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To: [Whitney, Judith](#)
Subject: Temporary Sound Standard Rule Comments
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At the direction of the Senate and House Natural Resources and Energy Committees and passed by the legislature in May 2016, the legislative intent regarding temporary and permanent sound standards was that the PSB enact sound levels LOWER than the current exterior 45dBA and interior 30dBA infrasound levels, which have proved to be unacceptable and physically injurious to those people living with the effects of industrial wind.

Global research studies on exterior noise pollution have demonstrated that people exposed to an exterior Dba sound level of between 32 and 35 experience the least amount of annoyance coupled with interior infrasound levels of between 15 and 20dBA. There are also significant health issues involving sleep deprivation, high blood pressure, cardio vascular irregularities and headaches that have been experienced and reported. Another great annoyance is due to the light flicker created by the wind turbine blades rotating in the sunlight, creating a flickering shadow which is always present in sunlight.

As discussed in the Committee of Conference for S.230, it is the legislature's intent to include an interior sound standard as part of the temporary rule.

S.260 established two categories of wind projects; those less than 500KW and those in excess of 500KW. It mandates that the exterior sound level cannot exceed 45dBA and the interior standard cannot exceed 30 dBA. The legislative intent for the temporary and permanent standard was to set a LOWER dBA level, not retain or exceed the current level which creates harmful physical effects.

Being a House Natural Resources and Energy Committee member, I can attest to the fact that our intent, after taking extensive testimony from those people suffering from the noise pollution created by industrial wind turbines, was to instruct the PSB to establish LOWER sound levels in order to protect Vermonter's from physical harm. That is part of our respective jobs; ours is to legislate and yours is to carry out our instructions. Our legislation has always included a measure of flexibility for you to exercise discretion on a case by case basis. However, the reams of testimony taken in our committee demonstrate that Vermonter's concerns for their health needs in wind issues are dismissed and the developers needs are satisfied at the expense of the public.

Respectfully,

Rep. Marianna Gamache
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