
**PETITION TO ADD PORTIONS OF
KOSSUTH TOWNSHIP TO THE EXPEDITED
PERMITTING AREA FOR WIND ENERGY
DEVELOPMENT
CHAPTER 10, APPENDIX F**

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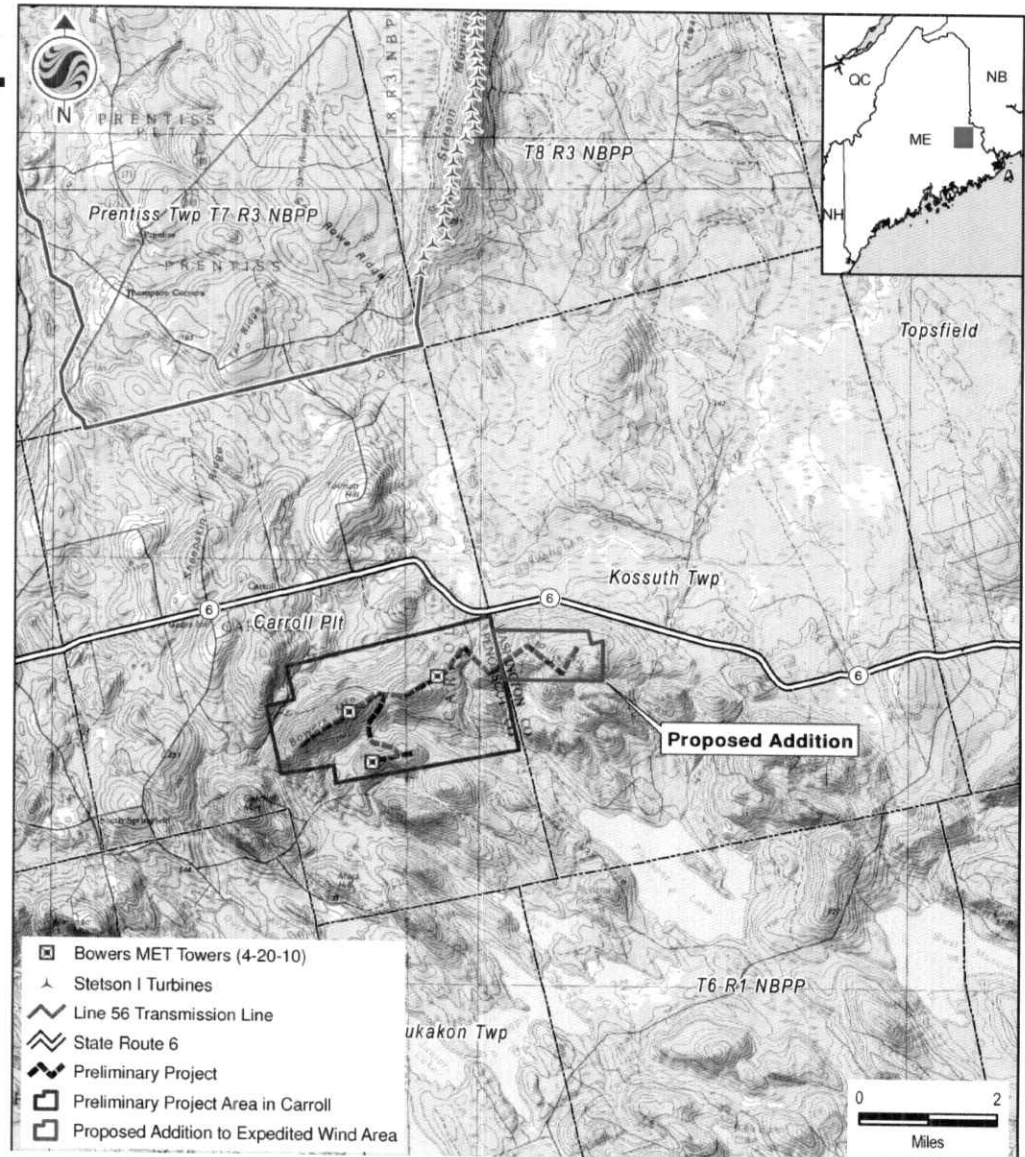
September 22, 2010

