

February 10, 2020
511 Point Road
Otis, ME 04605

Jessica Damon
DEP
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, ME 04401

DEP-BANGOR\m 142-FEB12'20RCU

Dear Ms. Damon,

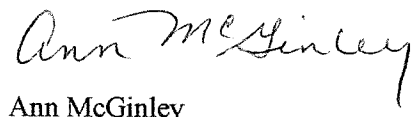
My husband and I purchased property on Beech Hill Pond several months ago and recently became aware of the Silver Maple Wind Project on Pisgah Mountain in Clifton. Although I am aware of the necessity of finding and using alternative sources of power, I do not believe wind turbines are an environmentally friendly or physically appealing way to achieve this. I am greatly opposed to this project and its immediate and future negative scenic impacts on our state. Not only is it detrimental to local wildlife by killing hundreds of birds and forcing nearby animals to abandon their local habitat but it also affects the lives of the people living nearby especially those who have to view these monstrosities daily.

Being born and raised in Bangor Maine I was extremely fortunate to grow up spending every summer at my parent's camp at Beech Hill Pond and I appreciate the beauty and peacefulness it offers. Unfortunately, I was not able to live in Maine after graduating from UMO but after 30+ years of living out of state I finally managed to move back home after purchasing our family camp. The pristine waters and stunning landscapes of Maine are things I greatly value and want to help protect. When I heard about the proposed additional wind turbines on Pisgah Mountain, I was heart sick. The first time I saw the current wind turbines looming in the distance while driving on route 9, I was so shocked I almost had an accident and had to pull off the road. The sight of those alien looking objects so out of place on the side of that beautiful mountain was horrific. I can't begin to describe the feeling I had that day and how deeply it saddened me to see the picturesque landscape purposely maimed in a place I called home. This may sound melodramatic but I can honestly say that every time I drive that same route, I relive that first day.

Maine is unique in not only it's natural beauty but also in its residents. Maine's slogan is "The way life should be" but when I see this beautiful state being forever marred by these massive metal turbines and the effect it has on neighboring residents, I am ashamed and appalled at my home state for allowing this to happen here. These turbines are a degradation to Maine's magnificent scenery and when their useful life has come to an end, they will need to be hauled off to a landfill causing further marring of our countryside. Nearby residents and outdoor enthusiasts should not be forced to live with these unsightly giants and their negative consequences. It is disgraceful for Mainers to allow this to happen and to sit back as long as it isn't happening in their own back yards. What would our forefathers think if they could see how we treat the land they held so dear? Shame on anyone who doesn't speak up now before all our precious land and native wildlife are scattered to the wind. When and where will it stop? Will we see massive wind turbines on top of Cadillac mountain or Mount Katahdin? They are simply visually intrusive and no one should be forced to live with them.

I urge you to seriously consider the negative scenic impacts of these turbines and how much it will affect not only local residents but anyone who enjoys coming to this area to pursue outdoor adventures. So many of these people are unaware of the proposed expansion on Pisgah Mountain and thus will not be able to voice their concerns until it is too late. Please do not allow this project to happen and forever change the natural beauty that Maine is known for.

Sincerely,



Ann McGinley