



## Woodstock Open Space Plan

An open space plan that facilitates the development of a broad-based vision for the identification and conservation of resources that preserves the quality of life and character of Woodstock for future generations to enjoy.



What do you love about Woodstock that you would like to see preserved for the future generations?

# WES 5<sup>th</sup> grade class vision for open space





## **Woodstock Elementary School**

The summit of Chamberlain Mt. is less than 3 miles from school on Rumford Ave. Nature trail leads from side of school and connects to multi use trails to Bucks Ledge, Lapham Ledge & Moody Mt.



Woodstock: Then, Now &  
Always



Woodstock, what we all call home: What will the legacy be



Large blocks of adjacent  
open spaces: Lapham  
Ledge & Chamberlain Mt.



## **Bean Mt Bat Hibernaculum, Peru, ME**

One of only three major hibernacula in Maine. Historically this cave has supported three species of *Myotis*, which have been listed as endangered or threatened in ME. Last USGS Bat count: 1938 bats. Located 3.1 miles from the Met. Tower on Bryant Mt.



Scenic views that give Woodstock its unique Identity

TRIPS 2006

Consider the changing color of the leaves to be your signal to get out and explore this spectacular state.

# 5 FALL JOURNEYS

**IT'S FINALLY BEGINNING** to cool off, the crowds have begun to thin, and in the evenings you begin to remember how much you value your fleece. And did we mention the leaves? Fall is the perfect time to get out and go exploring in Maine. Every corner of the state offers something well suited for autumn activities: hiking in Maine's majestic White Mountains (okay, the Granite State's are nothing to sneeze at, but the Pine Tree State offers some stellar summits of its own), exploring the rich history and culture of Greater Portland, witnessing the midcoast's abundant wildlife, building family bonds in Acadia and the Bold Coast, and taking advantage of the North Woods' ample sporting opportunities. Whatever your style, we've put together five journeys throughout Maine for you to get as much as you can out of the season most Mainers think is the nicest in Vacationland. To make it even easier for you, we've included references to help you locate the more obscure locations on the one mapbook in every Mainer's car or truck — DeLorme's *The Maine Atlas and Gazetteer*. So gas up, lace up, but whatever you do — don't hole up.

## Iconic image of North Pond

This image was used in the Sept 2006 issue of Down east Magazine highlighted the 5 best foliage routes to take in Western ME. This image is from Cathy Newell's dock in Greenwood. 3.5 miles from Bryant Mt. & Chamberlain Mt at the far end of the pond. Images of North Pond have also been featured in LL Bean catalogs.



## North Pond kayakers

Views from Old Gore Rd, Greenwood. These Kayakers were from Albany, but consider North Pond their favorite pond to paddle. View is From Bryant Mt. to Chamberlain Mt. less than 2.5 miles away. Residents here are concerned about double flicker in the water.



## **Chamberlain Mt. from Greenwood Town Beach On South Pond**

Moody Mountain is on left and top of Chamberlin is on right above  
the ridgeline is less than 5 miles away.



**Chamberlain Mt to Bryant Mt. 3&1/2 miles  
away from Big Concord Pond, Woodstock**



## **Androscoggin River Trail from Rumford PT Bridge at junction of Rt 2 and Rt. 232**

This image was taken 4 miles from Bryant Mt. 21/2 miles further down river Bryant Mt. is 2 miles from the river. This section of the river has become very popular with paddlers numerous take outs



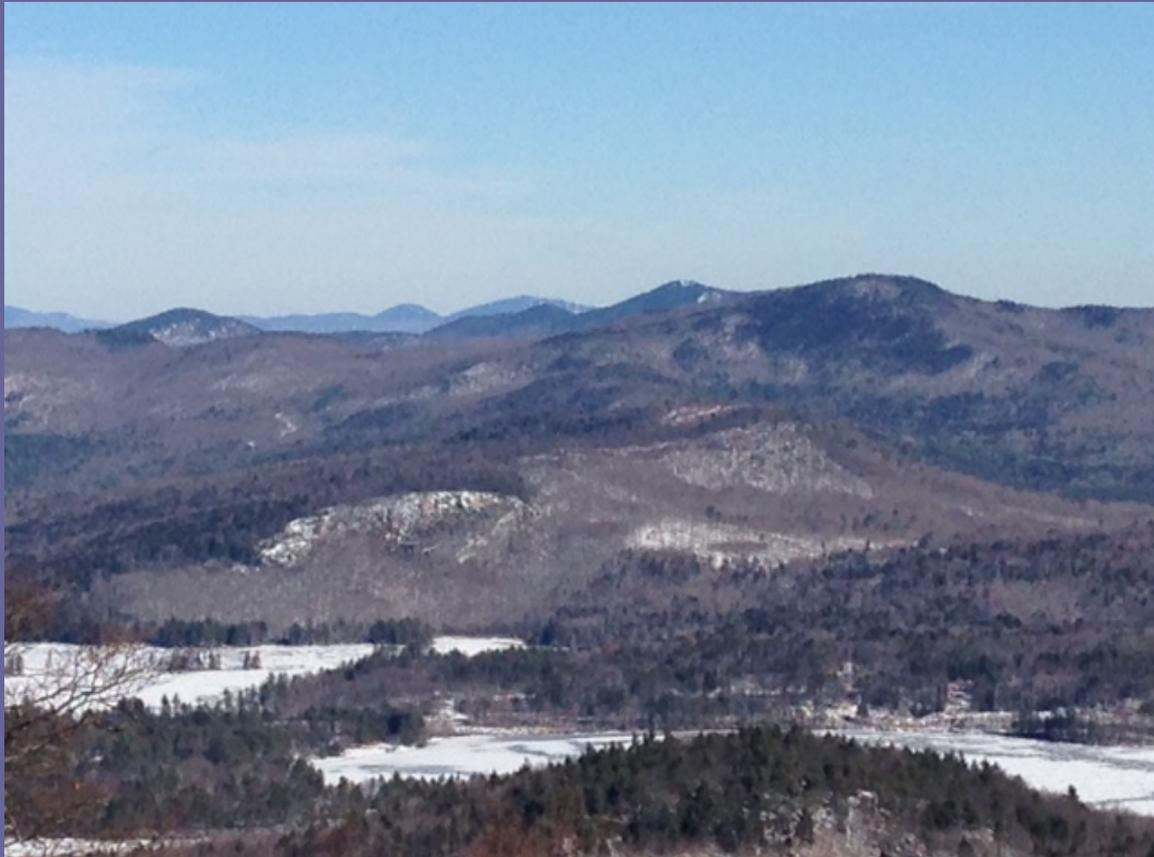
## **Chamberlin Mt. to Bryant MT. 5 miles away Little Concord Pond State Park below**

Little Concord Pond State Park / Bald Mt and Speckled Mt trails are outstanding recreational resources. The state keeps “the small pristine pond” stocked with brook trout.



