

REVIEW MEMORANDUM

July 12, 2013

To: Daniel Courtemanch, Project Manager, Division of Land Resource Regulation
From: John Hopeck, Ph.D., Division of Environmental Assessment

Re: Bingham Wind Project, L-25973-24-A-N

- 1) Section 15.6.1 states that, prior to operation, an operational Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan will be completed “and filed with the MDEP upon completion”. This plan must be submitted for review and approval prior to operation of the facility.
- 2) The information received for review does not include test pit logs or other records of subsurface explorations at the site in the soils information presented, with the exception of the four test pit logs shown on the HHE-200 form included in the wastewater section of the application. The material received for Exhibit 11 does not indicate that the logs are to be found in any other sections of the application. All test pit logs and all other available subsurface information must be submitted for review and approval.
- 3) The proposed wastewater disposal system for the operations and maintenance building is shown on acceptable soils. The design flow appears to be high, however, compared to other facilities of this type. The applicant should clarify whether the 23 staff and visitors cited in the HHE-200 form are expected to be at the site every day, or only periodically, and how this figure of 23 staff and visitors was arrived at.
- 4) The construction SPCC plan specifies setbacks from water supply wells and sand and gravel aquifers for storage and transfer of petroleum. It appears from Section 15.1 that surveys were conducted only for public water supply wells. Inspection of the site confirms that at this time there do not appear to be any public or private water supply wells along the turbine strings, but it is less clear that this will be case along some sections of the generator lead in Abbot and Parkman. The applicant should identify all locations of private wells, springs, or other sources of drinking water within 200 feet of any construction area, and mark setback from such sources, if any. Any refueling and petroleum storage activities during right-of-way maintenance must follow these same setbacks; the existing vegetation management plan does not appear to specifically include these setbacks to address possible activities during maintenance.
- 5) Locations of sources for dust-control water should be stable under the anticipated truck traffic; possible sites would include concrete or asphalt boat ramps, bridges, or similar locations.
- 6) Section 20 of the application states that a geotechnical investigation of the turbine sites will be submitted prior to construction; this report must be submitted for review and approval. It is not anticipated that large volumes of sulfide-bearing rock will be encountered in the area of the proposed project, although smaller bodies may occur.

7) The proposed blasting plan is generally consistent with Department requirements.