Petition Background

- The Maine Wind Energy Act provided LURC with ability to add lands to expedited wind permitting area
- Through rulemaking, LURC adopted the description and map of the expedited permitting area – Appendix F to Chapter 10, Land Use Districts and Standards.
- On March 3, 2010, LURC also adopted Guidelines for Review of Petitions with additional information about how to interpret the statutory criteria.
- In accordance with 35-A M.R.S.A. 3453, LURC may, by rule, add a specified place to the expedited permitting area. LURC must determine that the proposed addition:
 1. Involves a logical geographic extension of the currently designated expedited permitting area;
 2. Is important to meeting the state goals for wind energy development; and
 3. Would not compromise the principal values and goals of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Project Context

- Proposed Addition is part of extended ridgeline being evaluated for the Bowers Project.
- Bowers will include 25-27 turbines, primarily in Carroll, with 7-8 turbines in Kossuth. Project expected to be 57-62 MW.
- Located eight miles south of Stetson and five miles south of existing transmission.
- Adjacent to Route 6 and has existing road access.
- Elevations range from 750 to 1120 feet. Landscape is regenerating Beech-Birch-Maple forest.



Representative Photographs of Proposed Addition in Kossuth

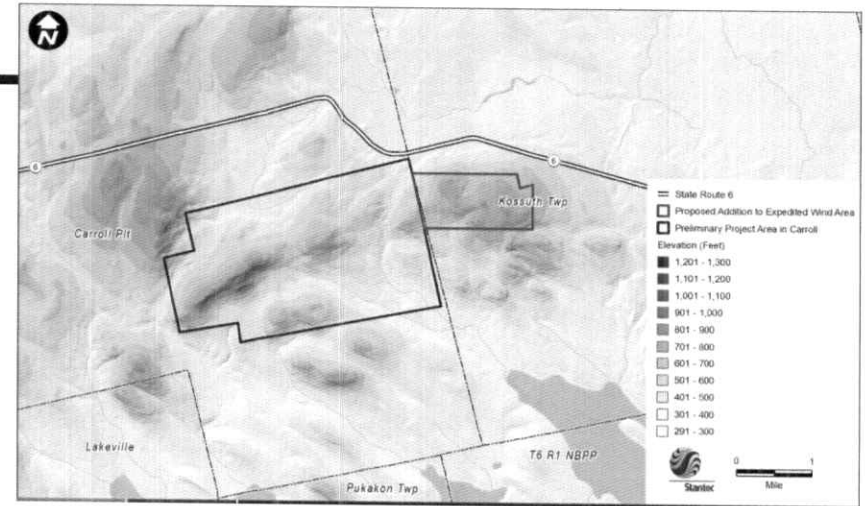


Analysis of Criteria:

1. Geographic Extension

The Proposed Addition is a logical geographic extension of the currently designated expedited permitting area.

- Proposed Addition is part of low-elevation ridgeline in Carroll and Kossuth formed simultaneously by geologic forces
- Land use – active forestry – is the same in Carroll and Kossuth.



