, are failing mechanically. As repair parts become more difficult to scavenge, production will continue to drop and the turbines will become louder and more even more problematic for neighbors. The Center will monitor, record, and document the deterioration of the Vermont Wind facility.

The Therriens abandoned their Sheffield home in 2014 because of the adverse health impacts attributed to turbine operations. Energize Vermont President Mark Whitworth said, **"The fact that the Therriens abandoned their home of 20 years tells us that this property is a good location from which to observe, measure, and record the effects of turbine operation and maintenance activities."**

Whitworth continued, “We had been discussing launching the Center for Turbine Impact Studies with researchers, educators, and funders when the Town of Sheffield announced that the Therrien’s home would come up for tax sale. The Energize Vermont Board of Directors quickly approved an agreement with the Therriens under which back taxes would be paid, access to the property would be ensured, and the Therriens could retain ownership of the property. Energize Vermont’s members have answered the call and have enabled us to raise over half of our initial fundraising goal in less than a week.”

Board member Luke Snelling said, “Vermont Wind’s Sheffield project represents yet another instance where Vermont’s reckless energy development policy has served big corporations at the expense of Vermonters. The Center will help us measure and document the impacts of industrial wind. It will enable us to observe and document First Wind’s violations of their permit conditions. The more Vermonters learn about Big Wind, the more they say ‘No.’ The Center will give Vermonters an opportunity to learn the truth about Big Wind by experiencing its effects firsthand through on-site seminars and ‘turbine listening events.’”

Energize Vermont will begin soliciting research proposals for the Center immediately.

The mission of ENERGIZE VERMONT is to educate and advocate for establishing renewable energy solutions that are in harmony with the irreplaceable character of Vermont, and that contribute to the well-being of all her people.

We achieve our mission by researching, collecting, and analyzing information from all sources; and disseminating it to the public, media, community leaders, legislators, and regulators for the purpose of ensuring informed decisions for long term stewardship of our communities.