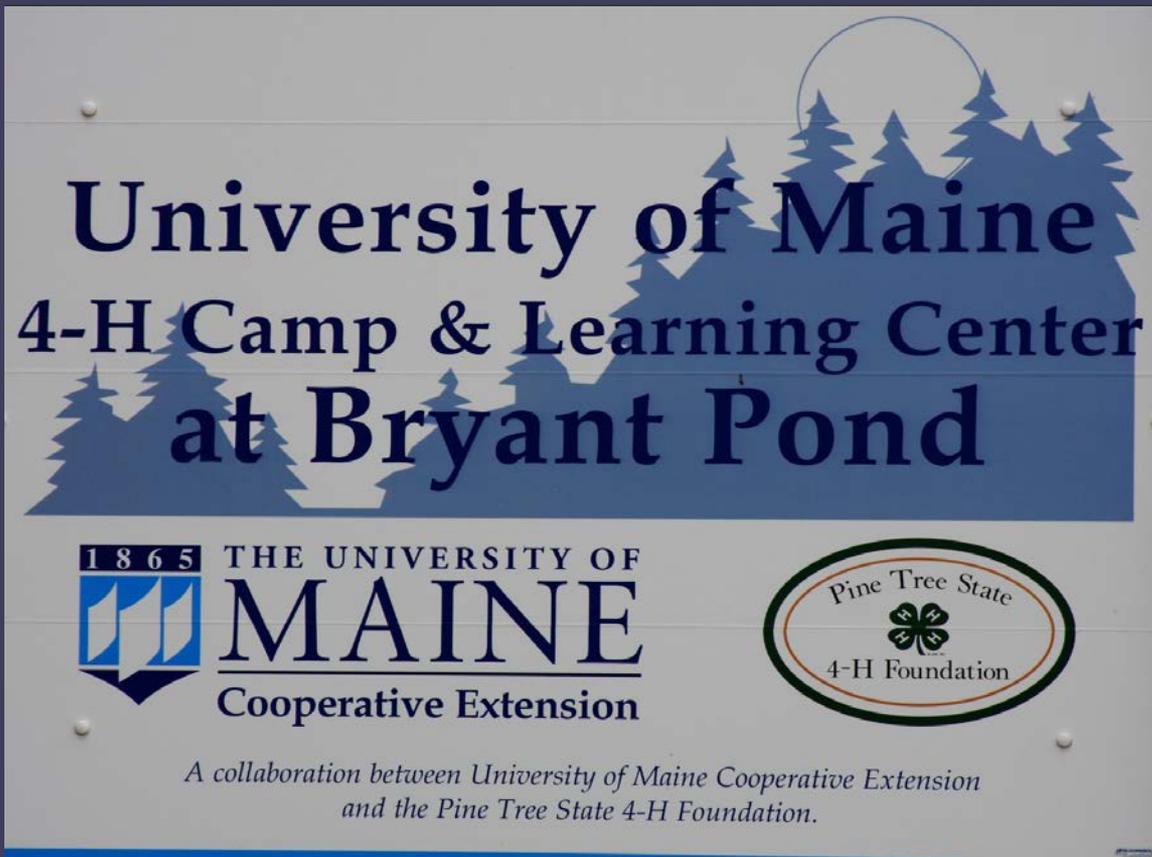
**100 mile views from Mt. Zircon towards  
Chamberlin Mt. to Bryant Mt. 3.5 miles away**

Maine Today.com January 25, 2016: 13 Amazing Maine  
Mountaintop Views.



## **Bryant Mt. to Chamberlin Mt. from Mt. Abram Ski Area, Greenwood**

Bryant Mt. upper left of image to Chamberlain Mt. upper right of image. Mt. Zircon just to left of Chamberlain Mt. Lower left is North Pond, above north Pond Buck's ledge, middle bottom to right bottom is South Pond. Chamberlin Mt. is 5.5 miles from Mt. Abram



Down east magazine July 2013 named the youth conservation school the best wilderness training camp in the state, referring to the camp as a “throwback to camps of Old”

They train over 1,000 youth from Maine, across the US and internationally each year in wilderness survival, water & shooting safety in naturalist, primitive, leadership and Junior Warden programs. Using Lake Christopher as their base camp and classrooms. Also home to Telstar Freshman Acad.





## **“Then, Now and Always”**

This slide honors Greenwood’s Bicentennial celebration this weekend. This view today is the same view as 200 years ago and we want to preserve this ridgeline for Always



## **Ricker Farm circa pre 1850**

Warren Hillquest's farmhouse is less than 1 mile from the summit of Chamberlain Mt.. He owns 375 Acres of land that borders Milton TWP & the proposed wind tower project.









## **Chamberlin Mt. summit from Christine Kennedy home**

Christine lives of of Billings Hill Rd in Woodstock. Her home is less than 4,000' from the summit of Chamberlain Mt. Christine wrote a letter requesting that Milton TWP be removed from the Expedited Wind Power Development area list.





## **View from Bryant Mt. to Chamberlain Mt.**

From Gore road. 3 Generations of Wilsons are still living on the land. This image is from in front of the farm.



## **Ridgeline Bryant Mt. to Chamberlain Mt.**

From Dwayne Bennett's farm RT 232 Bethel approx. 1 mile from ridgeline where towers will be placed.



## **Pinhook Meeting House circa 1860**

Located on RT 232, North Woodstock. 2 miles from the summit of Chamberlain Mt.



Davis farm on Billings Hill Rd. less than 1.5 miles from Chamberlain Mt. summit.



## **William Chamberlain Farm Circa 1821**

This farm was built by William Chamberlain the name sake for Chamberlain Mt. It is where I (Ed Rosenberg) was raised. My parents Peter & Annie Rosenberg purchased the farm in 1955. It is now owned by my sister Donna and her husband Greg Trundy.



## **Charlie Nielsen's home**

Located at 511 Farnum Rd. Woodstock. Their home is less than 1 mile from the Summit of Chamberlin Mt. seen on ridgeline behind home. Their home is down wind to the prevailing NW winds. With East winds they hear the Spruce Mt. wind turbines.

Alice McKay Barnett 1068 Dickvale Road Peru, Maine 04290

## **Milton Township removal from the Expedited Permitting Area for Wind Energy Development.**

8/10/2016

Stacie R. Beyers

Chief Planner

Land Use Planning Commission

106 Hogan Road, Suite 8

Bangor, ME 04401

### **(a) unreasonable adverse effect for the state to meet wind energy requirement goals.**

Carthage ME won the ownership of the contested Saddleback Ridge top = twelve more turbines.

Rumford ME voted to drop ordinance and go with DEP standards = multiple turbines

Roxbury ME will host more for sure.

Dixfield ME can host twelve more. (mortality dropped)

Canton ME broke ground this summer....twelve more?

