

**ANTRIM WIND PARK, NHSEC DOCKET #2015-02**  
**ALTERATION OF TERRAIN BUREAU**  
**JULY 26, 2016 FINAL DECISION**

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL WITH THE FOLLOWING PERMIT CONDITIONS:**

As part of the processing of this application, DES granted approval to waiving specific requirements of Rule Env-Wq 1504.09(b)(2)b. regarding site specific soil mapping, with the finding that granting the waiver would not have an adverse impact on the environment, public health, public safety, or abutting properties, and that granting the request is consistent with the intent and purpose of the rule waived.

*(Approval includes permit conditions from the Watershed Management Bureau (WMB) to satisfy 401 Water Quality Certification concerns, and from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau (DWGB) to satisfy concerns regarding ledge blasting and monitoring Best Management Practices. These conditions are based on the understanding that the NH Programmatic General Permit (PGP) issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers applies to this project.)*

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Construct an energy generation wind park that will include the construction of 9 wind turbines, a substation, 3.6 miles of gravel access roads with associated stormwater management facilities, an operations/maintenance building, and various crane pads. The total contiguous area of disturbance has been calculated to be 57.1 acres. In addition, approximately 45.8 acres of the disturbed areas will be restored and re-vegetated, including roadway shoulders, side slopes, and portions of the construction pads.

**PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:**

1. Activities shall not cause or contribute to any violations of the surface water quality standards established in Administrative Rule Env-Wq 1700.
2. Revised plans shall be submitted for an amendment approval prior to any changes in construction details or sequences. The Department must be notified in writing within ten days of a change in ownership.
3. The Department must be notified in writing prior to the start of construction and upon completion of construction. Forms are available at:  
<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/aot/categories/forms.htm>.
4. The revised plans dated June 17, 2016 and supporting documentation in the file are a part of this approval.
5. No construction activities shall occur on the project after expiration of the approval unless the approval has been extended by the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC).
6. This permit does not relieve the Applicant from the obligation to obtain other local, state or federal permits that may be required (e.g., from US EPA, US Army Corps of Engineers, etc.). Projects disturbing over 1 acre may require a federal stormwater permit from EPA. Information regarding this permitting process can be obtained at:  
<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/stormwater/construction.htm>.
7. All stormwater practices shall be inspected and maintained in accordance with Env-Wq 1507.08 and the project's approved Inspection and Maintenance (I&M) Manual. All record

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- keeping required by the I&M Manual shall be maintained by the identified responsible party, and be made available to the department upon request.
8. The smallest practical area shall be disturbed during construction activities.
  9. The permittee shall employ the services of an environmental monitor ("Monitor"). The Monitor shall be a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control or a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of New Hampshire and shall be employed to inspect the site from the start of alteration of terrain activities until the alteration of terrain activities are completed and the site is considered stable.
  10. During this period, the Monitor shall inspect the subject site at least once a week, and if possible, during any ½ inch or greater rain event (i.e. ½ inch of precipitation or more within a 24 hour period). If unable to be present during such a storm, the Monitor shall inspect the site within 24 hours of this event.
  11. The inspections shall be for the purposes of determining compliance with the permit. The Monitor shall submit a written report with photographs to the Department within 24 hours of the inspections. The reports shall describe, at a minimum, whether the project is being constructed in accordance with the approved sequence, shall identify any deviation from the conditions of this permit and the approved plans, and identify any other noted deficiencies.
  12. The Monitor shall provide technical assistance and recommendations to the Contractor on the appropriate Best Management Practices for Erosion and Sediment Controls required to meet the requirements of RSA 485-A:17 and all applicable DES permit conditions.
  13. Within 24 hours of each inspection, the Monitor shall submit a report with photographs to DES via email (to Craig Rennie at: [craig.rennie@des.nh.gov](mailto:craig.rennie@des.nh.gov) and to Jennifer Drociak at: [jennifer.drociak@des.nh.gov](mailto:jennifer.drociak@des.nh.gov)).
  14. Unless otherwise authorized by DES, the contractor shall keep a sufficient quantity of erosion control supplies on the site at all times during construction to facilitate an expeditious (i.e., within 24 hour) response to any construction related erosion issues on the site.
  15. For any blasting activities, the contractor shall follow the best management practices contained in Attachment A of the DES document *Rock Blasting and Water Quality Measures That Can Be Taken To Protect Water Quality and Mitigate Impacts*, which is available on the web at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-10-12.pdf>
  16. Unless otherwise authorized by NHDES the Applicant shall prepare a turbidity sampling plan to confirm that measures to control erosion during construction are not causing or contributing to surface water quality violations. The turbidity sampling plan shall include the turbidity monitoring elements specified in the August, 14, 2013 NHDES Inter-Department Communication entitled "Guidance for SWPPPs, BMP Inspection and Maintenance, Turbidity and Sediment Monitoring for NHDOT Projects with 401 Water Quality Certifications" which includes guidance regarding sampling station number and locations, sampling frequency, sampling duration, size of storms that need to be sampled, how soon after the start of precipitation sampling should begin, quality assurance quality control provisions, and turbidity meter specifications. The plan shall be submitted to NHDES for approval at least 90 days prior to construction. The Applicant shall then implement the approved plan. Unless otherwise authorized by DES, the turbidity sampling results along with station ID, date, time, other field notes, and a description of corrective actions taken when violations of state surface water quality criteria for turbidity are found, shall be submitted to NHDES via electronic mail within 48 hours of collection.

