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May 26, 2011

Frederick Todd, Project Planner  
Land Use Regulation Commission  
22 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0022

RE: DP 4889—Bowers Wind Project

Dear Mr. Todd:

In 2009, a fund associated with the Stetson Mountain Wind Power project was established at the Forest Society of Maine (FSM) for the purpose of providing grants to benefit public access and conservation within the Baskahegan Stream Watershed in Washington County, Maine. The fund was created through two contributions from First Wind. FSM holds and oversees the Fund, with grants awarded according to guiding documents and based on advice and oversight of a committee with representation from the communities within the watershed—the communities where the wind power project is located. The first grants are planned for this year, based upon a just completed study by the University of Maine at Machias assessing the needs and opportunities within the watershed.

FSM has been asked by First Wind to serve in an administrative capacity for a similar fund associated with the Bowers Wind Project and which is proposed to be established in partial fulfillment of the requirement to provide tangible community benefits. I send this letter to inform the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) that the Forest Society of Maine is willing to serve in such a capacity if LURC approves the project. FSM's board of directors will need to give final review and approval of FSM's acceptance of this administrative role.

The Forest Society of Maine can provide further information and insights relative to our experience in developing and implementing the Stetson Mountain Fund, if LURC would find that helpful for its deliberations regarding the Bowers Wind proposal.

Sincerely,

Alan Hutchinson  
Executive Director

c: Catherine Carroll  
Neil Kiely

