

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF LEWIS

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TOWN OF DENMARK PLANNING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application of the
Copenhagen Wind Farm, LLC for up to 62, 1.65
Megawatt, Towers

Hearing on Draft Environmental
Impact Statement

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Date: July 9, 2013

Place: Copenhagen Central School
3020 Mechanic Street
Copenhagen, New York 13626

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Board Members:

Kevin Gaines, Chairperson
Clifford Lehman
Robert Kiernan
Tamara Montalvo
David Gerdon
John Rohr

COPY

Attorney Mark G. Gebo, Esq.
Hrabchak, Gebo & Langone, P.C.
216 Washington Street
Suite 300
Watertown, New York 13601

1 CHAIRPERSON: We'll start the meeting
2 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
4 conducted.)

5 CHAIRPERSON: At this time, I will turn
6 the meeting over to Mr. Gebo.

7 MR. GEBO: Good evening everyone. My
8 name is Mark Gebo. I'm the Attorney that's working
9 with the Board on this project. I'm going to first
10 read the Notice for the Public Hearing and we will
11 have a little piece of business to transact at the
12 end of the public hearing which I'll provide the
13 Board on here in a minute which I -- but we'll get
14 through the hearing first.

15 Please take notice that the Planning
16 Board of the Town of Denmark shall conduct a public
17 hearing on July 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the
18 gymnasium at the Copenhagen Central School, 3020
19 Mechanic Street, Copenhagen, New York, to take
20 comments on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement,
21 (DEIS), prepared on the Copenhagen Wind Farm
22 Project in the Town of Denmark. The Project
23 anticipates up to 62, 1.62 megawatt wind turbines
24 to be constructed. There will also be a nine (9)
25 mile long transmission line to connect at a

1 substation in the Town of Watertown. The
2 transmission line will be partly in the Towns of
3 Champion, Rutland, and Watertown, in Jefferson
4 County, New York.

5 The Planning Board of the Town of
6 Denmark has been designated as Lead Agency and has
7 accepted the DEIS as complete. Full copies of the
8 DEIS are available for inspection at the Denmark
9 Town Hall during normal business hours and as well
10 as the Carthage Free Library, 412 Budd Street,
11 Carthage, New York, and on the Developer's website,
12 which I won't read all the website information to
13 you. In addition to the public hearing, written
14 comments shall be accepted through July 23, 2013.
15 Through that date, the Planning Board will continue
16 accepting written comments by regular mail or by
17 fax at 315-493-4809, and e-mail at
18 denmarkplanningboard, all one word,
19 denmarkplanningboard at gmail.com. All persons
20 wishing to be heard should be present at that date,
21 time, and place or should submit a written comment.
22 Any person requiring special accommodations in
23 order to attend and participate in such hearing
24 must notify the Town Clerk during normal business
25 hours at least three business days prior to the

1 hearing.

2 Now, there's two -- there's a website
3 for the developer on here which if you want it,
4 come and see me after and you can write it down. I
5 did give also the e-mail for the Planning Board.
6 If you didn't get that, come see me after and you
7 can write it down, all right, and of course, you
8 can also get the e-mail through the Town Clerk and
9 so forth. Now, tonight I want to bring one matter
10 to the Board's attention, which is the item which
11 may require a little action by the Board later on.
12 It appears that when the DEIS was circulated to
13 involved agencies, some of the figures,
14 particularly some of the visual analysis, were
15 somehow was not transmitted with it when it went
16 out to the other involved agencies. That's being
17 corrected at the present time, but because of that,
18 it's going to be my request to the Board that you
19 consider extending the time for written comments so
20 that everybody will have a full thirty days to give
21 written comments after receiving it, and we can
22 talk about a date at the end of this. The date I
23 will suggest to you, though, I will let you know is
24 going to be August 13.

25 All right, that having been said, what

1 is going to happen tonight is the developer is
2 going to make a brief presentation. We have a
3 screen behind us, that will give us a powerpoint.
4 When they are done with that, I'm going to identify
5 any written correspondence we've received, go over
6 the rules that were sort of handed out at the
7 beginning just so people understand them, and then
8 we are going to take speakers.

9 Now, as all of you came in, I tried to
10 advise you if you wanted to speak, sign up on the
11 sheet. There are still more sheets back there, so
12 if during the course of this you decide maybe I do
13 want to speak, go back and sign up on one of the
14 sheets and we'll have it brought forward and we'll
15 get to you. So having said that, I'm going to turn
16 this over to Mr. Hecklau from EDR who prepared the
17 Draft Environmental Impact Statement and he will
18 take it from here.

19 JOHN HECKLAU: Good evening everybody.
20 My name is John Hecklau. I'm with EDR, we're a
21 Consultant to OWN Energy. We work with OWN in
22 preparation of the DEIS, and this is your hearing
23 tonight, so I'm not going to provide a lengthy
24 discussion or presentation, just a very quick
25 overview, very high level of the project for folks

1 who aren't familiar with it at all and then -- oh,
2 I'm sorry. Is that better? Thanks. Anyway, it's
3 just a very brief overview of the project and then
4 some comments about some guidance about commenting
5 and SEQRs and things of that nature. So, let me
6 see if I can get this to work.