Elevation Map of Bowers Project Area

Aerial Map of Bowers Project Area

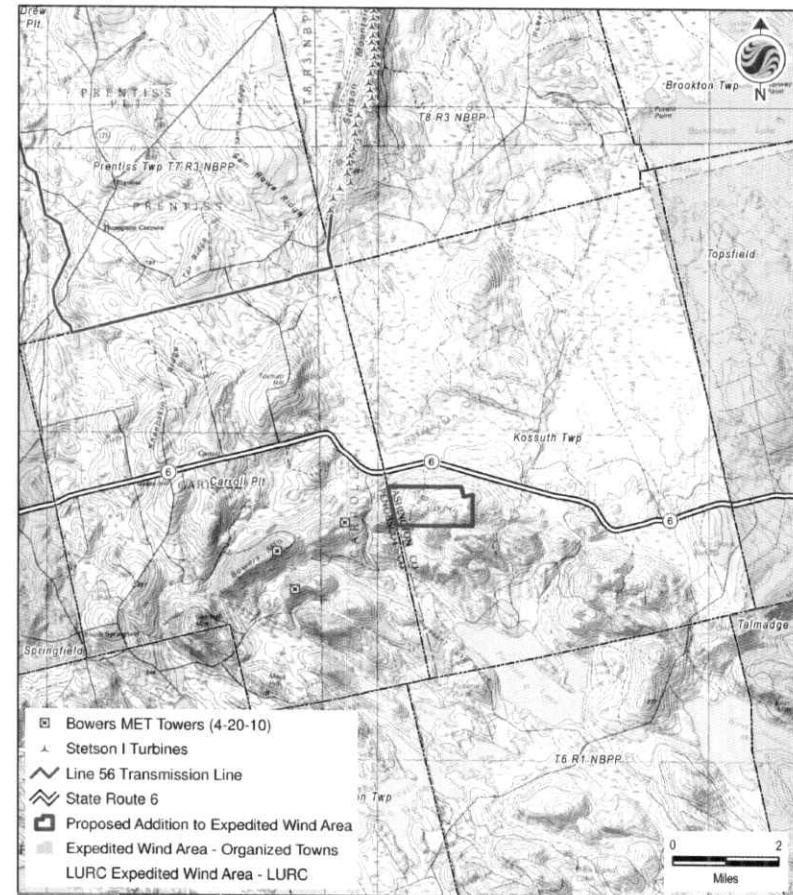


Analysis of Criteria:

1. Geographic Extension

The Proposed Addition is a logical geographic extension of the currently designated expedited permitting area.

- Penobscot County Line and Route 6 were convenient boundary lines
- Adjacent to boundary in Carroll and near boundary in Kossuth
- Natural extension across political boundary, unrelated to geography
- Approximately 72 percent of both the project area and MW capacity of the Project would be located in Carroll Plantation in the expedited area



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Client/Project
Bowers Wind Project
Carroll Plt., Maine
Figure No.
3
Title

