STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Docket No. 7250

Amended Petition of Deerfield Wind, LLC, for a certificate of public good authorizing it to construct and operate a 15-turbine, 30 MW wind generation facility, and associated transmission and interconnection facilities, on approximately 80 acres in the Green Mountain National Forest, located in Searsburg and Readsboro, Vermont, with 7 turbines to be placed on the east side of Route 8 on the same ridgeline as the existing GMP Searsburg wind facility (Eastern Project Area), and 8 turbines along the ridgeline to the west of Route 8 in the northwesterly orientation (Western Project Area)	))))))))))

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMENTS

On January 9, 2020, the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("Commission"), within the above-referenced proceeding, issued an order finding noise levels stemming from a 30 MW wind electric generation facility ("Project") to be in compliance with the sound-level standard of the amended Certificate of Public Good ("CPG"). The Commission further ordered Deerfield Wind, LLC ("Deerfield") to select the next step in resolving the outside-to-inside noise reduction ("OINR") testing issue. Then, on January 31, 2020, Deerfield elected an additional round of sound monitoring by Cross Spectrum Acoustic, Inc. ("CSA") in the Fall of 2020. Both the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") as well as WindAction Group and Tom Shea ("Windaction-Shea") filed comments on Deerfield's requests for additional sound monitoring.

In its comments, Windaction-Shea specifically stated that "[s]ite B exterior levels during the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 monitoring periods qualified for OINR testing." On March 9, 2020, the Commission issued Procedural Order Requesting Comments ("Procedural Order") requesting that both the Department and Deerfield address whether OINR testing has been triggered at Site

B. Moreover, the Commission asked Deerfield to elaborate on whether it has offered OINR testing to homeowners pursuant to the Protocol.

During both the Fall 2018 and the Spring 2019 sound monitoring periods, the measured "turbine only" sound level at Site B was 40 dBA. The Final Sound Monitoring Protocol provides that "Deerfield Wind shall offer OINR testing to homeowners . . . who meet Criterion 2 based upon the first year of post-construction monitoring." Criterion 2 states that a "homeowner will be given the option to allow for testing to be conducted to determine the actual [OINR] of the house, if that home meets the following criteri[on]: . . . (2) Sound monitoring (post-construction) shows Deerfield Project sound levels of 40 dBA (L_{eq} 1hr) or higher at that location." Thus, it is the Department's position that Site B is eligible for OINR testing.

Thank you, and please contact the undersigned counsel with any questions.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 27th day of April, 2020.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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cc: Service List