

Damon, Jessica

From: jane trusty <jane.p.trusty@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 02, 2020 10:52 AM
To: DEP, SilverMapleWind; Jack Plimpton; jane trusty
Subject: Silver Maple Wind Project Comments, Attn. Jessica Damon

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Attention Jessica Damon:

My family and I own property on Mountainy Pond and are strongly opposed to the Silver Maple Wind project. My family has been enjoying the pristine ponds, hills and woods in this area since the 1920's. You may have heard from some of the other owners on Mountainy Pond. We have purposely and diligently protected our property from development and pollution for almost 100 years. Please put our 20+ member Plimpton/Trusty clan on your list of those strongly opposed to this project. Attached are letters from two of my brothers, followed by the comment form.

Jane Trusty
PO Box 1241
E. Holden, ME 04429
jane.p.trusty@gmail.com

Attention Jessica Damon:

I am in favor of wind power, but not willy-nilly development of it.

Onesy-twosy small wind farms have problems with energy storage, transmission and potential environmental impacts, not to mention viewsite selection / public resistance (NIMBY), that make them impractical, uneconomic, and ultimately only of benefit to the developer who reaps the tax benefits. Instead, Massachusetts and others, have set forth policies to develop utility-scale projects, which even the powerful opponents of Cape Wind (such as the Kennedys and Koch brothers) now support. SEE: <http://membership.awordaboutwind.com/blog/what-happened-to-us-offshore-project-cape-wind>

Bottom line, the Silver Maple project is a half-baked plan, sited in an area that is inappropriate for economical wind farms, and of only limited benefit despite irreversible damage. We need the state to step up and develop a coherent plan, including infrastructure investments, and zoning rules, etc.

Why ruin places like Mountainy Pond in a helter-skelter fashion?

Best regards,
Jack Plimpton
C: +1 508.783.1811

Attention Jessica Damon:

These are tax driven projects. The clean energy ends up being for use in Boston, not benefitting Maine.

There is extensively researched opposition info for those who need it (there was a large project for Monhegan Island that got put on hold). I will get updated links and send along.

Having previously been a significant investor in distressed turbine manufacturers and distressed alternative energy projects I can state that NO wind project takes into account the cost of (1) the conventional power generation plant infrastructure needed to make the grid reliable, and (2) the grid infrastructure needed to use and transmit wind power. Check the spot prices for wind, it frequently goes NEGATIVE. I could go on ad nauseum . . .

Frank S Plimpton
fp@plimpton.com

Comment Form
Silver Maple Wind Project

Though not opposed to wind power in general, I want to go on record as being opposed to the Silver Maple Wind Project proposed for Pisgah Mountain located off Route 180 in Clifton, Maine, and to urge the Department of Environmental Protection to deny the permit. If permitted, Silver Maple will build **five additional industrial wind turbines on Pisgah Mountain. The turbines will be 567' to 607' tall (about 100' taller than the existing ones). For comparison, a 45-story building is approximately 550' tall, the observation tower at Penobscot Narrows is 420', and the Statue of Liberty is 305'.**

The beauty of this area was noted in Planning Report No. 90, prepared for the Maine Critical Areas Program titled *Maine's Finest Lakes: The Results of the Maine Lakes Study*. The report notes three areas in the organized townships that contain especially scenic lakes – the Mooshead Lake area, Mount Desert Island's lakes, and **this third area around Pisgah Mountain**. This exemplary scenic area includes neighboring towns of Otis, Eddington, Mariaville, Amherst, Dedham, and Holden, and is beloved by many recreational users, visitors and landowners. The scenic area so rich in natural resources includes two municipal water supplies: Hatcase Pond, approximately three miles from the proposed site, provides water for Brewer and Floods Pond, which is only 1.4 miles from the project, supplies Bangor. Silver Maple is partially within the watershed of Floods Pond which has a larger tributary brook at the western edge of the project site.

The Silver Maple project will have **multiple negative impacts**, not only in Clifton, but also in neighboring towns and ponds, including destruction and degradation of scenic beauty and natural eco-systems, reduction of property values, increased noise levels, lower quality of life, loss of dark skies, and killing of birds and bats. Silver Maple will do nothing to enhance our state brand: "Maine: The Way Life Should Be".

1. Check the statement(s) you agree with:

- Wind projects should not be sited and/or expanded in the exemplary scenic environment of Pisgah Mountain.
- Five additional wind towers on Pisgah Mountain will negatively impact scenic resources of local and state significance, and further detract from my enjoyment of the surrounding area.
- I will see or hear (even within permitted sound levels) the towers from my home, and I find that distressing.
- I believe studies that show proximity to wind towers lowers property values.
- I believe that the unnatural noise levels in this rural, scenic setting present far reaching health hazards to humans and wildlife.
- I believe that the Silver Maple developers have not taken adequate steps to protect bats and birds.

2. Circle one or more: Own land Live Work Visit Hike Enjoy scenic beauty with no visual pollution
Rock climb Fish Swing Boats Bird Watch Use public landings
Stargaze Hunt Camp Other: _____

3. Circle the scenic feature(s) you enjoy: Burnt Pond - Floods Pond - Hatcase Pond - Hopkins Pond - Mountain Pond
Holbrook Pond - Graham Lake - Green Lake - the West Branch of the Union River - Eagles Bluff - Jarks Pond Bluff
Peaked Mountain (locally Big Chick) - Little Peaked Mountain (locally Little Chick Hill)

Additional comments: (write additional comments on back)

4. Mail or email Comments

To:
Jessica Damon, Project Manager
Department of Environmental Protection
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, Maine 04401
SilverMapleWind.DEP@maine.gov

From:
Name: Jack Plimpton
Address: PO Box 1241, East Holden, ME 04429
City, State, Zip:
Email address: jackplimpton@gmail.com