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17. Unless otherwise authorized by NHDES, the Applicant shall develop and submit a monitoring plan to NHDES Watershed Management Bureau for approval at least 90 days prior to construction. The purpose of the plan is to confirm that operation of the Activity is not causing or contributing to violations of state surface water quality standards and may include pre and post construction monitoring. The plan shall include the parameters to be sampled, the location, timing and frequency of sampling, sampling and laboratory protocols, quality assurance / quality control provisions as well as when data will be submitted to NHDES. The applicant shall consult with NHDES and submit the monitoring data in a format that can be automatically uploaded into the NHDES Environmental Database. Once approved by NHDES, the Applicant shall implement the sampling plan.
18. The Applicant shall prepare and submit a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures plan (SPCC) for the Activity in accordance with federal regulations (40 CFR part 112). The plan shall include a certification by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of New Hampshire. The Applicant shall submit the plan to NHDES Watershed Management Bureau for review and approval at least 90 days prior to the installation of the first turbine. The SPCC Plan shall include, but not be limited to, operating procedures to prevent oil spills, control measures installed to prevent oil from entering surface waters, countermeasures to contain, clean up and mitigate the effects of an oil spill, and facility inspections. The Applicant shall then implement the approved plan and maintain records demonstrating compliance with the plan. Such records shall be made available to NHDES within 30 days of receiving a written request by NHDES.
19. The Applicant shall submit a plan to prevent water quality violations due to discharges of concrete wash water during construction. The Applicant shall submit the plan to the NHDES Watershed Management Bureau for review and approval at least 90 days prior to placement of any concrete within the Activity area. The Applicant shall then implement the approved plan.
20. Herbicide use associated with the Activity shall be minimized to the maximum extent possible and shall only be allowed on a limited, as-needed basis in the switchyard and substation areas to control vegetation that could otherwise disrupt operation of the Activity, or for other reasons approved by NHDES, including but not limited to, control of invasive species where other forms of control are ineffective. Herbicides shall only be applied in strict accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Unless otherwise authorized by NHDES, the Applicant shall maintain records of herbicide use, including the name and brand of herbicide used, the date herbicides were applied, where they were applied, and the amount used. Such records shall be provided to NHDES within 30 days of receiving a request from NHDES.
21. Unless otherwise authorized by NHDES, fertilizers shall only be applied once on soils disturbed during construction to support the initial establishment of vegetation. Prior to fertilizer application, soils shall be tested to determine the minimum amounts of lime, nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) needed to support vegetation. Lime application rates, fertilizer selection (in terms of N, P and K content) and fertilizer application rates shall be consistent with the soil test results. Fertilizers shall not contain any pesticides. Where possible, fertilizer with slow release nitrogen shall be used.
22. Application of de-icing materials containing chloride shall be minimized to the maximum extent possible, and shall only be allowed when necessary to ensure safe access to the site for operations or emergency response personnel. Unless otherwise authorized by NHDES, the

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Applicant shall maintain records of the dates when chloride was applied, the reason it was applied, and the estimated amount of chloride applied on each date. The Applicant shall submit such records to NHDES by May 1 of the first two years of operation and within 30 days of receiving a request from NHDES thereafter. All applicators of road salt containing chloride that are retained to de-ice surfaces associated with the Activity shall be certified per the Green SnowPro program ( see <http://t2.unh.edu/green-snowpro-training-and-certification>) within two years of the issuance date of this Certification and shall maintain records of road salt use on the web-based tracking system available at <http://www.roadsalt.unh.edu/Salt/>.