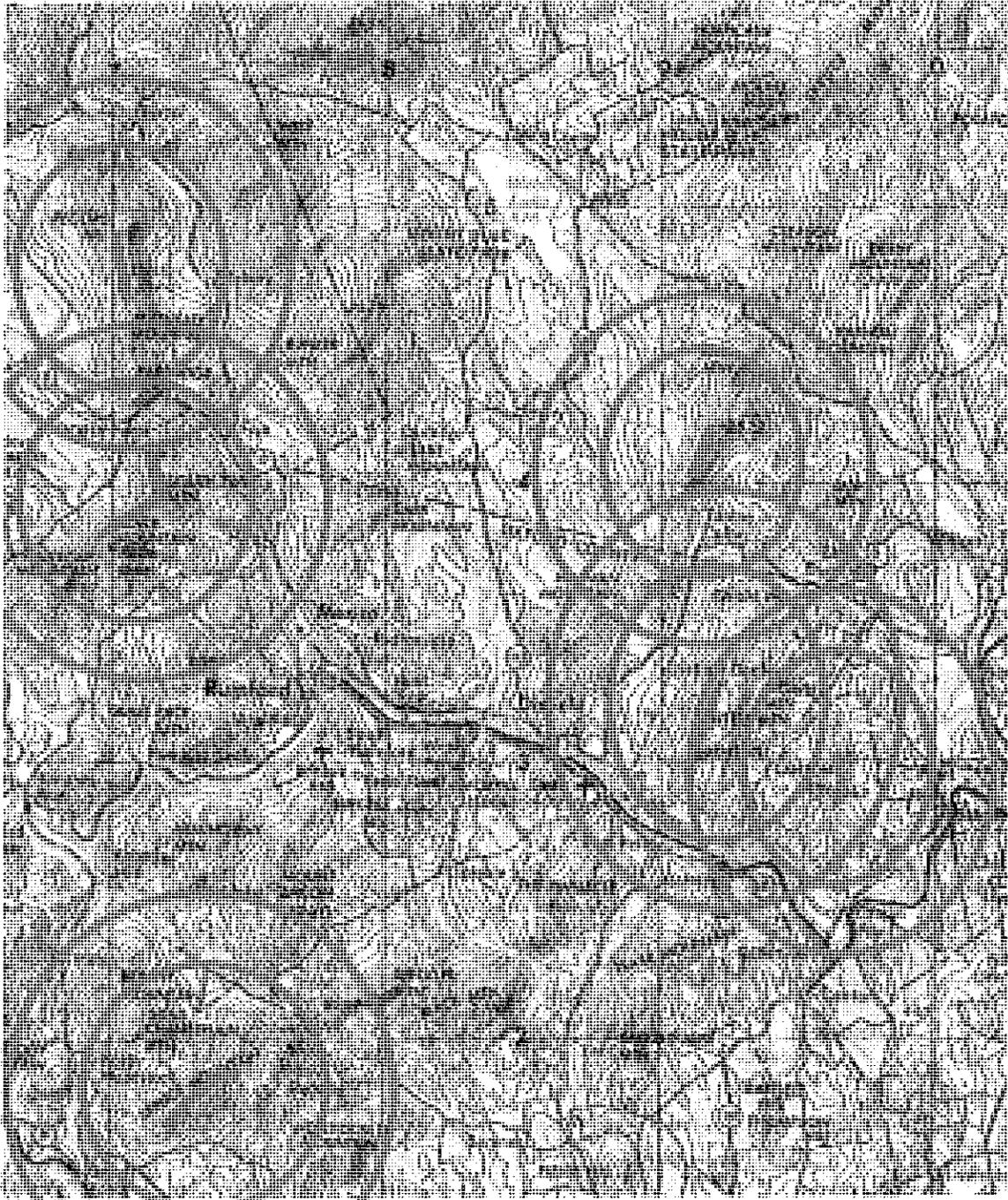
## **Expiditation is not necessary**

Alice McKay Barnett 1068 Dickvale Road Peru, Maine 04290

I live in Peru, Maine and I have adverse affects from Spruce Mountain Wind Project, three miles away. Milton Township is less than a mille from my property. I will experience accumulative adverse affects if Milton Township is not removed from the Expedited Permitting Area for Wind Energy Development.



turbine wake from Spruce Mountain Wind seen from 1068 Dickvale road Peru, Maine



Do you live near red circles? 2 mile 3 mile

August 4, 2016

Milton TWP is indeed an unorganized territory. But unlike most unorganized territories in Maine it is not a vast area of unoccupied wilderness. Milton is a mere 15 square miles with the majority of it's residents residing in two river valleys along the bases of Bryant and Chamberlain Mts. Milton is also wedged between the borders of five neighboring towns. The total distance between Route 232 and the East Milton Rd, where most residents live is a little less than 2-miles. The proposed windmill site is right between the two. Everyone who resides there will be right underneath them.

My wife and I along with 11-other households reside on the Roger Farnum Rd. This is a dead end county road on the east Milton side. All of us on this road will be between 3800 and 4800 ft. directly East and Southeast from multiple towers. Our quiet little community will now listen to the cyclical swirl and" the approaching plane that never gets there" sound of multiple turbines, 24hrs a day.

We know this for a fact, as we have stood on Shag Pond Rd and listened to that sound from a Spruce Mtn. turbine at a greater distance than our setback will be.

Being very familiar with the lay of the land, we are also very concerned that the Roger Farnum Rd is the most likely access up on to both mountain tops. If that were the case, our current family friendly dead end road would become a heavy construction super highway. None of us made our home here with that in mind.

We would appreciate your serious consideration of our concerns.

Michael L. Dunn

<sup>stator is at the</sup>  
<sup># 2 other</sup>  
<sup>3 towers</sup>  
 Everpower testifies that Maine is not a good wind source to compete in the wind power market, but also testifies Milton twp. Is an excellent wind source with good access to transmission lines? The best I can comprehend of this is there is very easy access to transmission lines. This easy access for this company will destroy lives and lifestyles of the people who live here on a daily basis and also those who own property and live here seasonally or on weekends and when they have time off from work. All of us people already provide a steady tax base and support services needed for this area. Having this wind company move in will not be good for the area. They will be noisy, unsightly, and will only pay minimum taxes required. They will also diminish the tax base that is already here and discourage any more good neighbors and tax payers from moving into the area. No one wants to move into an area that has these unsightly noisy industrial wind towers over their heads or near them.

Milton twp. and surrounding areas have great scenic, recreational, and habitat value which is why people, when discovering the area, try to purchase property when available. That is why I purchased property in the area and decided to make it our home. The views are exceptional from any mtn. in the area except Bryant mtn. , which is closed for any access. Mtn. Zircon to the N.E. and bucks ledge to the west provides excellent views for those who wish to hike them. I am pretty sure those Mtns. will not be used as much as they are now if industrial wind towers are erected on Bryant, Chamberlain and Billings Hill area. I know this will be fact because I have seen a tremendous decrease of use on the trails to Bald and Speckled Mtns. to the east of Spruce Mtn. since the wind towers were erected on Spruce Mtn.

The snowmobiling and ATVing in the area will not be effected by the wind towers, but the people who purchase or rent property in the area for these activities will probably go away. People simply do not want to look at or listen to these things, including myself. People are starting to understand that these things do nothing for the state of Maine except raise your power rates as for us ratepayers we have to foot the bill to transmit the power elsewhere that these wind turbines produce and the tax dollars that the state will take in will hardly offset these costs.

Any local taxes taken in will be dispersed at a county level and hardly seen in the local area.

Our property values in the local area will decrease tremendously by how much I do not know. I sure hope someone here will testify to this if they are already living near these things. I have a pretty good idea that anyone who wants sell and get away from <sup>noise</sup> things will probably have to walk away near empty handed. I cannot envision anyone wanting to purchase property near one of these noise machines never mind 12.

Any wind towers erected on these Mtns will be devastating to any resident living full or part time in either small valley to the East or West of these wind towers. A 400ft tall turbine will almost rattle a home within several miles of the up wind flow of wind, this noise and thumping of large propeller blades does not go away until the wind stops. This is almost unbearable. I have researched this personally; I do have wind towers approximately 3.5 miles to the South of me now.

From most of the information I can find out about the wind industry from the internet and some phone calls that I have made about the wind industry has turned out to be more about the GREED and not trying to save the planet from the effects of Co2 gases. These developers will put these turbines anywhere that someone will let them, because they are heavily subsidized by our Federal Government, which is our tax dollars.

I for one do not want any industrial wind towers in Milton twp. or any place else in the state that will affect the lives and lifestyles of any hard working taxpaying/voter in the state of Maine.

Thank You,

Respectively, Bill Waite

## On criteria A

Removing Milton twp. From the expedited wind area will not affect the state's ability to achieve the wind power goals with 17 million acres available in the state of Maine. The people who set these goals surely would not want large industrial wind towers over the homes where people live and have them tolerate the nasty noise these industrial wind towers create. I'm sure those who set these goals have a plan that does not include driving Maine taxpayers and seasonal residents from their properties which the existing wind towers have already proven to do.

## Criteria B

The Everpower wind towers if allowed to proceed will bring very little economic development and value to the region at best they might 1 or 2 local low paying permanent jobs as security guard/groundskeeper type positions. Other tech. jobs required to operate and maintain the windmills will be specifically trained positions that may or may not come from people in the local area.

AS for the construction process, this is a very quick process with several companies competing for the bid to work and complete this job in a very timely manner. The people they employ, may or may not come from the state of Maine for these are also specialty trained jobs. These companies will move on to another project not related to wind development. These companies and employees do not enhance our economy greatly by using lodging, food, and fuel for an extended period of time.

As for the forest here in the state of Maine these wind towers will need 4 to 6 acres each of land for construction and operation, plus roads to access them, which will take away Maine's natural ability to combat Co2 gases throughout our world. Trees do use Co2 to grow which in turn produces oxygen that people and most creatures use to survive. Where these wind towers and roads to access them will be there will never be anything grown there again that uses Co2 gases thus diminishing Maine's ability to combat global warming.

August 10, 2016

Dear Commissioners for the LUPC:

I am writing in regard to the activity in Milton Township pertaining to the removal of the Expedited Status and the proposed Wind Tower Project.

I support removal of the Expedited Status from all of Milton Township, and I oppose the proposed Wind Tower Project.

