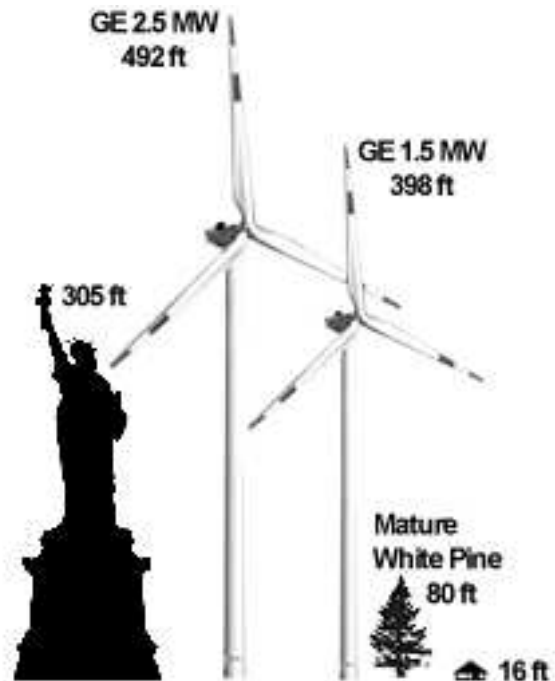


Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It's time to share some recent developments regarding the Bowers Mountain (also known as Champlain Wind) industrial wind project that is being proposed by First Wind LLC. In case you don't know where Bowers Mountain is, it's just north of Duck Lake. If an industrial wind project is built there, it will be visible from every lake to the south, all the way down to West Grand Lake!

February 8th - Carroll Public Information Meeting

On Monday, February 8th at 6:30pm a public information meeting will be held at the Carroll Plt Town Office on the Brown Road. The advance marketing team from First Wind will be there to describe the project and take questions. We urge you to attend so that First Wind and Carroll town officials will realize that there is a lot of interest and opposition to this project. The meeting is open to the public.



Statewide Opposition to Ridgeline Industrial Wind Grows

Our momentum is growing. We're seeing a public groundswell of opposition to building industrial wind projects on our mountains and ridgelines and the press is finally taking notice. The more people become aware, the more they realize that it does not make sense to sacrifice Maine's mountains so a few politicians and out-of-state companies can get rich. To learn more about the issues, visit: <http://www.windtaskforce.org/>. You can also track articles and editorials in our newspapers: <http://www.bangordailymews.com>, <http://pressherald.maintoday.com/>. Be sure to read and add your comments online to news stories because those comments do get noticed. Last Sunday, January 31st, the Portland Press Herald was so inundated with comments about a story of Gov. Baldacci's relationship with First Wind that the website was overloaded and temporarily shut down. When the site came up again, it was without the comments! Fortunately many of those who left comments, impassioned by their views, reposted them. You can see the article and comments at: <http://pressherald.maintoday.com/story.php?id=312312&ac=PHnws>

An article about the Bowers Mountain Project appeared in the 2/3/10 Bangor Daily News. The story was subsequently picked up by MPBN, WABI, WBZ and others. It quotes First Wind spokesman John Lamontagne as saying "We haven't decided, basically, on what we are going to do there, so I don't have the details as how big a project it might be...This is fairly early in the process. It would not be something we would be building in 2010, that's for sure." We have no way of knowing if Mr. Lamontagne is being truthful. Either way, we can't afford to let our guard down. First Wind has already signed a long term lease for the land and a project on Bowers Mountain would tap into the Stetson I transmission lines so easily that it seems unlikely that First Wind would walk away from this site.

Kevin's Meetings in Lakeville and Grand Lake Stream

In our last broadcast update email we mentioned that I had a meeting scheduled with the Town of Lakeville Select Board. After 3 cancellations, we finally met (along with a couple of other "guests") but with less than satisfactory results. Please see the copy of a letter I recently wrote

to the Select Board to voice my disappointment with what happened. Please understand that I am not accusing them of conspiring against me or our opposition group, but clearly their actions did not show any respect for the position and beliefs of many of our Lakeville citizens who have voiced strong concerns about this project. Both select persons in attendance seemed to not have any realization that there are many Lakeville citizens who feel strongly against this project being built, and that this project will have severe negative effects on many property owners in Lakeville. If you live in or are a property owner in Lakeville, PLEASE take a couple of minutes and email or write to the Select Board voicing your concerns. They need to know that the majority of Lakeville property owners DO NOT think this project is beneficial to Lakeville. Please do it NOW rather than later.