7 So, there's a Board over here and a
8 slide showing the project. As Mark mentioned, 62
9 turbine sites were evaluated in the DEIS. That
10 will occur on about 9700 acres of land that will be
11 under use for the project from private landowners.
12 Other promotions to the project include 17 miles of
13 access roads, 24 miles of electrical collection
14 lines that will be buried. 62 turbine sites were
15 evaluated. The intent is to construct 49 or fewer
16 turbines with maximum generating capacity of the
17 project being 79.9 megawatts.

18 Also in looking at the GE 1.6 or 1.7
19 watt, megawatt turbines, these machines will have a
20 maximum height of about 492 feet. The other
21 component of the project is a 9.9 mile long
22 transmission line, still somewhat tentative in
23 location and design, but it would run across the
24 Towns of Denmark, Rutland, Champion, and Watertown
25 to connect to the existing power lines. At this

1 time, we anticipate the line being 115 kilovolts
2 carried on single wood poles 65 to 80 feet tall.

3 The SEQR process, Mark had really
4 quickly just a few steps that we have taken so far
5 for this information, July 7, 2012, the Town of
6 Denmark Planning Board filed notice that they would
7 become the SEQR lead agency. August 7, 2012, they
8 issued a positive declaration, it came that the
9 project could have a significant environmental
10 impact and therefore requested a Draft
11 Environmental Impact Statement be prepared.
12 September 4, 2012, the Draft Scoping Document is a
13 document by the Planning Board and that document
14 was finalized on October 30.

15 June 4, the Environmental Impact
16 Statement was set disapproved by the Denmark
17 Planning Board, which brings us to where we are
18 tonight. The June 11 document was released and
19 called for public comments. As Mark mentioned, the
20 public comment period was to July 23, they are
21 proposing that to extend to August 13. Documents
22 have been distributed. They are available for the
23 public on the project website which is not only on
24 this slide, but there is a form that I brought
25 tonight that has that as well, so you don't need to

1 check with Mark on that. The e-mail address is up
2 there or the website address. It's also available
3 in the Denmark Town Hall and Carthage Free Library
4 as well. As Mark said, we will be getting a
5 revised visual study to all these locations so they
6 are available so that you are able to review. I
7 also brought a copy of that tonight if anybody
8 wants to look at that, and there are some boards
9 with some subsequent visuals as well.

10 Tonight's public hearing, and as I said,
11 the public comment period will extend beyond this.
12 The future steps would be to close the public
13 comment period, the DEC would prepare a Final
14 Environmental Impact Statement, which is basically
15 going to describe the project in a more finalized
16 design state, and also respond to any comments that
17 are received from the agencies with power. It will
18 then be the Planning Board's responsibility to do
19 that and prepare a finding statement, basically a
20 positive or negative, approving or disapproving the
21 project, approving the issues with that, and then
22 complete the SEQR process.

23 As far as what is in the DEIS is what
24 folks can review and comment on. These are the
25 various chapters. I'll just pick them off quickly:

1 Geology, soils, and topography, water resources,
2 climate and air quality, biological resources,
3 visual and aesthetic resources, historic, cultural
4 and archeological resources, sound, traffic and
5 transportation, socioeconomics, public safety,
6 community facilities and services, land use and
7 zoning, the communication facilities. There are
8 chapters on all those items in the back. For each
9 one, existing conditions are described, potential
10 impacts are presented along with mitigation
11 measures that were proposed. As mentioned, the
12 DEIS is available at these locations.

13 Tonight, really the focus is on
14 providing comments on the DEIS and any issues. We
15 just put up some information here from the DEC SEQ
16 handbook, just some guidance on making comments,
17 focussing on major issues. You add up all the
18 comments tonight, it never hurts to back them up
19 with written comments. We are looking at various
20 studies that were prepared that went into the DEIS,
21 and the comments, and completeness of those
22 studies, that's the kind of thing to comment on.
23 Take a look at the alternatives that were
24 considered, make sure you are comfortable with
25 that. Review the mitigation measures that were

1 proposed to which were analyzed to mitigate the
2 environmental impacts.

3 The hearing is scheduled to run from
4 seven to nine. I think it will go as long as it
5 needs to go to make sure everybody is heard. As
6 Mark said, please sign up on the sheet. Basically
7 state your name for the record. We have a Court
8 Stenographer here who is recording the proceedings.
9 I don't think we have enough people here that we
10 have to impose a time limit, but just for courtesy,
11 try to keep your comments precise. Substantive
12 comments on the content of the DEIS is what we are
13 looking for and need and it's what we need to
14 respond to and file. As Mark said, written
15 comments would be accepted during the comment
16 period. There's some more contact up information.
17 I'll leave that up on the screen, and thank you
18 very much.

19 MR. GEBO: Thank you, John. Let me do
20 this now. All right. So, in terms of written
21 comments, the Board was actively checking our
22 e-mail and so forth. Today, we had only one
23 written comment that had come in. We are not even
24 sure that it qualifies as a comment, so much as it
25 was from Mr. John Droz, who was promoting a group

1 that he works with to provide some input on the
2 process. It didn't make any particular comments
3 specific to the project in that e-mail. We also,
4 tonight, received a written letter from the Village
5 of Lowville -- Copenhagen dated July 8th, which I
6 have not read, but will certainly be given to all
7 the Board Members and it will become a part of the
8 record.