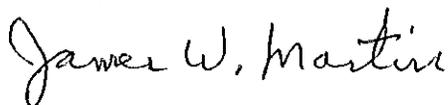
My reasons are simple, yet the decision process is complex as we all balance many delicate issues and peoples' feelings; therefore we must think in the long term rather than the immediate short term as to the long lasting effects these two matters will have on the citizens of Milton Township and all the surrounding communities.

When I first moved to Milton Township about twenty years ago, I saw the whole region as a wonderful place with its pristine beauty and friendly neighbors. Geologically it is the site of a former lake, formed millions of years ago, but after the last ice age the lake drained out leaving what we call today as Milton Road and the short flat areas on either side of it. The mountains form a natural bowl as a reminder what it was like, but more so as proof of the geologic wonder we all witness today.

I do not want to see these beautiful mountain views ruined by wind towers. The proposed Wind Tower project puts Milton Township in direct path of the prevailing westerly winds, or on the downwind side of the giant rotor blades. In most cases there will be sunset flicker and audible noise.

Therefore I ask the proponents of this project and the landowners whose property has been chosen for the project to please reconsider; and I also ask the commissioners to please remove Milton Township from the expedited status.

Sincerely,



James W. Martin  
Milton Township

My name is Paula Mills Lamb. I currently live in South Paris, Maine although I was brought up in Bryant Pond, a village in Woodstock, Maine. I am a third generation woodland owner here in western Maine. I currently own woodland in Bethel, Greenwood and Milton Plantation.

I came into the family <sup>forest management</sup> ~~timber~~ business when I received my first woodlot as a gift from my grandfather on my 13th birthday. To date, in my family, both my grandfathers, my parents, my 10 aunts and uncles, my 3 siblings and at least 11 of my cousins have all been woodland owners. We have owned and managed, purchased and passed down, planted, pruned and harvested many thousands of acres of Maine's working forest over the years. The vast majority of those thousands of acres remain, to this day, after 3 generations, part of Maine's working forest. ↷

My father ran the family <sup>forest management</sup> ~~timber~~ business from the kitchen of our home, so the business was always being discussed...over breakfast, over dinner, really always...and of course, many of my father's business conversations with others were overheard by the family as not only were we generally around, but because we only had one crank phone in the house, located in that kitchen.

It also seemed like it took forever to get anywhere in the car when I was a kid as we always had to get where ever we were going by way of whatever woodlot, logging jobsite or mill yard my father had on his mind and wanted to take a look at that day.

↷ When I became a landowner, my formal education in the family business philosophy began. We referred to our family philosophy as stewardship of the land. We understand that the land and all it offers exists for the benefit of everyone in the community, whether they own land or not. It is a privilege to be an owner and thus the steward of the land and with that privilege comes responsibility.

A primary consideration of that stewardship philosophy was to do no harm. Do no harm to the land, the health of the forest, the streams, brooks, rivers or ponds, the wildlife, the neighbors, or the community

at large. Always do no harm but also constantly be thinking of the highest and best uses of the forest and the best forest practices for the benefit of all concerned.

Another consideration was to leave the forest better than you found it. That meant taking damaged and diseased trees first. Thinning and weeding the forest was the MO for every harvest. Always leave the biggest trees for another time. Eventually only taking the biggest trees when the right time in their lifespan had come. It also meant taking erosion control measures, planting and pruning trees and creating wildlife habitat areas.

Harvesting the forest has been the lifeblood of the local communities as well as the state and the region for many years. It has provided raw materials for the mills, which provided jobs that supported local families and produced products the world needed.

Recreational use of the forest plays an important part as well. It contributes to the quality of life for those of us who live here and brings people from away which also help support our communities economically.

Stewardship is a big responsibility, which requires doing the right thing today, but also looking forward to the future, changing times and making plans to diversify.

~~My children and yours are part of that future. My children do not own land as yet, however two of them are pursuing careers that are directly related to these changing times and need for diversity. I have a daughter currently studying Environmental Engineering in college. I have a son who is already working in the heavy construction field for a firm that is involved in <sup>some</sup> alternative energy construction and maintenance <sup>projects</sup> while he finishes his degree in Construction Management Engineering.~~

Today we are considering the future use of land in Milton Plantation for wind energy generation. I own a ~~large~~ tract of land in Milton

Plantation and have signed on as a cooperating landowner for this project.

This project will have some benefit to me directly, however, my main motivation for supporting the project and the wind power expedited zone is that I am convinced that it is critical to the future quality of life for all of us that we explore wind energy as an alternative to fossil fuels. *and reduce the effects of climate change.*

In having considered my stewardship of the land once again, as I've been doing for over 40 years, I have come to the conclusion that this is a reasonable use of this land and that wind energy generation is a reasonable activity for this area.

I am of the opinion that wind energy generation will provide benefits to the community by way of jobs and infrastructure improvements, while preserving recreational uses. It will benefit ~~to~~ landowners in that as uses for forest resources change, we will be able to adapt and access these new markets. It will help landowners keep the land as forests.

I can see that the comprehensive permitting process, which is already in place, that this wind energy project must make it through before construction can begin protects us, as a community. The permitting process has protections for wildlife, migratory birds and bats; erosion control requirements for protection of the land and watershed, and noise limits that will protect the neighbors. *and light*

I am confident in the process that originally established this area as a wind power expedited zone. I like the fact that these determinations were made by looking at the whole state in an objective process and that wind power expedited zones were determined long before this project was on the table.

I urge the committee to keep Milton Plantation in the wind power expedited zone.

Dear Land Use Planning Commissioners,

I am Lee Graham. My husband and I have a small organic vegetable farm on our 72- acre property. 10.5 of the acres are located in Milton Township, but our house and our legal residence are in Woodstock. The westerly side of our land is the base of Chamberlain Mountain. Siting a wind farm in a township such as Milton fails to take into consideration the effects on surrounding areas. From our house, the towers, depending on their actual height, may or may not be visible as the mountain is directly behind us, but they will be visible from our fields, orchard, and asparagus gardens.

With the prevailing west<sup>only</sup>, northwest<sup>only</sup> winds, we will surely hear the noise; yet, because we are not Milton voters, <sup>until today</sup> we have had no voice.

We are not alone. Citizens in the entire surrounding area: Bethel, Greenwood, Rumford, and Woodstock will be effected by the presence of the wind farm and its transmission and supply routes.

The Land Use Planning Commission, as I <sup>bound</sup> understand it, is empowered to uphold the goals and values of sound land use. As the primary stewards of Maine's land in its unorganized territories, it is the Commission's grave

responsibility to preserve the land for Maine's future. That responsibility cannot focus just on one small, sparsely populated township. That township is not an island. It is connected, just as our land is connected to the surrounding towns. Because so many and such a large rural area will be effected, the commission should use the full permitting process and time to learn all of the possible effects of EverPower's proposed wind farm. There must be time for scientific investigation of the effects of wind towers on scenic views, on wildlife, on human health, and on land values.

I respectfully request that the Commission remove the request of the EverPower wind project from the expedited process. Wind power may well have a place in Maine's energy future, but every effort must be made to insure that it is not implemented where it will cause harm.

Lee Graham  
511 Farnum Road  
Woodstock, ME 04219  
graham@sad44.org

7.4.3.13

511 Farnum Road  
Woodstock, Maine  
August 10, 2016

Stacie R. Beyer  
LUPC  
106 Hogan Road  
Suite 8  
Bangor, Maine 04401

Dear Ms. Beyer

I am writing to argue that the REMOVAL from the EXPIDITED PROCESS of EverPower's prosed wind project in Milton is consistent with the principal values and goals in the comprehensive land use plan adopted by LUPC.

I live on the Farnum Road in Woodstock, which is a short road at the end of the Milton Road. 10.5 acres of the land I live on is in Milton. My land is at the base of Chamberlain Mountain. My land and home are directly east of both Chamberlain and Bryant Mountains and well less than a mile of the proposed wind project. I live closer to the proposed project than the majority of Milton residents.

The constant and prevailing Westerly wind will undoubtedly channel unpreventable wind tower noise to my home. This is a great concern to my family's well-being and way of life.

