

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

22 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0022

> WILLIAM H. BEARDSLEY COMMISSIONER

First Procedural Order

In the Matter of Development Permit DP 4886 Blue Sky East, LLC Bull Hill Wind Project March 22, 2011

To: Participating Parties

Geoff West (Applicant)

Kelly Boden, Esq. (Attorney with Verrill Dana counsel for Applicant)

Dylan Voorhees (Intervenor, NRCM)

Lynne Williams, Esq. (Intervenor, Concerned Citizens of Hancock County)

Philip Roy, (CFO, Hancock County Commissioners)

Interested Persons

David Boulter

David Corrigan

Steve Thurston

Monique Aniel, MD

John Gates

Bradbury Blake

Karen Pease

Alan Micha

Cathy Mattson

Colleen Martineau

cc: Commissioners of the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC)

Amy B. Mills, AAG

Catherine Carroll, LURC Director

Samantha Horn-Olsen, LURC Planning Division Manager

Donald Murphy, LURC Project Planner

Jim Palmer, LURC Scenic Quality Consultant

From: Gwen Hilton, Land Use Regulation Commission Chair and Presiding Officer

Subject: Determination of scenic effect of associated facilities; Wind Energy Act 35-A M.R.S.

§ 3452(2)

I. Background.

On February 2, 2011, LURC staff determined the wind energy development application filed by Blue Sky East, LLC (the Applicant) for the Bull Hill Wind Project was complete for processing. On March 22, 2011, the Chair held the pre-hearing conference regarding this Project, and the issue of the scenic standard applicable to associated facilities was raised. The Wind Energy Act provides that the Commission may, under certain circumstances, review the potential effect of the associated facilities on scenic character and existing uses related to scenic character in the manner provided for development other than wind energy development. *See* 35-A M.R.S. § 3452(2). The Wind Energy Act provides that the Commission "shall make a determination [regarding the scenic standard applicable to associated facilities] within 30 days of its acceptance of the application as complete for processing." *Id*.

II. Order.

Any Intervenor, Interested Person, or other person or organization, other than the Applicant, who wishes to take a position on the issue of the applicable scenic standard, as that issue is set forth in 35-A M.R.S. § 3452(2), shall file relevant pleadings with staff, to the attention of Donald Murphy, no later than March 29, 2011.

The Applicant shall file its response on this issue no later than April 5, 2011.

Staff will review the pleadings and prepare a memorandum for the Chair's consideration. Thereafter, the Chair will issue a procedural order on this issue, in advance of the anticipated April 25, 2011 deadline for the pre-filing of direct testimony.

III. Authority and Reservations.

This Procedural Order is issued by the Presiding Officer pursuant to LURC Chapter 5, *Rules for the Conduct of Public Hearings*. All objections to matters contained herein should be timely filed in writing with the Commission but are not to be further argued except by leave of the Presiding Officer. All rulings and objections will be noted in the record. The Presiding Officer may amend this Order at any time.

Questions regarding these rulings of the Presiding Officer should be directed to Catherine Carroll, the Commission's Director, or Donald Murphy at the Commission's office in Augusta. No *ex parte* communication may occur with the Presiding Officer or any other Commission member.

DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS 22nd DAY OF March 2011

By: Swen Hillen

Gwen Hilton, Chair and Presiding Officer