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Via Electronic Filing

April 30, 2022

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary of the Public Service Commission
NYS Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment Agency
Building 3
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Re: Case No. 22-E-0204: Comment of concern Heritage Wind, LLC, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Pursuant to Public Service Law Section 68 and for an Order Granting Lightened Regulation

Dear Secretary Phillips,

I am writing in regards to the Petition of Heritage Wind, LLC, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Pursuant to Public Service Law Section 68 and an Order Granting Lightened Regulation, as an individual and as a lifelong citizen of the town of Barre and business owner. I am also currently serving as a Barre Town Councilman. I have many concerns with the Heritage winds petition to forego a public hearing on the financial feasibility of their project. I have continually sought information to confirm the pros of this project and have not been successful. I attended an open house hosted by HERITAGE WIND where I got into a discussion about one of their informational posters that showed one turbine producing enough electricity for 250 homes. I asked if I was interpreting that correctly. No was the answer. There is enough energy for a split second while the turbine is moving. The best they are hoping for is that the turbine is going to move 30

percent of the time . I did some simple math 33 turbines times 250 homes times 100 dollar electric bill /month so times 12 times a 20 year useable life comes up with 198 million dollars the same price that NYSERDA is awarding Heritage Wind for the project Looks like a wash and I feel the money could be used better elsewhere. I informed Heritage Wind associates of this over a year ago and have gotten no response. The second thing I have looked into is the renewable impact on NYS this project would have I was told this electricity will be used down state , but as it enters the grid Niagara Power Authority would have to slow down production at niagara falls to allow this electricity to come on line, stopping a cheaper existing source of renewable energy for a more expensive one. This also doesn't make sense to me. I have researched this more and found that in some situations the hydro power acts as the battery storage that helps expand the use of the water, but that is in situations where water is being diverted for other uses or Mother Nature has reduced the flow of water . Here we are talking about an oversupply of Lake water. If this project was connected to battery storage I could see the extra renewable energy created as a benefit but Nyserda said that battery storage would be cost prohibitive . I also could see this project being of benefit if the Somerset coal plant was still operational, cutting down on the amount of fossil fuel being used but it's not . The third problem I have with this project is the Town of Barre citizens have never had their opinions/concerns listened to. There has never been a vote or survey that has shown the citizens are in favor of this project. In fact just the opposite . Surveys have shown approximately 70 percent of the population in opposition and when the town board was in the process of changing the town's wind ordinance to accommodate Heritage Wind 87% of the population was opposed. I believe the wind ordinance passed because of being pushed through by self interest voting (ie conflicted standing to gain monetarily) from the past board. This was the main reason there was a majority change this last election on the town board. I would really like the citizens of the town to have a stronger voice in these procedures ,if not a vote . The fourth reason I feel we need a public hearing is unresolved issues from the 94.c proceedings that deal with property owners rights and who is responsible for damage that is done during and after construction from

blasting that affects water levels, wells, foundations and property values decline to due to visual blight and infrasound health issues .The issue that bothers me the most and this doesn't deal with this petition but as a point of information,the town's last comprehensive plan was done about 6 years ago, just before the start of the wind project coming in .The opening paragraph said the town has decisions to make concerning wind turbines in the town, then went on to ask 33 questions NONE pertaining to wind turbines .This survey was put together by our planning board That had 5 out of the seven board members needing to recuse themselves because of being lease holders or standing to gain financially and the other two were very good friends of leaseholders.This seems to me was done on purpose and with fore sight to close out or deceive the Barre citizens right from the beginning .

We need this public hearing for the citizens if to do no more than to PROVE/GUARANTEE them IF and how this project is / might be beneficial to the New York State tax payers and be safe for the local citizens.

Sincerely,

George V McKenna