**Expedited Wind Areas in the
Vicinity of the Proposed Addition**
5/25/2010

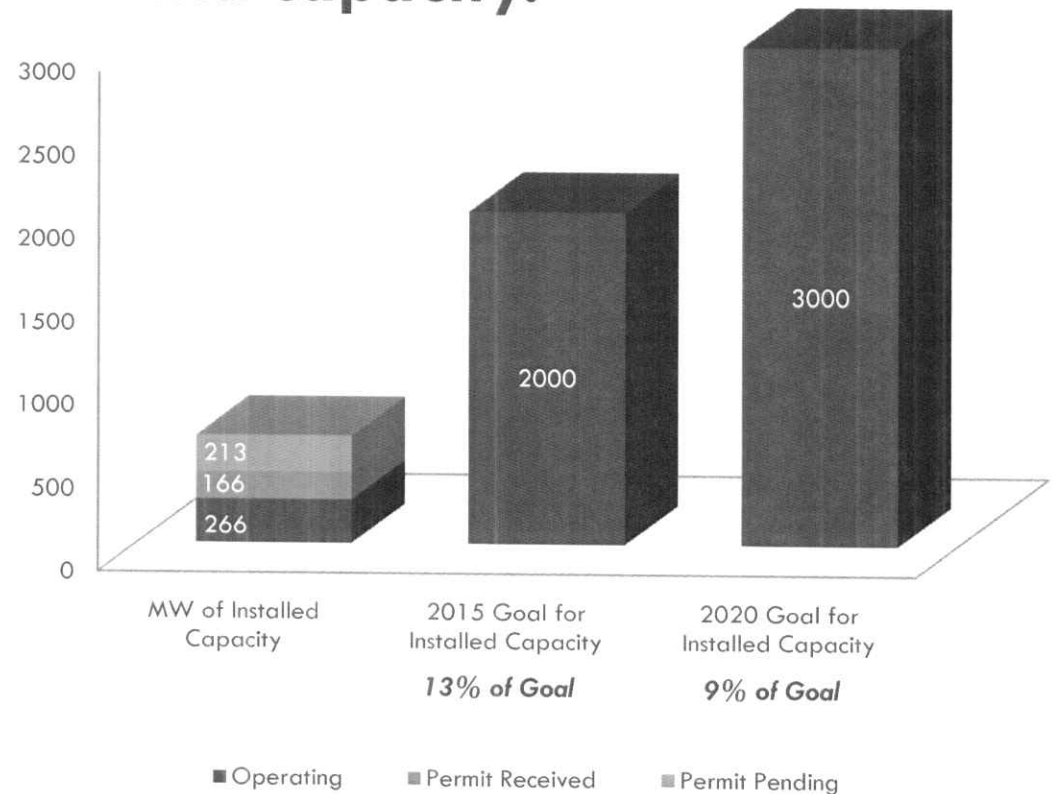


Analysis of Criteria: 2. Meets State Goals

The Proposed Addition is important to meeting state goals for wind energy development established in 35-A 3404.

1. Maine has achieved only 9-13 percent of goals for wind energy.
2. There is a viable wind resource based on proximity to transmission and landscape analysis of data from Stetson.
3. Wind has little additional impact to public resources or infrastructure while providing public benefits.

- Maine needs additional projects to meet goals for **installed wind capacity**.



Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

The Proposed Addition would not compromise the principal values and the goals identified in the comprehensive land use plan.

Principal Values

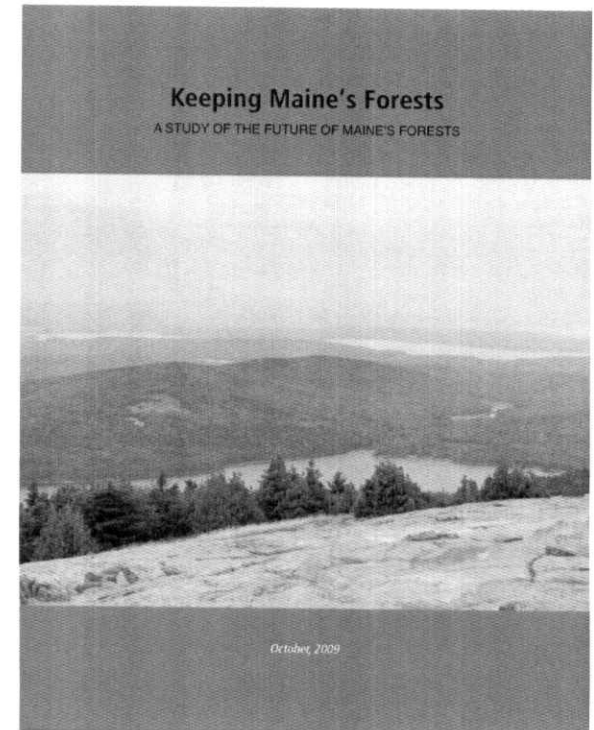
First: Economic Value of the Jurisdiction

Second: Diverse and Abundant Recreational Opportunities

“Wind power creates additional value for landowners and helps preserve the forest economy ...turbines are fully compatible with most harvesting regimes and place no additional demands on public services, unlike most other forms of development.”

Keeping Maine's Forests
A study of the Future of Maine's Forests, October 2009

- Wind development and working forests are compatible uses.
- Diverse recreational activities can continue in the region.



Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

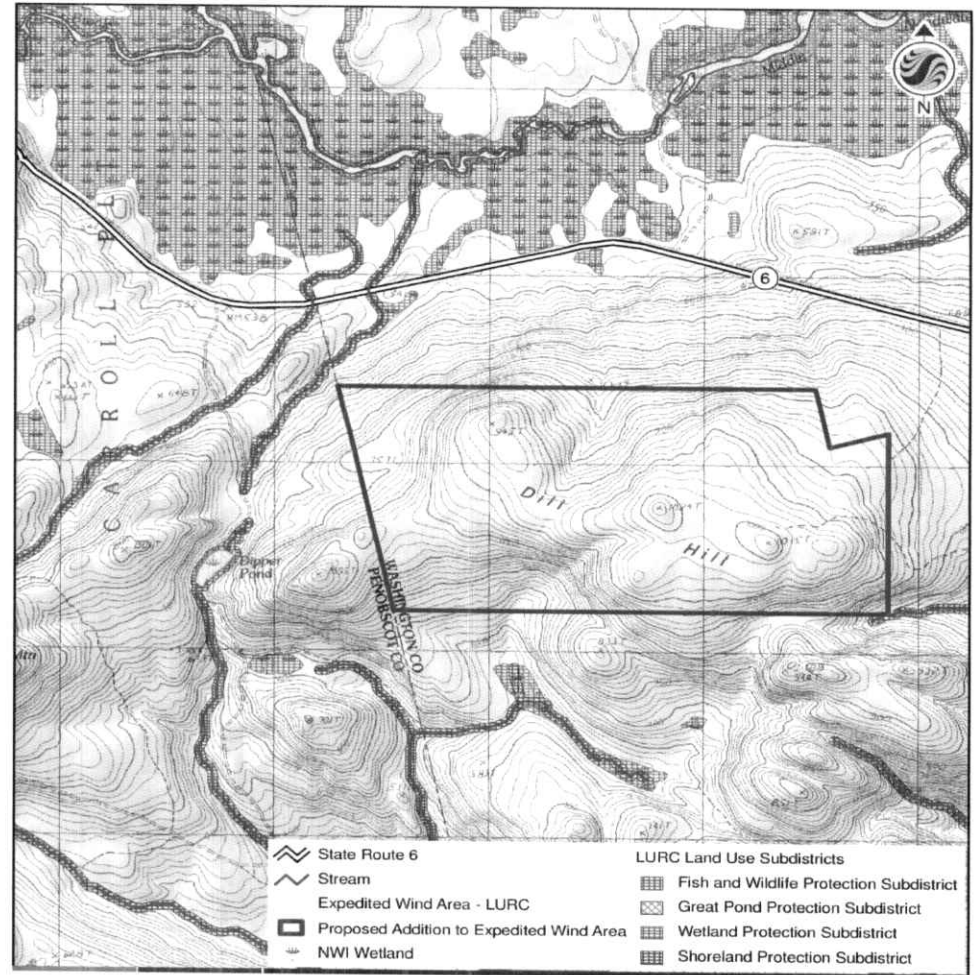
The Proposed Addition would not compromise the principal values and the goals identified in the comprehensive land use plan.

Principal Values

Third: Diverse, abundant and unique high-value natural resources and features

Within the Proposed Addition, there are:

- No lakes, rivers, streams, or ponds
- No mapped LURC wetlands
- No Significant Wildlife habitats (significant vernal pools, deer wintering areas, inland wading bird and waterfowl habitat)
- No bat hibernacula
- No habitat for state or federally protected species
- No rare or significant plants or natural communities
- No scenic resources



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Client/Project
**Bowers Wind Project
 Carroll Pit, Maine**

Figure No.