Although LUPC is officially charged with regulating land use in unorganized townships, Milton does not exist in isolation. Woodstock, Bethel, and Rumford have contiguous borders with Milton. EverPower has designed their site plan along this common border. *Perot Greenwood*

As LUPC considers the values and goals of land use for Milton, LUPC should also consider how, in this case, what happens in Milton also happens in adjoining towns.

I request that LUPC remove Milton from the expedited process in regards to EverPower's proposed wind project in the interests of further regional impact study and more solid information from the petitioner.

Hilquist

Sincerely  
*Charlie Nielsen*  
Charlie Nielsen  
511 Farnum Road  
Woodstock, Maine  
207 369 0792  
[ccnielsen511@gmail.com](mailto:ccnielsen511@gmail.com)

7.4.3.20

My name is Mike Daigle; I live just down the road in Rumford Center I work for the Cianbro Corporation.

I am here today to speak in support of the Bryant Mountain wind project.

I am originally from Millinocket, and still visit frequently, every time I go up there I see the impact of loss of jobs and the impact the mill closing has had on the tax base in that area.

I think we need to take advantage of the investment developers are willing to make in this area for the benefits tax base and employment in the area.

I am a graduate of Maine Maritime Academy 30 years ago, and have worked in the biomass, gas turbine and hydro industries, but for the last 8 years my family has been supported by the wind industry, 4 years with the turbine manufacturer Vestas, and 4 years with Cianbro as the Wind Maintenance Manager.

Cianbro built the Spruce Mountain site locally, and have also built Passadumkeag Wind and currently have crews building Pisgah wind in Maine as we speak. We have also built the Grotton Wind Site in New Hampshire and Roth Rock site in Maryland as well as Georgia Mountain wind in Vermont.

Cianbro also does wind farm maintenance, have done numerous jobs in Maine and are exporting Maine folks for service work, I currently have crews working in New Hampshire and Maryland and have done maintenance work in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio in the last year.

Thank you for your time.

7,4,3,23

August 9, 2016

Commissioner Everett Worcester  
Maine Land Use Planning Commission  
18 Elkins Lane  
Augusta, Maine 04330

Commissioner Worcester,

Please accept the following comments in the matter of the substantive review regarding the removal of Milton Township from the expedited permitting area.

As a resident of one of the first townships to be removed from the expedited permitting area, I have a strong sense of what's at stake in this review.

Furthermore, as a citizen who was closely involved for three years with the legislation that created this process, I have a good working knowledge of the situation and conditions that were precursors to the legislation, the history of the two bills that ultimately led to the resultant law, and the process that was created by the law.

I spent many long days in the State House between 2013 and 2015, along with quite a few of my neighbors, as this matter was worked out in the course of two Legislatures, the 126<sup>th</sup> and 127<sup>th</sup>. You can probably imagine the depth of my interest in the matter before you.

I hope that you and the other commissioners will find these comments helpful, and I am willing to provide any other information that could assist you in reaching your decision.

Unfortunately, my work schedule will put me out of state on the date of the public hearing, but I look forward to reviewing the audio files of the hearing once they become available.

Respectfully,

Alan Michka  
Lexington Twp., Maine

August 9, 2016

**Comments of Alan Michka**

**RE Substantive Review – Removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area**

### History

In 2015, both chambers of the Maine Legislature approved a bill creating Public Law 2015, Chapter 265, which governs the process for removal of certain minor civil divisions (MCD) – townships, plantations, and towns - from the expedited permitting area (expedited area) for wind development.

The enactment of the law was the culmination of three years of consideration by the Legislature in the interest of remedying an unusual situation. Subsequent to the action of a previous Legislature, residents of some communities within the jurisdiction of the Land Use Planning Commission (Commission) had been unjustly excluded from a fair opportunity to meaningfully and effectively participate in matters related to wind power development near their homes.

While it is beyond the scope of these comments to elaborate on its complete history, it is notable that this legislation had continuing broad support over the course of its three-year presence in the State House, and in the end, both chambers approved it unanimously.

### Public Law 2015, Chapter 265

The law created a process whereby residents could petition the Commission for removal from the expedited permitting area.

Conspicuously, and consistent with its interest in assuring that the opportunity for effective participation was restored to the affected citizens, the Legislature set a low bar for removal from the expedited area, requiring the signatures of only a small number of registered voters residing in the affected MCD in order to effect the removal.

Accordingly, the Legislature set a higher bar to block the removal from the expedited area, the substantive review process, to which the Milton Township (Milton) petition is now being subjected under more formal proceedings that require certain demonstrations.

It's also important that the Commission understands what this substantive review is not about. It is not a forum on the pros or cons of wind power. It is not a determination of Milton's suitability for wind development. It is not an exploration of the positive or negative impacts of wind development in Milton or anywhere else. It is not a review of whether or not Milton, or any part of Milton is an appropriate place for expedited permitting. The Legislature preserved the opportunity to have these discussions in an appropriate regulatory setting **once the opportunity for Maine citizens to participate meaningfully in those discussions was restored through removal from the expedited area.**

## Criteria For Removal Per Substantive Review

### Criterion A

***The proposed removal will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on the State's ability to meet the state goals for wind energy development in section 3404, subsection 2, paragraph C. (35-A MRSA §3453-A, sub-§3, ¶A.)***

Stated another way, Criterion A requires an evaluation of whether or not the removal of Milton from the expedited area would materially jeopardize the State's realization of its 2030 wind capacity goal.

It's important to understand that *only* the goal described in paragraph C of Section 3404 is germane to the Milton substantive review. While Section 3404 contains several date specific goals, the Legislature specifically directed the Commission to consider only this one goal, which reads in statute:

"At least 8,000 megawatts of installed capacity by 2030, including 5,000 megawatts from generation facilities located in coastal waters, as defined by Title 12, section 6001, subsection 6, or in proximate federal waters." (35-A MRSA §3404, sub-§2, ¶C.)

It's apparent that some confusion about this criterion has occurred, and at least one commenter misapplied this criterion in their pre-hearing comments seeking to block the removal of Milton from the expedited area. Oddly, the commenter addressed goals not statutorily relevant in this matter, the 2015 and 2020 goals, but did not address the one goal that *is* relevant, the 2030 goal.

The following is a partial list of the most obvious evidence demonstrating that the removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area meets Criterion A.

#### **1. Wind project development would remain possible in Milton Twp. by expedited and non-expedited rules, even if it were removed from the expedited permitting area.**

A. Expedited permitting. While it may seem contradictory, it is critical that the Commission understand that the removal of Milton from the expedited permitting area does not prevent a developer from seeking permit approval for a wind project there under expedited permitting rules.

This point received significant attention during deliberations on the final language included in the bill considered and approved by the Legislature. Indeed, special provisions were included in the bill to ensure that expedited permitting potential remained within an MCD, even if it were removed from the expedited area per Title 35-A, Section 3453-A.

Title 35-A, Section 3453 allows for the addition of lands to the expedited area. It preceded and survives the provision allowing for removals from the expedited area, and it remains a valid and viable option for developers wishing to pursue a project under expedited rules.

Any parcel(s) of land in Milton, or even the *entire* township, would retain the potential to be added back to the expedited area under Section 3453. As stated above, provisions specific to this action were added by the Legislature to ensure that removal from the expedited area did not unfairly discriminate against anyone wanting to pursue expedited permitting under this section.<sup>1</sup> The essential point to this approach is that it satisfies the Legislature's desire to allow for full public participation in a more focused proceeding to explore and consider the appropriateness of large scale wind development at a specific location.

An important caveat on this point is due. A substantive review undertaken by the Commission under Section 3453-A (removals from the expedited area) was not designed to be a counterpart to the review undertaken pursuant to Section 3453 (additions to the expedited area). In a pre-hearing filing, at least one commenter made a statement suggesting that the two processes are essentially mirror images of one another. They are not – not in language, and especially, not in their intent. One must not be utilized as an alternative version of the other.

The addition of lands to the expedited permitting area under Section 3453 is not without precedent. It has been accomplished successfully in previous cases in which a developer considered the process a worthwhile cost of business in the interest of advancing its project.