9 To-date, the written comments that we
10 received, as I said earlier, we will continue to
11 entertain written comments to a certain date, more
12 reasonably, that will be August 13, so that you
13 have the opportunity to submit written comments
14 even after this evening. There is a form on the
15 table where you signed in that can assist you in
16 making those written comments if you want, although
17 you can make a written comment if you wish. You
18 don't have to use the form. The form is only meant
19 to be a help to you.

20 Now, all the people who wanted to speak,
21 we asked you to sign in on the sheet. I have those
22 sheets here. If there is anybody else who wants to
23 speak, there's more sheets back there, just go back
24 and sign up, we'll get to you. We will take people
25 in the order they are on the sheet. When I call

1 your name, I would like you to come forward.
2 Please stand over here. As you can see, we have a
3 Stenographer who is taking down everything that is
4 being said, so we have an accurate record of
5 everything. It's important that she be able to
6 hear you. So, if you would stand near her, if you
7 take the mike from me when you come up, then we'll
8 all hear you.

9 On the hearing procedure that we handed
10 out, we have a three minute limit. I think we were
11 thinking there might be a larger crowd. I don't
12 think we need to fill the time for that, but if you
13 are taking an inordinate amount of time, I will ask
14 you to wrap it up, but we'll probably let everybody
15 say whatever it is that they need to say. It
16 should be preceded by you giving your name, when
17 you get up, please give your name and your address,
18 so we can -- your comments to you.

19 Please address your comments to the
20 Board. The Board is the one who needs to hear
21 them. The idea is if you have concerns, making us
22 aware of those tonight will mean that the developer
23 will have to address those concerns in a document
24 that will be prepared after the comment period is
25 over, called the Final Environmental Impact

1 Statement, in which all the comments that are made
2 here tonight and those written comments will all
3 have to be addressed by the developer.

4 Now, just for order sake, and I don't
5 think we have that sort of problem, but we do ask
6 that there be no interruption of the speakers, no
7 cross conversations in the audience, it's very
8 difficult to take down two or three people at the
9 same time. Okay? And of course, once everybody
10 has had a chance to speak, if there is time
11 remaining, if somebody wants to speak a second
12 time, we'll certainly allow that. Any questions
13 about the process? If not, I will call our first
14 speaker, Kenneth Clark.

15 KENNETH CLARK: First question would be
16 if we submit it in writing, do you still want us to
17 speak?

18 MR. GEBO: Sure, you can, absolutely,
19 doesn't matter.

20 KENNETH CLARK: My name is Kenneth
21 Clark, the Mayor of the Village of Copenhagen. I
22 have three concerns, and there's more concerns
23 pertaining to the people in the Village of
24 Copenhagen, and one is, the placement of the
25 towers. I mean, are they going to interrupt

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1 transmission from our water plant to the village
2 office? We have a 50 foot tower and I know the
3 placement of these windmills are between our plant
4 and maybe the Village of Copenhagen. Is that gonna
5 break the communication between our water plant and
6 the Village of Copenhagen? Now, that radio
7 transmission or that material from that plant to
8 the Village of Copenhagen is very important. It's
9 required by state agencies, so that cannot be
10 interfered with in any way.

11 The second concern that I have is, is
12 the construction and placement of those towers
13 gonna interfere with the water supply that goes
14 into the mills? Is it gonna effect the aquifer?
15 You know, that's a, to me, that's a very serious
16 question. Are they gonna to dynamite? Are they
17 gonna drill something that might -- and I know the
18 windmills are actually uphill from where the water
19 plant is, and I know they are less than probably
20 120 feet from the plant. The third and final
21 concern I have is, our three wells show surface
22 water contamination.

23 So, otherwise, we put a filter system
24 down there that's capable of filtering any
25 materials that go into that water before that --

1 comes to the Village of Copenhagen. Now, I know
2 that's a very sensitive system and I know that even
3 when we get heavy rain, you know, it effects the
4 filters. Is the construction of the windmills,
5 could that dirty the water, put minerals in the
6 water to plug them filters? I mean, they were
7 pretty much my only concerns that I have pertaining
8 to the windmills. Thank you.

9 MR. GEBO: Okay, thank you. Next
10 speaker is Douglas Robbins.

11 DOUGLAS ROBBINS: I'm Douglas Robbins.
12 I live in Denmark, 9975 State Route 26. I would
13 like to read a little concern, a big concern that
14 we have. The many home landowners in the Town of
15 Denmark get their water supplies from the springs
3A 16 and wells that are just below the work that would
17 be done in the Copenhagen Wind Farm Project.
18 Currently, the proposed 2,500 feet stipulation for
19 responsibly by the project is not acceptable
20 because the water for these homes travels downhill
21 from the proposed project location. Our water
22 supply is essential and needs to be protected.
23 Before any work is commenced, Douglas Robbins and
24 many of his neighbors want in writing that the
25 Copenhagen Wind Farm DEIS will be responsible for

1 any problems that might occur due to the water
2 supply from implementing and running of the Wind
3 Farm Project. It is important that any possible
4 problems be solved to the homeowners satisfaction.
5 Thank you for your attention and for addressing our
6 important concern.