5

Title

Natural Resources

5/25/2010

Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

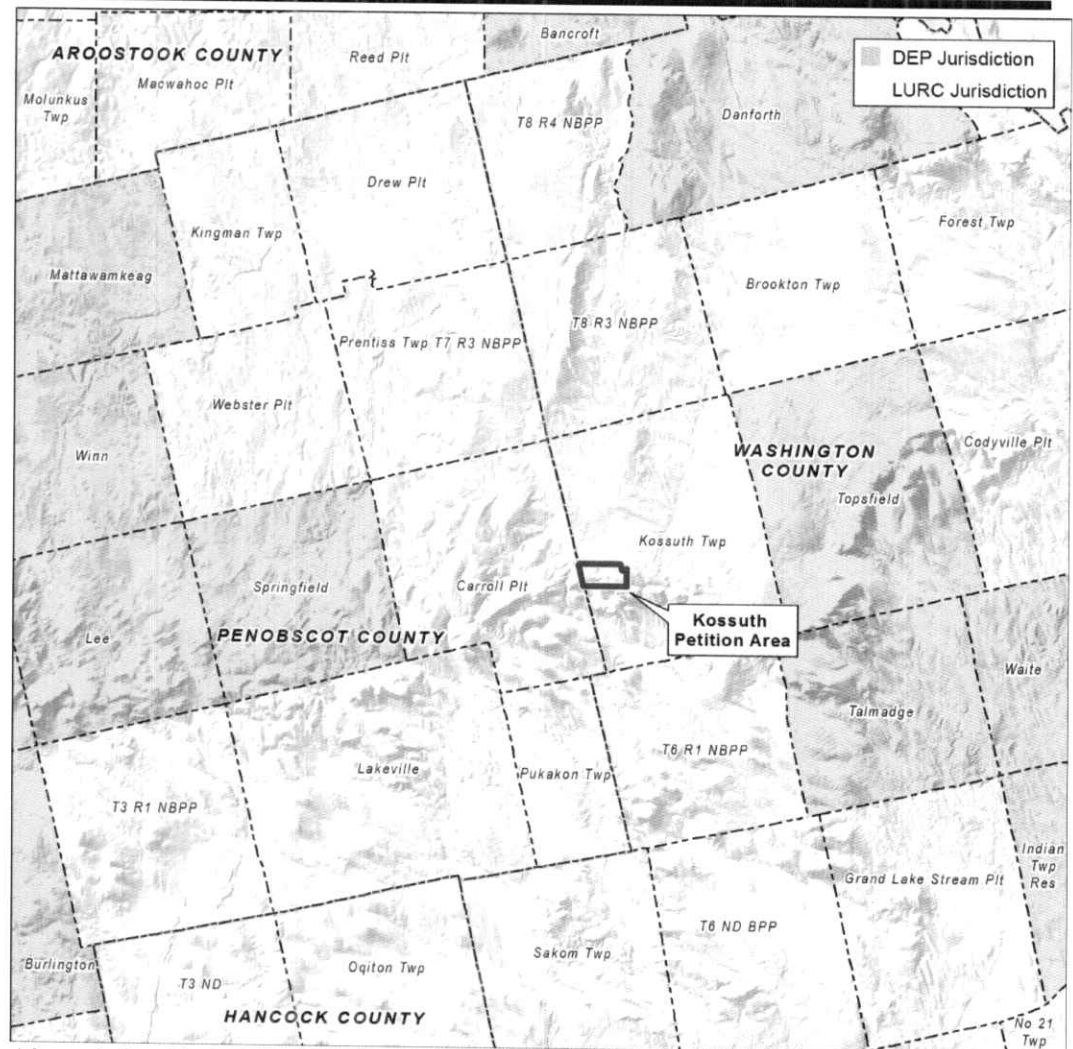
The Proposed Addition would not compromise the principal values and the goals identified in the comprehensive land use plan.

Principal Values

Fourth: Natural character, which includes the uniqueness of a vast forested area that is largely undeveloped and remote from population centers.

The Proposed addition is:

- Adjacent to Route 6
- Within 10 miles of 3 organized towns
- Within 5 miles of existing transmission
- Within 8 miles of existing wind facility
- Bordered by DEP jurisdiction



Note: Lakeville is a Town, incorporated by the legislature in 1981, but LURC has not delegated land use authority.

Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

The Proposed Addition would not compromise the specific goals identified in the comprehensive land use plan.

- ✓ Location of Development
- ✓ **Economic Development**
- ✓ Site Review
- ✓ Infrastructure
- ✓ Development Rate, Density and Type
- ✓ Affordable Housing
- ✓ Land Conservation
- ✓ Agricultural Resources
- ✓ Air and Climate Resources
- ✓ Coastal Resources
- ✓ Cultural, Archaeological, Historic Resources
- ✓ **Energy Resources**
- ✓ Forest Resources
- ✓ Geologic Resources
- ✓ Plant and Animal Habitat Resources
- ✓ Recreational Resources
- ✓ **Scenic Resources**
- ✓ Water Resources
- ✓ Wetland Resources
- ✓ Compliance Goals
- ✓ Cooperative Initiatives