Considering the above information, it is obvious that expedited permitting of a wind project in Milton Twp. is still a realistic option, even if it is removed from the expedited area in this proceeding. While a developer would, understandably, desire the easiest route to a permit, it has been shown before that a Section 3453 addition to the expedited permitting area is a viable option for a wind project with a strong economic basis.

**On this point alone, it is clearly apparent that the removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area would not have an unreasonable adverse effect on the State's ability to reach its 2030 goal. The potential for expedited permitting would remain for the benefit of the developer, and the residents of Milton would regain their opportunity for full public participation in wind power permitting matters.**

B. Non-expedited permitting. As shown above, the removal of Milton from the expedited permitting area does not prevent wind development there. Even if a developer chooses not to pursue expedited permitting by petitioning under Section 3453, a wind project could still be pursued under non-expedited rules.

Providing details of the non-expedited process for permitting wind projects is beyond the scope of these comments, but it's essentially the same process that similarly scaled projects of another nature would undertake in the pursuit of a permit in a jurisdiction location with comparable land use standards. This process is not unusual or exceptional. On the contrary, it is the expedited permitting of wind projects that is exceptional.

It's a revealing fact that the majority of the operating wind power capacity in the LUPC jurisdiction today was reviewed and permitted *prior* to the enactment of expedited

permitting for wind projects.<sup>2</sup> That process was essentially the same one that is available today, and would continue to be available if Milton is removed from the expedited area.<sup>3</sup>

While it seems likely a developer would prefer project review under expedited rules in the manner discussed above, history has shown that the non-expedited process is an available and viable means to permit large-scale wind projects.

## **2. Siting a wind project in Milton Twp. is not critical to meeting the State's 2030 wind power capacity goal.**

A. There is ample interest and opportunity to meet the 2030 goal without a wind project in Milton. From a practical perspective, interest, opportunity, and available sites are sufficient to meet the State's 2030 wind power capacity goal, even without a wind project in Milton.

The recent New England Clean Energy Request For Proposals (RFP)<sup>4</sup> is an excellent illustration of the capacity potential available in Maine. In 2015, the RFP began accepting proposals for renewable energy projects to serve customers in several southern New England states.

In response, approximately 2100 megawatts (MW) of wind power capacity from projects to be located in Maine were proposed.<sup>5</sup> Project proposals ranged in capacity from 22 MW to 600 MW, with most on the larger end of this spectrum.

When added to the over 900 MW of wind power capacity permitted, under construction, or currently operating in the state, the potential Maine wind power capacity represented in the RFP could, in theory, meet or exceed Maine's 2030 goal.

In addition to these proposals, it's certain that other potential Maine wind projects, not represented in the RFP, are being explored for potential future development. It's clearly evident that sufficient capacity potential in Maine is available to meet the State's goal.

Though the substantive review process is supposed to consider a potential removal individually, it is notable that few, if any, of the prospective Maine projects in the RFP appear to be proposed in MCDs that have been removed, or will be removed from the expedited permitting area subsequent to the recent petitioning opportunity.

Of greater interest is the fact that the tremendous amount of Maine wind power capacity proposed in response to the RFP *did not* include a project proposal in Milton Twp. This further supports the conclusion that a wind project there would not be critical to meeting the goal in Criterion A.

B. Milton Twp. makes up only a small part of Maine's expedited permitting area. Over 13 million acres are included in Maine's expedited permitting area for wind power. Of this, approximately 3.5 million acres are within the LUPC's jurisdiction, with the remainder being comprised of the acreage in all of the State's organized towns. At less than 10,000

acres in area, Milton comprises less than 0.08% of the entire expedited area and less than 0.3% of the expedited area under the LUPC's jurisdiction.

Of course, not all of the expedited area is suited to the pattern and scale of wind development that has so far been favored by developers in the state. Moreover, it would be challenging to give a precise weighting to the degree to which Milton could be expected to contribute to the State's wind power goal. Nevertheless, this type of breakdown helps to illustrate, proportionally, Milton's minor place in the expedited area in terms of its size.

On a related note, a report by Maine Audubon in 2013 concluded that only about 63,000 acres, or 15% of the expedited area the organization deems suitable for wind development, would be needed to meet the State's 2030 goal.<sup>6</sup> This figure equates to only about 0.5% of the entirety of the expedited area.

The Maine Audubon report shows that a wind project in a single, small township, such as Milton, is unlikely to significantly change the State's prospects of reaching the 2030 goal.

C. Changing technology and development trends reduces the importance of any single MCD in reaching the State wind goal. The 2008 Maine Wind Energy Act correctly speculated that changing technology would increase the number of sites where wind power development would be feasible.

Developers have been increasing the size and capacity of the turbines they are deploying in order to achieve greater energy production, and therefore, better economics for their projects. This makes more locations reasonable sites for commercial operation from an energy production standpoint.

Overall, project capacity size has been trending upward, as well. The first wind project in Maine was 42 MW. Some individual Maine project proposals are now in the range of several hundred megawatts as was seen in the RFP.

Indications are that these trends will continue. A 2015 report from the U.S. Department of Energy identified Maine as one of the states that could continue to see an expansion of the locations available for commercial wind power production with the increased use of more efficient turbines.<sup>7</sup>

An inevitable result of this trend is that fewer wind turbines and fewer sites will be needed to realize Maine's wind goal. Another effect is the expectation that developers will be able to choose from a greater number of sites, further reducing the importance of any one location in reaching the 2030 goal.

### **3. There are still over 13 years left to attain Maine's 2030 goal for wind power capacity.**

With more than a decade to go before reaching Maine's aspirational goal of 3000 MW of land based wind power capacity by 2030, it's too early to conclude that one small township such as Milton is essential to realizing that goal.

The last eight years have shown how quickly technology and trends in development can change, and there's no reason to believe that there will be regression of these current trends.

Ironically, it is the energy markets, regional and global, that will likely play the greatest role over the next decade in determining whether or not Maine reaches the 2030 goal. Indeed, this influence is already observable. It's a factor over which our state has little control and which overshadows any role siting matters play in reaching the goal.

For the reasons listed above, it's overwhelmingly improbable that the removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area would jeopardize the State's realization of its 2030 wind power capacity goal. Therefore, the effect of removal cannot be unreasonably adverse and Criterion A is easily met.

### **Criterion B**

***The proposed removal is consistent with the principal values and the goals in the comprehensive land use plan adopted by the Maine Land Use Planning Commission pursuant to Title 12, section 685-C. (35-A MRSA §3453-A, sub-§3, ¶B.)***

Criterion B is quite similar to another criterion in the expedited permitting statute that governs the *addition* of lands to the expedited permitting area, Section 3453. In fact, the commission already has some experience in applying this criterion in regulatory proceedings in which lands within the jurisdiction have been added to the expedited permitting area.

In these past proceedings, and in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, the commission has acknowledged that its goals "may at times conflict with one another" and some degree of balancing is necessary and inevitable.

It is also worth noting that the LURC reform statute in 2012 amended the purpose and scope of the Commission's enabling statute to include a specific charge to "honor the rights and participation of residents and property owners in the unorganized and deorganized areas while recognizing the unique value of these lands and waters to the state" (12 MRSA §681). Ironically, it was a specific deficiency in the "rights and participation" by unorganized territory residents that the legislature was seeking to rectify when it passed the legislation allowing for removal of MCDs from the expedited permitting area.

### **1. The removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area is consistent with the principal values found in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)**

Summarized, the CLUP lists the following principal values:

- The economic value of the jurisdiction derived from working forests and farmlands.
- Diverse and abundant recreational opportunities.
- Diverse, abundant and unique high-value natural resources and features.
- Natural character.

The removal of Milton from the expedited area would appear to be consistent with the principal values of the CLUP. Arguably, the removal would serve to reinforce those values.

**2. The removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area is consistent with the goals set forth in the CLUP.**

The following lists of goals are arranged according to their degree of applicability, effect, and consistency with the CLUP, relative to this substantive review.