7 MR. GEBO: Are we able to get a copy of
8 that? Thank you very much. Okay, our third
9 speaker is Shari Simmons.

10 SHARI SIMMONS: Shari Simmons, I'm a
11 resident of the Town of Denmark. I live down on
12 Route 12, Copenhagen. I just -- one of the
13 questions that I have is how can all of this be
14 completed when there's still so many issues that
15 are still up in the air? How can things be passed
16 or voted on or allowed to progress when there are
17 several issues that are still up in the air?

18 There's still issues with where the line
19 is going to be, where the towers are gonna be, how
20 they are going to do the windmills. I mean, we are
21 talking about the aquifer that we have, the Tug
22 Hill, the Northern Tug Hill Aquifer. There is a
23 huge thing in your DEIS, it states in there, if I
24 get the correct paper here, it tells in there that
25 the Northern Tug Hill aquifer is the sole source

1 for six villages. It extends to Pierrepont Manor,
2 Adams, Lorraine, Mannsville, Sandy Creek, Adams
3 Center, and is highly susceptible for contamination
4 due to soil type and ground surface.

5 That's one of the concerns that I have
6 because I think that our water supply is very
7 important and what it says right in the DEIS that
8 it's highly contaminated, that's a concern that I
9 think we are all -- because we're not just talking
10 about the Town of Denmark and Town and Village of
11 Copenhagen, we're talking about a large land mass
12 when we're talking about going to Pierrepont Manor.
13 I understand that it's a lot of money that the
14 schools are gonna get and that the town is gonna
15 get when it's all passed, but I think that's one of
16 the concerns that I have. That was just something,
17 like even in our own situation at our house, I came
18 up here, looked at the map that shows a
19 transmission line buried across my entire property,
20 but nobody's taken the time to come talk to us
21 about that.

22 It's been -- they've been going to come
23 talk several times and we're talking about going
24 across, we have three wells on our property. We
25 have a spring on our property that feeds two

4B

1 families, and those are issues that -- so, that's
2 just my concern that is how does the project move
3 on when there's still a lot of questions that I
4 don't feel I have answers yet. Things are still
5 kind of wishy washy. I mean, I know that -- that's
6 just the thing, how can we approve something when
7 there is a lot of issues up in the air where as a
8 homeowner if I came in and my septic system was
9 wrong, the Planning Board would shut me right down,
10 but you are allowing a huge project like this that
11 effects 9,700 acres in our town without knowing
12 what the -- I would want to know exactly where the
13 towers are gonna be, where the transmission line
14 is, where are they going to dynamite, because they
15 can dynamite, where are they going to do all this
16 stuff before I would give them the go ahead and put
17 your windmills up. That's about I guess that's
18 all, that's my biggest concern.

19 MR. GEBO: Thank you very much. Our
20 next speaker is Gerald Carter.

21 GERALD CARTER: Gerald Carter, P.O. Box
22 118, Copenhagen, New York. I have two concerns,
23 but first I want to make a statement. I'm in favor
24 of a thousand windmill towers over one nuclear
25 plant, okay, just so you know that. I do have a

1 concern with the pilot but maybe this isn't the
2 right time to be bringing that up. I'm not totally
3 sure. I don't agree with the pilot at all. They
4 only need about half that time to recoup their
5 money and they are gonna be making money off the
6 taxpayers for the other half of that time. I just
7 don't agree with that.

8 I want to reiterate what Ken Clark said
9 about our water situation. These towers are gonna
10 be right on top of our aquifer and there's another
11 one just the north side of the village, in the
12 village and on the north side, it's gonna be right
13 up on top of it, and as I understand it, I'm not
14 totally sure of this, they will drill down about 50
15 or 60 feet at the base of the towers, they are
16 gonna do a lot of blasting, there's gonna be a lot
17 of rock there. I'm wondering what type of a
18 guarantee you are getting, asking for from these
19 people that they are not gonna disrupt our water.
20 Water is very important to all of us.

21 We don't need electricity, the Amish
22 showed us, we don't need that. We do need the
23 milk, the bread, the wheat, and the water. We need
24 the water. I want to make that very very clear.
25 That is a big -- I know Mr. Robbins, he talked

1 about it, and they talked a lot about it. They
2 talked a lot about water. We aren't going to
3 benefit, a very little bit from this electric,
4 probably got two dozen landowners that are gonna
5 benefit from it and the village and the school, the
6 county is gonna benefit some, but none of like what
7 there are gonna benefit from. That's all I got to
8 say.

9 MR. GEBO: Thank you very much. Our
10 next speaker is Rudyard Edick.

11 RUDYARD EDICK: My name is Rudyard
12 Edick. I'm with the New York State DEC at 625
13 Broadway, Albany, New York. My purpose for
14 speaking today is to give both the Board and the
15 public an overview of what the DEC is involved in
16 in review. We are an involved agency in this
17 project. We are not the lead agency.

