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June 22, 2016

Vermont Public Service Board  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620 -2701

Re: Temporary Sound-Level Standard

Dear Public Service Board members,

Please accept the following comments and proposals for implementing temporary sound-level standards in wind energy projects.

I'm a retired professional engineer. Since last summer at this time I've been reading a good deal on the important issue of sound levels emanating from industrial wind turbines. I expect you members, as well as the technical support staff you rely on have been doing the same. This information is pervasive across America and the world and spans several decades. If we put aside political bias, profit motivation and any other non-core-issue analysis and look at the straightforward factual issues, there is a serious problem with sound from industrial wind turbines. Simply stated, the sound from industrial wind turbines, both audible sound and infra-sound has drastic health impacts on human beings. Sound levels need to be reduced to levels which will not adversely impact human beings living in homes located near industrial wind turbines.

Without attempting to belabor the enormous body of professional and experience-based literature on the subject I will add my considered opinion to the discussion. I believe 30 decibels, either as an hour long average, a ten minute average or as the highest sound level at any time, is the only standard which makes any effort whatsoever at protecting human beings. I urge you to adopt such a standard during your deliberations on a temporary rule for sound.

Thank you very much for your attention.

D. Gregory Pierce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Gregory Pierce". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "D", "G", and "P" being significantly larger and more stylized than the rest of the text.