*A. Goal: Provide for the environmentally sound and socially beneficial utilization of indigenous energy resources where there are not overriding public values that require protection.*

Consistency with the above goal is assured whether Milton is removed from the expedited area, or not. This is because wind power development remains possible there - even the possibility of expedited permitting - following a removal. Additionally, removal has no effect whatsoever on any other form of development of indigenous energy resources in Milton, e.g. solar power.

*B. Goal: Assure that development fits harmoniously into the existing communities, neighborhoods and the natural environment.*  
*Goal: Conserve the natural resources that are fundamental to maintaining the recreational environment that enhances diverse, abundant recreational opportunities.*  
*Goal: Protect the high-value scenic resources of the jurisdiction by fitting proposed land uses harmoniously into the natural environment.*

The removal of Milton from the expedited area could be neutral to strongly supportive of the above goals. In its pre-hearing comments, the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands outlined the significant importance of the scenic and recreational qualities present in the affected region. This information supports the conclusion that the removal of Milton from the expedited area is consistent with these goals.

*C. Goal: Guide the location of new development in order to protect and conserve forest, recreational, plant or animal habitat and other natural resources, to ensure the compatibility of land uses with one another and to allow for a reasonable range of development opportunities important to the people of Maine, including property owners and residents of the unorganized and deorganized townships.*  
*Goal: Encourage economic development that is connected to local economies, utilizes services and infrastructure efficiently, is compatible with natural resources and surrounding uses, particularly natural resource-based uses, and does not diminish the jurisdiction's principal values.*  
*Goal: Ensure that development is of a rate, density and type conducive to maintaining the jurisdiction's principal values.*  
*Goal: Ensure that infrastructure improvements are well planned and do not have an adverse impact on the jurisdiction's principal values.*  
*Goal: Conserve and protect the aesthetic, ecological, recreational, scientific, cultural and economic values of wildlife, plant and fisheries resources.*

*Goal: Preserve, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of surface waters and groundwater.*

*Goal: Conserve and protect the ecological functions and social and economic values of wetland resources.*

The effect of removal on the above goals is neutral, or has some possibility of being supportive of the respective goal. Therefore, the removal of Milton would be consistent with these goals.

D. The effect on the remaining goals listed in the CLUP is neutral, or the goals have no discernible relation to this substantive review. Therefore, the removal of Milton would be consistent with these goals, or perhaps, inconsequential.

Review and consideration of the principal values and goals in the CLUP and the facts of this substantive review reveals that the removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area poses no conflicts between them. Consistency with the CLUP is further reinforced when the CLUP's principal values and goals are considered in relation to the Commission's emphasis on the "rights and participation of residents and property owners in the unorganized and deorganized areas" per Title 12, Section 681. Therefore, it is clear that the removal is consistent with CLUP's principal values and goals, and Criterion B is met without reservation.

### Conclusion

As discussed earlier in these comments, the Maine Legislature sought to restore fair and effective public participation opportunities to residents of communities within the LUPC jurisdiction, specifically in matters of wind power development. The mechanism lawmakers used to accomplish this was the opportunity for communities to opt out of the expedited area using a simple petitioning process.

To balance the importance of public participation with the integrity of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Maine's long-range statutory wind capacity goal, the Legislature established a substantive review process that could block a petition under extraordinary circumstances. Because blocking a petition for removal would eliminate a community's opportunity to meaningfully participate in regulatory proceedings concerning wind development near their homes, it's critical that the Commission give thorough consideration to the two criteria provided by the Legislature, *and only these two criteria*.

After thorough consideration to include the information in these comments, I'm confident the Commission will see that the removal of Milton Twp. from the expedited permitting area easily, and decisively, meets the terms of Criterion A and B per Title 35-A, Section 3453-A.

Alan Michka  
Lexington Twp., Maine  
[alan.michka@gmail.com](mailto:alan.michka@gmail.com)

## Notes and References

1. See 35-A MRSA §3453, sub-§1 and 35-A MRSA §3453-A, sub-§1.
2. This statistic is valid as of this writing, but is expected to change in the future when new projects within the LUPC's jurisdiction begin operation.
3. Projects permitted under non-expedited rules and referenced in this section were reviewed by the Land Use Regulation Commission prior to the LURC reform act in 2012. Today, under non-expedited rules, rezoning would take place under the Land Use Planning Commission and permitting would take place under the jurisdiction of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.
4. <https://cleanenergyrfp.com> and <http://bangordailynews.com/2016/02/01/business/cmp-emera-proposal-would-double-maine-wind-power>
5. <https://cleanenergyrfp.com/bids/>
6. "Wind Power and Wildlife in Maine: A State-wide Geographic Analysis of High-value Wildlife Resources and Wind Power Classes". Maine Audubon. December 2013.
7. "Enabling Wind Power Nationwide". U.S. Department of Energy. May 2015.

7.4.3.25a

~~DON E. BENNETT~~  
TAXIDERMIST

VIEW OF BRYANT MOUNTAIN FROM  
RT 26 WOODSTOCK.

FROM DWAYNE BENNETT  
729 RT 232 BETHEL, ME

MY HOME IS ON THE SIDE  
OF BRYANT & THE LEG TO  
CHAMBERLAIN M.T.N.

7.4.3.25a





743.25b

7.4.3.28

8-8-16

## Milton Removal Petition

My name is Kathryn Billings, I live in Milton twp, ME

I believe Milton should be removed from the expedition process for wind power projects.

We live in a very beautiful + peaceful area. It is unorganized territory we do not have a town or city to protect us from the Big Wind industry that is taking over our beautiful mountains of Maine for a profit,

My husband and I have worked very hard to build our home, pay taxes + raise our three children. We have lived here for almost 30 years and my husband's family has been here for generations.

We now look at wind towers out our front windows that were allowed in by the town of Woodstock, we do not need them on the mountain behind my home.

Please - the Wind Power companies should not be allowed to take the fast track on ruining our peaceful

life style that we have worked  
so hard for,

Thank you.

Kathryn + Dennis Billings  
29 Billings-Welch Rd.  
Milton twp. Me 04219

Stacie Beyers

7.4.3.33

I am writing to request that Milton Twp be removed from the fast track for wind development. Maine scenic resources on one side of my dome are already adversely affected by Spruce Mt turbines. If Chamberlane turbines are erected they will replace the Maine scenic resources on ~~the~~ another side of my home.

Maine's wildlife resources are adversely affected when the first equipment starts. They go live someplace else.

I have spent my life investing into my retirement of country life in Milton Twp. The traffic that will come on Roger Farnum Rd will permanently adversely affect the the natural character of life in the slow lane that we have enjoyed. We will need sidewalks to keep our regular dog walkers safe.

38 Garry Billings  
Roger Farnum Road  
Milton Twp.

Stacie Beyers

(1)

I own a Skystream windmill on my lawn! I have been riding my horse and my pony all over the woods and roads in Milton Twp for 20 years. My quality of life will be adversely affected.

I would like to ask that Milton Twp be removed from the Expedited Permitting Area for wind development.

I feel we should gather the knowledge from other established wind farms and use it to our advantage.

What is the big rush? As with any other major change in our community, we should discuss it thoroughly and come up with the very best plan.

What is with all the rush? I just found out that the road I live on will be the access road.

There will be more than 90 oversized tractor trailer loads of towers. Each crane has 15-20 tractor trailers. There will also be bulldozers, excavators, drilling machines, service trucks and employee trucks. There will be 3 or 4 hundred truckloads going up the Mt.!

It will not be safe to walk along the Roger Farnum Road, say nothing about ride my horse.

If our wheelers and side by sides are

(2)

permitted to use our main roads in some places in Milton Twp. The traffic will have an adverse affect on that recreational resource. The deer population will RUN along with how much other wildlife, I don't know. The lucky ones!

As for our healthy community, it is already neighbor against neighbor! The ones that hope to financially benefit, against the others that can only Loose!!

Lynne Billings  
38 Roger Farnum Rd  
Milton Twp., ME

7.4.3.34

To: Stacie R. Beyer  
LUPC  
106 Hogan Road, Suite 8  
Bangor, ME 04401

Subject: MILTON REMOVAL

I am writing to ask that the Milton Township be removed from "expedited process" regarding wind energy development.