18 Typically what we regulate, where we
19 have regulatory authority is for State Wetland
20 Surfaces, that would be article, what we call an
21 Article 24 permit, and also Regulated Stream
22 Disturbances, which would be an Article 15 permit.
23 My understanding, with myself and several
24 biologists from DEC toured the site this afternoon.
25 From what we've been able to gather, it's quite

1 likely documented that there will be a wetlands
2 disturbance permit involved in the project. While
3 we don't have strict regulatory authority on some
4 other issues, we do comment on it.

5 For example, noise impacts from the wind
6 farm. We have a -- State DEC has a noise policy
7 document that you can find on our website and that
8 provides guidance on our noise policy, noise issues
9 should be evaluated. Also, we have a visual policy
10 document. You can find on our website, just go to
11 our website and google visual policy.

12 So we often comment on both the noise
13 and the visual sections of a DEIS, wetlands
14 obviously, stream disturbances, and we also comment
15 on bird and bat impact that would result from the
16 project. As you may have heard, there is something
17 called White Nose Syndrome that's effected the bat
18 populations throughout the state, so that's a
19 higher interest right now. So, our primary
20 wildlife concerns tend to focus in on birds and
21 bats which tend to be most susceptible, but this
22 area is not, from what I understand from our avian
23 biologist, not a high concern area, but
24 nevertheless, we may have some comments on that.
25 And also we're concerned about the sewer water

1 runoff, so we'll be looking at that.

2 So, I assume you wanted us to give you
3 an overview of what the DEC typically looks at in
4 these projects. If you have any questions, the
5 e-mail address I have is very cumbersome. You can
6 see me afterwards and I can write it down for you,
7 but I will give you my phone number, it's
8 518-402-9150. I'll repeat that. 518-402-9150. My
9 name is Roger Edict. That's my direct line. So,
10 if you have any questions to come up during the
11 review process or at any point during the SEQOR
12 process, please feel free to call me or e-mail me
13 and I can give you -- my e-mail address, I will
14 write it down for you or if you want to see me
15 after to talk. Thank you very much.

16 MR. GEBO: Thank you. Next speaker is
17 Scott Simmons.

18 SCOTT SIMMONS: My name is Scott
19 Simmons, Town of Denmark, down on Route 12. Pretty
20 much a lot of my concerns were covered by the
21 others. I have another one regarding to the town.
22 We've heard a lot about the windmill stuff, the
23 water stuff.

24 The Town may be getting a lot of money,
25 as far as the town and the school. We are talking

1 about \$430,00 in the Town of Denmark, \$665,000
2 split between Copenhagen and Lowville, Lewis
3 County, for the schools. Where do we see property
4 taxes going, we've got land assessment, land values
5 going? Like where is this headed? Are assessments
6 going to go up because they are here? If the
7 assessments go up, are the taxes going to go up?

8 With that much money coming in, what are
9 we going to see in return? We see the stuff, you
10 know, like -- has six windmills on the hill. So
11 I've been through it with him and we've seen what
12 is going on, you got the little Town of Harrisburg
13 up here and stuff like that. What are we going to
14 see from the Town?

15 Communications with the windmill stuff
6B 16 is big. I am big on communications. Like, the
17 gentleman that just talked was great. That was
18 perfect. We had the bat people come out and did a
19 survey behind the house. We had an absolute blast.
20 We took the croghan bologna out, the cheese curd,
21 we had a absolute blast.

22 Like the communication needs to be more.
23 Like I've been talking to Gerald -- he's getting a
24 turbine on the hill. He has no clue what's going
25 on. Nobody talks to him. Nobody says nothing.

1 They call him, hey, we need a contract signed,
2 that's it, so he don't know what's going on.

3 So there's other people that aren't
4 getting a lot of communication, but there's not a
5 lot of people in here that are getting the turbines
6 here tonight. So the communication -- dropping is
7 huge. I'm for the windmill. I am really for
8 what's going on. Anytime I bring something up to
9 somebody, I get my rear chewed off because it
10 sounds like I'm against them and I'm not.

11 It's just really frustrating as -- and
12 I'm not getting much, but like we come -- and we've
13 seen the maps and we have a transmission line going
14 right through our lawn, right through the swamp.
15 Well, that's no big deal, we can just move them.
16 We had a big thing the other night here at the
17 school. Well, that's not where it's supposed to
18 be. That's just, well, can we move stuff?

19 You just can't put on paper that's where
20 it should be. That's where it should be put,
21 here's what it is. This is what it's gonna be. If
22 not, we can move it around and stuff like that.
23 I'm really concerned on that.

24 We have a transmission line coming down,
25 a substation supposedly going in, but we don't

1 know, not that it's gonna happen, I'm for it,
2 that's great, but I'm going to be living next to a
3 substation, right next to the house, but nobody
4 really knows if it's going here, there, up there,
5 over here, nothing. So it's really frustrating as
6 a landowner, and I'm gonna have one right by my
7 house, which is fine, it's going to be no problem.
8 The noise is no concern. The visuals are pretty
9 cool.

10 Follow up, I need to see, but it's all
11 the other little things that's it's not getting
12 communicated, and the rumors, we need to work on
13 that stuff. He needs more time to be available on
14 it. He's coming up two days a week, three days a
15 week. This is multi million dollar project. Two
16 days a week ain't cutting it.