Please send your email to: lakevilleboard@fairpoint.net or mail your letter to: Lakeville Selectboard / PO Box 65 / Springfield, ME 04487

On a more positive note, on 12/17, several of the PPDLW board met with town leaders in Grand Lake Stream, including members of the Guides Association and some sporting camp owners. They are concerned about this project and are very supportive of our efforts to stop it. They will soon have a representative on our board.

We need your help and it can't wait for Memorial Day

Once First Wind submits its final application to LURC, the public has only 30 days to comment. If at the end of thirty days LURC decides that there is "*insufficient public interest*", they will not hold a public hearing at all! It is extremely important that we demonstrate to LURC in no uncertain terms that there are many of us who insist on a public hearing. To this end we are going to tell them once, then tell them again, and then tell them a third time! That's where we need your help:

1) We ask that everyone receiving this email, whether you are for, neutral or against this project, please register with LURC as an 'interested party'. This simply puts you on a list of people to be notified when First Wind's application is submitted. You do not have to be a resident of Maine. There are two individuals at LURC you need to email in order to register:

Marcia.Spencer-Famous@maine.gov and Catherine.M.Carroll@maine.gov

And here is sample text you can cut & paste into your email:

Please add my name to the list of 'interested parties' with regard to the First Wind LLC / Champlain Wind LLC industrial wind power facility planned for Bowers Mtn. in Carroll Plt.

Thank you,
(*your name*)
(*your email and/or mailing address*)

Remember to send a copy to both of the addresses given above. The more people that register, the clearer it becomes to LURC that they can't rubber stamp this project behind closed doors!

2) Once you are notified that LURC has received First Wind's permit application, we ask that you email these same two ladies requesting that a Public Hearing be held prior to approving the application. You should include a sentence stating that you live or have property near the project and that you are concerned it will have a negative impact on the area. It's important you do this even if you can't attend. Again, you can do this by email.

3) We are also circulating a petition which asks for a public hearing on the Project. Attached is a copy of that petition. If you can print it out and get as many people as possible to sign it, that would be a great help. When you're done, you can send the signed petition to: Tammy Lane, 1507 Royalsborough Rd., Durham, ME 04222

Financial Support

OK, you knew this was coming so here it is: a plea for some financial help. This fight will not be cheap. We have hired attorney Lynne Williams (at very advantageous rates) to represent and advise us. As many of you know, Lynne is a candidate for governor who also represents the Friends of Lincoln Lakes. **We also plan to hire experts to do studies related to this project and its local impacts.**

We know the economy is tough right now but if you believe in this cause and are able to help, please send us a check. If you need your donation to be tax-deductible, make your check out to "ROSC" and write "PPDLW" on the comment line. The reason we have to do it like this is that although we are a non-profit, it will take a year for PPDLW to get tax-deductible status. ROSC is a non-profit that already has tax-deductible status and has offered to process checks for us for a 1% fee. If you don't care about the deduction, you can make your check out directly to PPDLW. Obviously we prefer this approach as it will save us the 1% fee. Either way, mail your check to: Tammy Lane, 1507 Royalsborough Rd., Durham, ME 04222

Great Press!

We send a special thanks to Lakeville resident Jack Gagnon. Jack writes the column *Short Strikes* for the Northwoods Sporting Journal and devoted his January and February columns to educating readers about the folly of inland wind power generation. He also outlined some of the less than ethical behavior of the some of the authorities involved. You can access these two columns at: www.fairpoint.net/~ppdlw/jack1.htm and www.fairpoint.net/~ppdlw/jac2.htm
Thanks, Jack.

Our website is up!

Please visit us at: <http://www.fairpoint.net/~ppdlw/PPDLW.htm>

Best regards,

PPDLW

***Partnership for the Preservation of
the Down East Lakes Watershed***