I live on Route 232 in Woodstock. Our family has lived on the property since 1941. We have enjoyed seeing the natural beauty of Bryant Mountain and Chamberlain Mountain from our property over those years.

I understand that I must address two criteria:

One – I believe that the removal from the expedited process WILL NOT have a negative effect on the State's goals. The long and short term impacts of wind tower projects are too serious to be measured by ambitious and optimistic goals set as "one size fits all" for the entire State. Each project must be considered individually and under the same time standards.

Two – I believe that the removal from the expedited process IS CONSISTENT the LUPC comprehensive land use plan. My reason, very little pre-information has been provided to us, for instance, I have just recently heard that there may be a significant wildlife habitat for bats in the Milton wind tower area? I have also heard that the proposed towers may be much higher than the towers on Spruce Mountain in Woodstock? Where will the transmission lines be placed? Have there been impact assessments done on the abutting communities? There are too many unanswered questions.

Thank you for your consideration.



Donald E. Feeney  
656 Route 232  
Bryant Pond (Woodstock), Maine 04219

7.4.3.35

8-10-16

To - Regarding Windmills in Milton Plantation

From - Patrick Feeney 711 Rt 232 Bryant Pond Me. 04219

I am against windmill project. My family Land ads up to 115 acres of wood lots and small farming, in the shadows of the windmills. I am mostly concerned about the massive amounts of earth to be moved in such a project. Our farm depends on water provided by springs and small brooks from Chamberlain Mt. I know every inch of those hills, for I have hunted there for years, and am worried about cutting off the many springs higher up. I also don't believe that windmills provide enough power for the amount of environmental damage they cause. I have been "near" windmills and do not like the noise they make, even from a distance. I enjoy living in rural Maine, and a skyline of windmills is not enjoyable scenery.

Patrick Feeney



Christy's Crops Farm Stand  
711 Rt. 232 Bryant Pond, ME 04219

8/10/16

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in regard to the windmill project in Milton. I am against this proposal! My husband and I just recently purchased our property for many reasons, I am also not for the windmills for many reasons.

One of the reasons we bought this piece of land is to start our new business, which we did last year - it is a seasonal farm stand. Many customers who stop remark ~~on~~ <sup>on the beauty of the</sup> landscape + skyline. I feel if there are windmills in the background I will not have as big a customer base. They might not stop due to the loss of beauty and noise. This is just one of many reasons.

"Maine - open for Business"

Yes to local small ones +  
not for no in state money staying here!

Thanks for your time,

Christy Feeney  
christy Feeney

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

To: Stacie R Beyer

LUPC

106 Hogan Rd.

Bangor, ME 04401

Regarding the Milton Plantation windmill project:

My family has occupied property on Rt. 232 in Woodstock, ME since 1941, the year I was born. The prospect of having wind mills erected on the ridge line, which is the backdrop of this property, has come to me as a complete blindside. I feel that the expedited process in the unorganized township of Milton Plantation is not fair to the surrounding towns that are highly impacted by this development.

In good faith to the neighbors of this project, please consider their input in making decisions as to the feasibility and massive impact its implementation would have on their daily lives and well being. There is far too much consideration to be worked through to keep this on the expedited tract to fruition.

Thank you for your attention to this situation.

Ruth Willard Feeney, 656 Rt. 232, Bryant Pond, ME 04219

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Willard Feeney".

Enc: photo copy of picture taken in 1942 with impacted skyline in background

Bryant Mtn.  
↓ 1.3 miles

Beginning of Chamberlain  
Range  
↓

Chamberlain  
Mtn. 1.4  
miles



Ruth Willard Feeney 656 RT 232

Age 1 1942

August 10, 2016

To the LUPC Commission:

Thank you for your attention to the issue of the removal of Milton Township from the expedited process for wind power consideration. My comments will address the two criteria:

1. **Criteria One:** Given the size of our state and the amount of land in the unorganized territory that is not adjacent to immediately neighboring towns and valuable recreational resources, it seems that the impact of the removal would not be any sort of devastation to the goals of the state. Milton is a fairly unique unorganized township; tiny and surrounded by populated and organized towns, most of which are very dependent on tourism for their economic base. The other towns have ordinances and ability to deal with the normal processes, and are united in their desire to have Milton removed from the expedited list.
2. **Criteria Two:** The scenic value of the area impacted by such a project is illustrated by the testimony of Mr. Rosenberg and others, and is described in my earlier communication. Since I last wrote it is evident that the towers would be prominently seen from North Pond, Round Pond, South Pond, Lake Christopher, and possibly Twitchell Pond. We are among the property owners who greatly enjoy the view, who observe the steady flow of kayakers, canoeists, paddle boarders, foliage viewers, and more enjoying the solitude and beauty. The many waterfront owners would certainly see an impact on the value of our property while being outside the "compensation area".
3. **Criteria Two:** The bat cave, the eagles, the falcons, all in Woodstock, deserve special attention and will be addressed by others.
4. **Criteria Two:** The economic impact of tourism (skiing, summer lakes, fishing, etc.) is major for this area. The destruction of the gorgeous views so visible from Route 26 and the ponds, from the ski areas and other higher elevations is not helpful to this area that has lost so much in the wood products industry in the past 50 years. The Bethel ~~the~~ <sup>area</sup> economy is totally dependent on tourism and the ski industry.

Please remove the area from the expedited process and allow the impacted towns to weigh in on the process, along with the residents of Milton, if the project proceeds.

Cathy Newell  
Charlie Newell  
24 Johnnys Bridge Road, Greenwood  
PO. Box 187, Greenwood 04255

July 26, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

A few years ago, after much discussion, residents of Carthage agreed to let Patriot's Renewable place 12 windmills on Saddleback Ridge. Currently, the windmill project is known as the Saddleback Ridge Wind Project and these windmills produce nearly 105 million kilo-watts of clean electrical energy. Many of the residents of Carthage are proud to have these windmills generating clean electrical energy and providing our town with much needed income.

During installation of these windmills, Patriot's Renewable was very aware of the inconvenience they caused residents living on the Winter Hill Road. They provided updates on their progress to these residents with dates and times for the arrival of components and compensated them when they were inconvenienced by the travel of parts of these windmills up the Winter Hill Road. The progress sometimes taking hours.

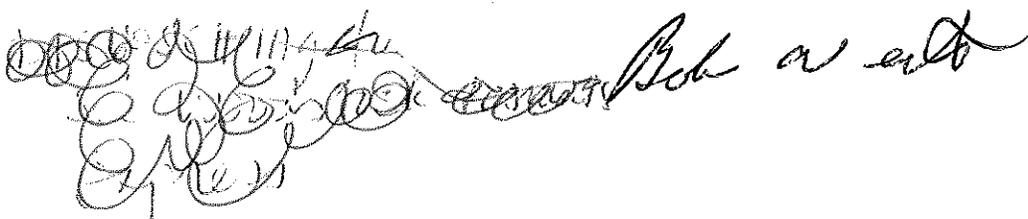
Patriot's Renewable took over the maintenance of the Winter Hill Road and have provided the residents with a well maintained road which at the end of five years will be able to be paved.

Over and above the maintenance of the road Patriot's Renewable has given freely to Carthage. Providing funds to the Snowmobile Club, providing for an annual event in town that all residents are invited to with food, music and fun for all and they have provided funds that have been designated for the poor and elderly.

In addition to providing for clubs and the poor, Patriot's Renewable provides a yearly stipend that is designated as a Community Betterment fund. This money is to be used as the citizens see fit to help with upgrade projects in Town.

In addition, the increase in town valuation allowed the Selectmen to reduce our tax rate and still provide for additional necessities such as the firetruck that was purchased which was big boast to the moral of our volunteer fire department.

The biggest benefit that all residents noted is that we now have lower taxes. In our economy anything that will give land owners relief is a great asset to a town. When you live in a small town everything adds up to raise taxes. The windmills have provided Carthage with breathing room so we can upgrade our town office, sanitation department and other departments without causing the residents to rob their piggy banks to pay taxes.



Bob A. [unclear]