17 You need to get somebody up here that
18 stays up here, whether they give more power to
19 Jerry to let him do more or whatever needs to
20 happen, but he can't come up here for two days a
21 week for a multi million dollar project. You need
22 to be here and answer questions and answer
23 concerns, and do stuff like that. So, the biggest
24 thing is with the town. We hear the town's for it,
25 and I've talk with individual members and stuff,

1 but we don't know where is that money going.

2 That's a lot of money to be giving to
3 the Town. Okay, is it that going to come back to
4 the taxpayers? Is it gonna be dumped into more
5 stuff, we don't know. All we know is the Town is
6 going to get \$430,000, first payment, according to
7 what it says online. So that's what we're looking
8 at and concerned with. I don't want to stir
9 feathers, but every time I do, it seems like I come
10 across negative, but it's not that, it's true, it's
11 gonna happen, so that's what, that's all I wondered
12 about, so.

13 MR. GEBO: Thank you. That completes
14 the people who had signed in. Is there anybody
15 else who wants to speak? You would like to speak
16 again, Mrs. Simmons?

17 SHARI SIMMONS: I just have a question
18 on the substation, that's what I'd like more
19 information on that, and I agree with what Scott
20 said because I went through that. This is how big
21 a report you have to look through to see how many
22 things are going on. I mean, it tells in there how
23 wide a -- we are gonna take for every different
24 project, what they are gonna do with every tree. I
25 don't know that every individual person getting a

1 windmill knows how wide they taking out all your
2 trees.

3 Do you know if they are just going to
4E 4 put them in a pile so that you can do what you want
5 with them or are they going to have a logger come
6 in and take them. There's just a lot of stuff in
7 that paper that I don't know if the average person
8 knows what's in it, but I looked through it and I
9 didn't find any information that showed in there
10 that it could be substation picture number 19 or it
11 could be substation picture number 20. Well, which
12 one is it gonna be?

13 And I didn't find anything in it that
14 talks about the safety or any issues about areas of
15 underground transmission, health things because my
4F 16 grandchildren are right next door to them and I do
17 want to make sure that before I sign any paper that
18 that transmission line they want to run across my
19 property is not going to electrocute somebody or
20 it's not going to be a cancer risk ten years down
21 the road. So I would like more information. I'd
22 like to -- I know they said that they are going to
23 landscape it, but it doesn't show that in any of
24 the plans. So, I'm just concerned about health on
25 that substation.

1 MR. GEBO: Thank you, Mrs. Simmons. Is
2 there anybody else that would like to speak?

3 GERALD CARTER: Gerald Carter. Yes, as
4 to what Scott Simmons said, we were told the other
5 night about two weeks ago right here in this gym
6 that this was a done deal and we don't know if it's
7 a done deal, you know, we are having a hearing. I
8 guess there's gonna be another hearing, but the
9 other night they said it's gonna go, and people
10 don't know what's going on.

11 MR. GEBO: Thank you. Anyone else?

12 DOUGLAS ROBBINS: I just want to make
13 sure that I wanted to make it clear with what I do
14 want is, but as far as windmills, I have no
15 problem, most of you know I have no problem
16 whatsoever, so I didn't want to put them off, but
17 the problem we do have needs to be addressed.
18 Thank you.

19 MR. GEBO: Anybody else? Mr. Chairman,
20 I would ask if your Board would consider closing
21 the public hearing?

22 CHAIRPERSON: Could I get a motion to
23 close the public hearing?

24 MR. LEHMAN: I make the motion to close
25 the public hearing.

1 MR. MAHAR: Second.

2 CHAIRPERSON: All in favor?

3 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

4 MR. GEBO: Before you close the meeting
5 entirely, we do need to address the question of
6 giving additional time for written comments. I
7 would ask the Board to consider a motion to extend
8 the time for written comments until August 13 to
9 give everyone sufficient time to comment on the
10 figures that were omitted in the original document.

11 CHAIRPERSON: Have the changes already
12 been made?

13 MR. GEBO: They are being printed as I
14 understand it and should be available in a couple
15 of days.

16 JOHN HECKLAU: They are available on the
17 project website.

18 MR. GEBO: What Mr. Hecklau said is that
19 those figures are already on the website, they are
20 being printed so the hard copies can be submitted.

21 CHAIRPERSON: So the date would be --

22 MR. GEBO: So the date would be the
23 deadline on public comments would be August 13.
24 You need to make a motion to do that.

25 CHAIRPERSON: Do I have a motion from

1 the table and to extend the date?

2 MR. MAHAR: I make the motion.

3 MR. LEHMAN: Second.

4 CHAIRPERSON: All those in favor?

5 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON: Opposed?

7 MR. GEBO: Mr. Simmons, you have a
8 question?

9 SCOTT SIMMONS: Do you want me to come
10 up there?

11 MR. GEBO: If you would.

12 SCOTT SIMMONS: I just got one more
13 thing, is that you guys sit here and listen to us
14 complain and stuff like that, where does this go?

15 MR. GEBO: I can answer.

16 SCOTT SIMMONS: Like, can we have like a
17 town hall meeting where everybody gets together and
18 talks about our concerns instead of, I don't have
19 issues. I have no problem at all. Everybody that
20 wants to come to this can stand up and talk and get
21 an answer. Do it like that.

