

Town of Glen Planning Board

5 January 2022

7 Erie Street

Fultonville, NY 12072

Re: Proposed Wind Turbine at 411 Reynolds Road

Dear Representatives -

I would like to express my opposition to the proposed projects based on two factors.

- 1) This project is only viable due to taxpayer subsidies and has no net benefit to the finances of our community, and in fact could be a drain on our finances resulting in tax increases (State and County) to the property owners.
- 2) It infringes on certain rights of neighboring property owners.

With respect to these two items, I have several questions for the board. Most of these questions arises from the NYSERDA document titled "New York Wind Energy Guidebook," my general knowledge of the power industry, and business in general.

1. Has the town requested help from NYSERDA as provided for?
2. Who was assigned (as specified in the NYSERDA Document) to be the Public Information Coordinator? Most of the information was sent by Borrego, and in my experience, very few of the Town residents even know this is being proposed – most confuse it with the issue being a property owner's right to do what they want with their land. Even us, as neighboring landowners, were notified VIA US Mail (no proof of delivery) just 2 weeks prior to what was supposed to be the final meeting?
3. Several websites listing wind data for our area show wind speeds marginal at best. Why was this site considered and why is the weather station on the property not at the height of the actual wind turbine hub? NREL website shows our region having a wind speed of 4-4.5 m/s. This makes the site an IEC class D (very low). Vestas (V150-4.5mW) requires an IEC Class C.
4. Has the board consulted a representative from National Grid to speak on how the electric purchase works? Can someone contact them to have a representative attend the Jan. 20 meeting?
5. Who will pay for the preparation and restoration of the rural roads leading to the project? Are these roads designed for industrial construction traffic of that volume?
6. What easements have been requested? The NYSERDA Guidebook section on Planning and Permitting grants certain rights to the developer to disturb neighboring properties.
7. How many neighboring payment agreements have been arranged. If the project is not intrusive, why are neighbor agreements even considered?
8. Who has evaluated the credibility of Borrego? They cite a Vestas V150-4.3 mW turbine (half again the size of the neighboring Wind Turbines in Little Falls) but the Vestas Website lists only a 4.2 and a 4.5 mW model. What is their experience on **completed** wind turbine projects. Their decommissioning plan says the net cost is \$10,000. The application submitted to the board was returned to have Borrego answer several questions, yet this was in the final stages of review?

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9. Where is the interconnect to the power supply? Transmission Lines are on the 411 Reynolds Road site, but representatives of Borrego cite an interconnect at Reynolds Road. The nearest 3 phase lines are on 30A at the intersection of Reynolds Rd (North connector) and Lathers Rd. Who will pay to connect to those line and what would be the impact of routing overhead or underground lines.
10. The original site was moved north requiring more de-forestation and disruption of the wetlands – was updated analysis done? Were soil evaluations based on “off the shelf” data or was the site surveyed for soil, ledge rock and drainage conditions? If they used off the shelf data, why didn’t they use off the shelf wind data?
11. Who is the Ad Hoc member to represent the Town/County on the energy committee?
12. Borrego cites a 10% savings to residents – 10% of what? Our total power bill or just the supply portion?
13. Did the town get the Intervenor Funding to evaluate the project? Who was hired?
14. Did the town hire any industry specific consul or energy specific experts to evaluate this? Has Borrego’s claims been independently verified?
15. How much property taxes will be paid? If this were a Full Market Valued industrial property, the taxes would be about \$200,000 per year for County and School. Is there a PILOT agreement planned? Will the School get the full amount based on assessment.
16. What is the projected Sales Tax revenue – and how calculated, what assumptions?
17. Has anyone asked what percentage of the project’s revenue is from Carbon Off sets (also called Carbon Credits). This is selling “green credit” to polluters.
18. Has anyone looked at the energy produced per acre and compared to other generation technologies like a combined cycle gas fired plant (they occupy 80 acres for 1400 mW of generation typically)?
19. Who is Prime AE and what is their continued role in this process?
20. What is the impact of intermittent power being put on our local grid? A typical house uses 750 kW hours per month, this will put 4300 kW each hour it is running at peak load.
21. What are the assumptions of running hours for the Unit and how much power it will generate annually. There are about 900 households in the Town of Glen.
22. Does Borrego (the developer) have a purchase agreement by an owner/operator, or is this speculation? If so, who is the buyer? Does the Town have a say in the purchaser?
23. What are the provisions if Borrego bankrupts during the project? What happens to existing agreements?
24. Will the Town have lien on the Turbine?
25. Has Borrego put up a performance bond?
26. Do agreements made with Borrego carry over to the purchaser of the unit?
27. NYUP.Com lists 13 Wind Turbine Sites in Upstate NY. Has the board contacted any of them to see how those projects went?

I feel this project involves a considerable amount of due diligence by the Board. The impact of this project is long lasting and multi-faceted. I look forward to attending the meeting on Jan 20 and hearing the answers to my questions.