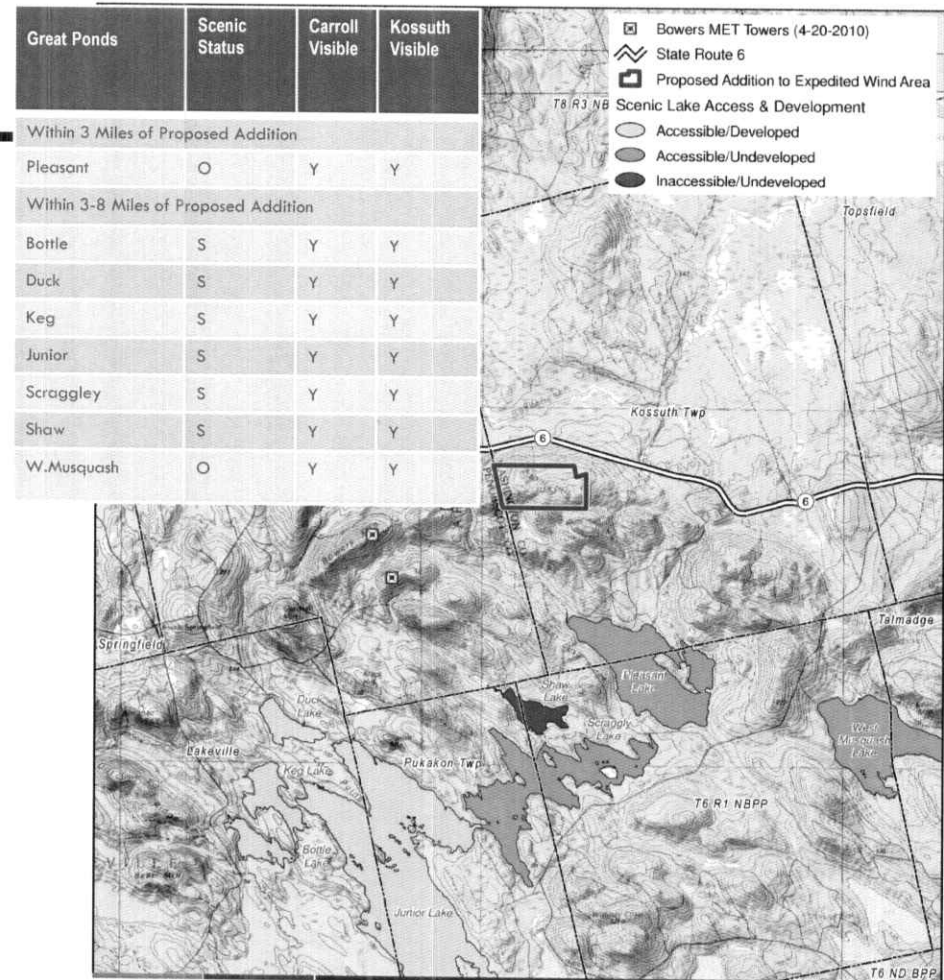
- Within 8 miles, there is only 1 type of state or nationally-significant scenic resource:
 - Great Ponds with scenic status
- Within 8 miles, there are:
 - No national natural landmarks, federally designated wilderness or other comparable outstanding natural and cultural features
 - No properties listed in National Register
 - No national or state parks
 - No segments of a scenic river
 - No scenic viewpoints designated by DOC
 - No scenic turnouts constructed by DOT
 - No scenic viewpoints located in coastal area

Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

Specific Goals:

- ✓ **Scenic Resources – State or National**
 - Visual impact of turbines on resources will be reviewed in connection with subsequent development application
 - Landscape analysis indicates when Kossuth is visible from Great Ponds, Carroll will already be visible



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Client/Project
 Bowers Wind Project
 Carroll Plt, Maine