22 MR. GEBO: I can tell you the process.
23 Let me just explain what the process is from here.
24 Of course, we are going to have the time period
25 extended from now until August 13 in which written

1 comments can be received. This is so everybody
2 understands what the public's concerns are. Those
3 concerns still need to be addressed. All right.

4 That's what the Final Environmental
5 Impact Statement is, it is to take each one of
6 those concerns that has been raised either tonight
7 or through written comments either made already or
8 to be made. The developer would then have to
9 develop a written response to each of those
10 comments. They will have to give that response to
11 the Planning Board, in a document that we call a
12 Final Environmental Impact Statement. The Board
13 will review those to determine whether it's a
14 sufficient answer.

15 If it is not a sufficient answer for the
16 Board, they will send the developer back to work on
17 it more. At a certain point though, we have to
18 assume the developer will get it to a point where
19 the Board will be reasonably satisfied from it, at
20 which point, there is again another opportunity for
21 public comment. All right.

22 So, that's -- the environment process is
23 just one process that goes on in getting approval.
24 After that comment period is over on the Final
25 Environmental Impact Statement, the Town Board has

1 to make certain findings and publish its findings,
2 and of course it will include any mitigation
3 measures they expect the developers to take to
4 eliminate, reduce whatever the impact, but once
5 that's done, there is still a site plan process
6 that has to take place before the Planning Board of
7 the zoning law during which there is yet another
8 public hearing, so the public is far from done in
9 having a chance to comment on this.

10 It's been my experience with other
11 projects that it is at the site plan stage, that
12 the location is getting finalized. The draft as
13 often has alternative locations because one may
14 have a certain type of impact and another one
15 doesn't. It is trying to decide between the two
16 which is the better location. Through comments and
17 further studies and feedback from the Board and
18 public, hopefully those decisions can be made, but
19 there is going to be a continuing process here.
20 This is far from done, and there is quite a bit of
21 the process still ahead. Quite a bit of the
22 process is from the public and impact.

23 I think the developers representative is
24 here tonight, as you know, and I'm sure they will
25 take to heart some of the comments about

1 communication and perhaps they will have that town
2 hall meeting with you as you requested, but in
3 terms of just the process the law outlines, the
4 process I just described to you is the process the
5 law outlines for this, but feel free, please, to
6 come to any of the Planning Board meetings. They
7 are public meetings. Everybody is welcome to
8 attend and you'll see in the process that the
9 Planning Board is asking a lot of questions. The
10 Planning Board is asking for certain changes, not
11 all of them ones that the developer wants them to
12 make.

13 SCOTT SIMMONS: When are they?

14 MR. GEBO: The Planning Board meetings
15 are the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 at the
16 town office, the first Tuesday of the month. Did I
17 say second? If I said second, I am wrong. It's
18 the first Tuesday of the month, each month, first
19 Tuesday. And I know some of you have attended, and
20 some of you know about it, but those of you that
21 don't, it's an open meeting, please feel free to
22 attend. Okay. Mr. Chairman, I think that's it.

23 CHAIRPERSON: Can I get a motion to
24 adjourn the meeting?

25 MR. LEHMAN: Motion to adjourn.

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MR. MAHAR: So moved.

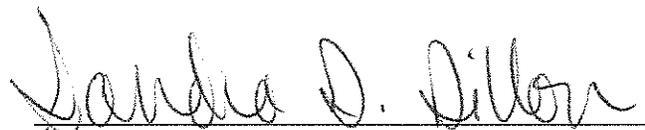
CHAIRPERSON: Meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the proceeding concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Sandra D. Dillon, Court Reporter of New York State, do hereby certify that the foregoing has been a true and correct transcript of the proceeding as taken by me, to the best of my ability, at the time and place noted in the heading hereof.



SANDRA D. DILLON
Court Reporter

COPENHAGEN WIND FARM
DEIS PUBLIC HEARING

①

SPEAKER SIGN IN

NAME (PRINTED)

ADDRESS:

- | NAME (PRINTED) | ADDRESS: |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 ✓ KENNETH CLARKE | Village of Copenhagen |
| 2 ✓ Douglas Robbins | 9975 ST. RT 26 Lowville E1306 |
| 3 ✓ Shari Simmons | 10180 St. Rt. 12 Copenhagen |
| 4 ✓ Gerald Carter | Copenhagen, N.Y. |
| 5 ✓ Rudyard Edick | DEC Albany NY |

COPENHAGEN WIND FARM
DEIS PUBLIC HEARING

2

SPEAKER SIGN IN

NAME (PRINTED)

ADDRESS:

6 ✓ Scott Simmons

Copenhagen

7 ✓ Shari Simmons (2d time)

8 ✓ Gerald Carter (2d time)

9 ✓ Douglas Robbins (2d time)

VILLAGE OF COPENHAGEN
PO Box 237
Copenhagen, NY 13626
Phone: 315-688-4229 Fax: 315-688-2216

July 8, 2013

Planning Board
Town of Denmark

RE: Copenhagen Wind Farm – Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Town Board:

This correspondence is provided by the undersigned, in my capacity as Mayor for the Village of Copenhagen, to express the Village Board's concerns with the following potential impacts of the proposed wind farm on the Village infrastructure.

