

REVIEW MEMORANDUM

August 14, 2013

To: Dan Courtemanch, Project Manager, Division of Land Resource Regulation
From: John Hopeck, Ph.D., Division of Environmental Assessment

Re: Bingham Wind Project, L-25973-24-A-N

- 1) The applicant has agreed that an operational Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures plan will be submitted for review and approval prior to operation of the facility.
- 2) Copies of the missing test pit logs have been received. With the exception of areas of deep sandy soils along and in the vicinity of Route 16, most of the explorations reveal generally shallow till-derived soils. Comparison of the test pit logs with the soils mapping indicates that dissimilar inclusions are relatively common, although these do not indicate different parent materials or significantly different conditions. Test pit logs indicate somewhat wetter conditions than might be expected from the standard soil descriptions, but do not indicate large areas of unmapped wetland or other conditions not suitable to the proposed development.
- 3) The applicant states that the actual anticipated daily usage of the wastewater system at the operations and maintenance building “is expected to be 6 – 10 employees” and that the design flow based on 23 staff and visitors allowed for additional persons present for “project maintenance, site tours, or public events”. There is no objection to conservative design of the system, but it is important to know what the actual anticipated daily usage will be in order to assess, among other things, the potential for offsite nitrate-nitrogen concentrations in the disposal system plume. Given the actual value for anticipated daily usage, calculations by the Department suggest that the potential for adverse offsite impact on shallow groundwater quality due to the wastewater disposal system is not significant, provided that the system is operated and maintained correctly.
- 4) The applicant has agreed that, prior to construction, all locations of public or private wells, springs, or other sources of drinking water within 200 feet of any construction area, including the gen lead, will be located, and setbacks from such sources, if any will be clearly marked in the field. A list of any such sources must be submitted to the Department prior to construction. The applicant has also agreed that refueling and petroleum storage activities during right-of-way maintenance must follow the same setbacks from drinking water sources as are observed during construction.
- 5) The applicant has agreed to the proposed requirements for locations to obtain water for dust control. The Department project manager may establish any additional conditions or require submission of a list of proposed locations prior to construction.
- 6) The applicant has agreed to submit the geotechnical investigation of the turbine sites for review and approval prior to construction.