Figure No.
 6

Title
Scenic Lakes - Access & Development Status
 5/29/2010

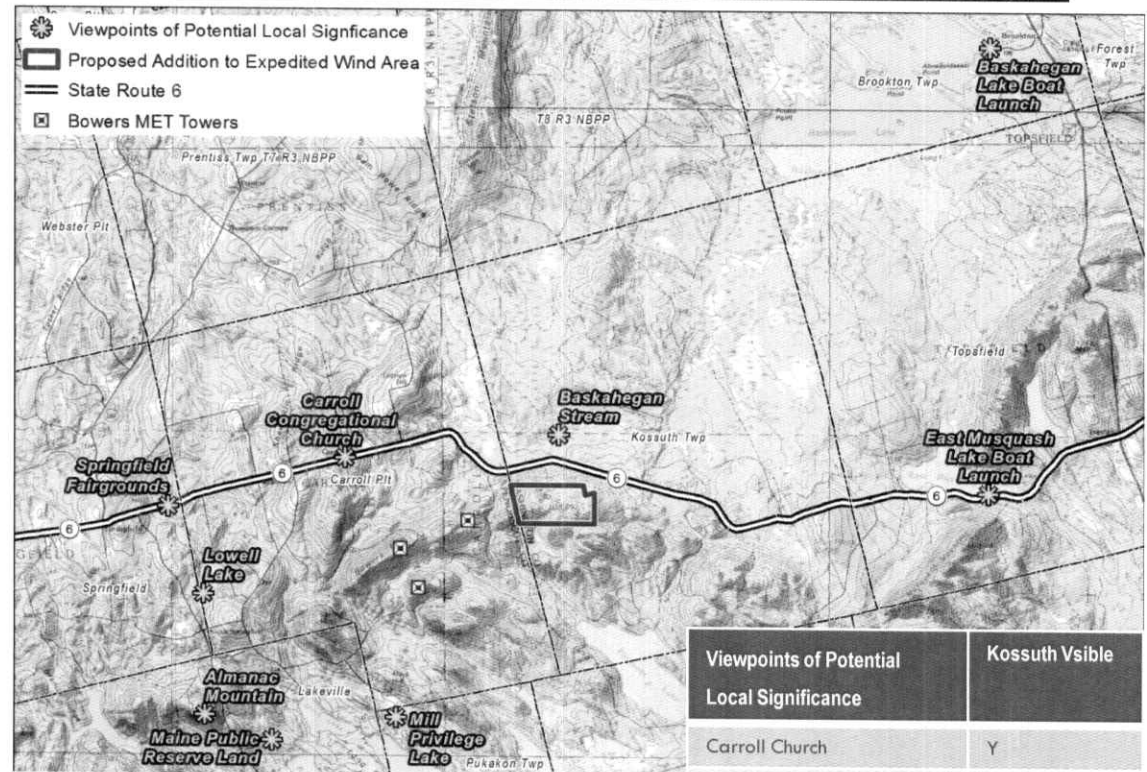


Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

Specific Goals:

- ✓ **Scenic Resources – Local**
 - Within 8 miles, 10 viewpoints that may have local significance
 - Landscape analysis indicates 7 viewpoints will have views of Kossuth, all of which will also have views of Carroll



Viewpoints of Potential Local Significance	Kossuth Visible
Carroll Church	Y
Route 6	Y (limited)
Baskahegan Stream	Y (limited)
Maine Public Reserved Land (between Duck and Keg)	Y (limited)
Almanac Mountain (limited open areas)	Y (limited)
Baskahegan Lake	Y
E. Musquash Lake	Y
Lowell Lake	N
Mill Privilege Lake	N
Springfield Fairgrounds	N

Analysis of Criteria:

3. Principal Values and Goals

- ✓ Location of Development
- ✓ **Economic Development**
- ✓ Site Review
- ✓ Infrastructure
- ✓ Development Rate, Density and Type
- ✓ Affordable Housing
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- ✓ Compliance Goals
- ✓ Cooperative Initiatives

- *Energy Resources*

“Wind power is increasingly recognized as the most significant renewable source of electricity that is economically viable at the utility scale” (CLUP, 187)

- *Economic Development*

Washington County would be included in benefits package

Analysis of Criteria: Recently Requested Info

- ✓ Title Right and Interest

We are providing documentation today for the record.

- ✓ Population density within vicinity

There are 6 structures within one mile of the boundary of the Proposed Addition

Summary

This petition demonstrates that the Proposed Addition in Kossuth meets the three criteria set forth in statute for adding an area to the expedited permitting area:

1. It is a logical geographic extension of the currently designated expedited permitting area;
2. It is important to meeting the state goals for wind energy development; and
3. It does not compromise the principal values and goals of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.



firstwindSM

CLEAN ENERGY. MADE HERE.