The proposal contains 62 potential sites for construction of 49 towers. One or more of the proposed tower sites is located between the new Village water plant and the Village offices. The new Village water plant has located thereon an antenna to transmit signals from the water plant to the Village office, which is used for monitoring plant activity as required by the State regulatory agencies. The uninterrupted continuation of the signal between the plant and the Village office is crucial to the continued operation of the Village water system and to insure continued compliance with regulatory requirements. Interference with radio signals is a potential impact identified in the draft environmental impact statement, and the Village is requesting assurances that selection of tower sites will not cause any interruption in the transmittal of signals between the Village water plant and the Village office.

The residences and businesses within the Village of Copenhagen are provided with Village water supplied by wells located on property outside of the Village limits and within the vicinity of the proposed tower locations. Several of the proposed tower locations are sited uphill from the Village wells, and the Village is concerned with the potential impact on the wells from ground disturbance due to the construction of the towers. Ground disturbance either through blasting or other construction activities may adversely impact the aquifer that feeds the Village water supply, and the Village Board is seeking assurances that the construction activities will not interrupt the Village water supply. In addition to the concern over the disturbance to the aquifer, the Village Board is concerned that construction activities may increase debris deposited into the water which may overburden the Village's filtering systems that are currently in place at the well site.

Please include this correspondence with other written comments to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

VILLAGE OF COPENHAGEN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Clarke', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kenneth Clarke, Mayor

COMMENT FORM

Please use this form to provide your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Copenhagen Wind Farm. Please write neatly and use additional sheets as needed. Be aware that all comments, including name and address of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this Project and will be available for public review.

Please provide all comments by July 23, 2013.

Send comments to:

Town of Denmark Planning Board
3707 Roberts Road
Carthage, New York 13619
(315) 493-4809

Or by email to:

Your Name Douglas Robbins

Title Home owner

Organization (if applicable) _____

Address 9975 St. Rt. 26

City Lowville State NY Zip 13367

Comments:

Many home and landowners in the township of Denmark NY get their water supply from Springs and Wells that are just below the work that will be done on the Copenhagen Wind Farm project.

Currently the proposed twenty-five hundred feet stipulation for responsibly by the project is not acceptable because water for these homes travels down hill from the proposed project location. Our water supply is essential and needs to be protected.

Before any work is to commence, Douglas Robbins and many of his neighbors want in writing that Copenhagen Wind Farm DEIS will be responsible for any problems that might occur to their water supply from the implementing and running of the Wind Farm project. It is important that any possible problems be solved to the *homeowners satisfaction*.

Thank-you for your attention and for addressing our important concern.

Sincerely,

Douglas Robbins
9975 State Route 26 Lowville, NY 13367
Phone: 315-376-3478



Town of Denmark <denmarkplanningboard@gmail.com>

Our Energy & Environmental Policies — from Lobbyists or Science?

1 message

John Droz, jr. <aaprjohn@northnet.org>
To: DenmarkPlanningBoard@gmail.com

Tue, Jul 9, 2013 at 10:30 AM

Denmark Representatives:

Thank you for having hearings on the proposed wind project. We should get introduced...

I'm a physicist (energy expert), and longtime (30± years) environmental advocate, who is extensively involved with energy and environmental matters.

I've put together an informal all-volunteer coalition of some 10,000 individuals, and about **600 of them are PhDs** or experts. The name of our group is Alliance for Wise Energy Decisions (AWED).

AWED's focus has been on the **science**. For instance, after talking to a LOT of people about renewables (like wind power), the inescapable conclusion is that almost everyone has only a superficial understanding of this very technical matter. Additionally, the public and political perception of things like wind energy are being driven by special interest lobbyists, and by "environmentalists" who are well-intentioned but misguided.

In essence, our alliance is trying to improve state and federal policies, and our position is simply this:

- 1 - we do have environmental and energy issues, and
- 2 - such technical matters should be resolved by using real Science.

That's it.

Instead our energy and environmental policies have essentially being written by those who stand to economically or politically profit from them. As a result of our current methodology, anything genuinely science-based in these policies is inadvertent and accidental.

A key element of my efforts is to educate the public. An example of my education campaign is that I have put on numerous free community presentations about our energy future (10± states), with a focus on the question of whether we want our energy policies to be determined by lobbyists or by science. This is now online

at **EnergyPresentation.Info**. This has been called one of the most thorough energy presentations on the planet.

The expanded version of my 2/6/13 talk to North Carolina legislators, **Science Under Assault** is now online at **ScienceUnderAssault.Info**. Please look at that closely, as that is our underlying theme. This is really the core issue of the whole energy matter.

If you like, I will add you to our network of science-oriented persons. Here is the most recent issue of my newsletter — I hope you'll find several of the articles to be of interest. Periodically (once every three weeks or so) I also send out informal energy and environmental information to this group.

I'd also be glad to meet with the Planning Board or others who would like to discuss this matter objectively.

Let me know any questions.

regards,

john droz, jr.
physicist & environmental advocate
Brantingham Lake, NY
315-348-8428