

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Petition of Georgia Mountain Community Wind,)
LLC for a Certificate of Public Good, pursuant)
to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the construction)
and operation of a 5 wind turbine electric)
generation facility with associated electric)
collection and interconnection facilities on)
Georgia Mountain, in the Towns of Milton and)
Georgia, Vermont, to be known as the “Georgia)
Mountain Community Wind Project”)

Docket No. ____

**PREFILED TESTIMONY OF
LIZ PRITCHETT**

**ON BEHALF OF
GEORGIA MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY WIND, LLC**

March 26, 2009

Ms. Pritchett’s testimony describes her analysis under Section 248(b)(5) of Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated, of the potential impacts of the Georgia Mountain Community Wind Project upon historic buildings.

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EXHIBITS

Exhibit Petitioner LP-1	Resumé of Liz Pritchett
Exhibit Petitioner LP-2	Historic Buildings Evaluation Report

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1 **1. Introduction**

2 Q1. Please state your name and business address.

3 A1. My name is Liz Pritchett. My business address is: Liz Pritchett Associates, 46
4 East State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

5

6 Q2. By whom are you employed and in what position?

7 A2. I am an architectural historian and the principal of Liz Pritchett Associates.

8

9 Q3. Please describe your educational background and work experience.

10 A3. I graduated from Middlebury College with a Bachelor’s in Art History in 1969.

11 In 1992 I received a Master of Science Degree in Historic Preservation from the

1 University of Vermont. Because I hold a degree in Historic Preservation, I am
2 qualified under the National Park Service, Department of the Interior's Standards
3 to conduct the review of a project's potential impact to historic resources that are
4 listed or eligible for listing in the State Register or National Register of Historic
5 Places under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

6
7 During my more than 20 years of experience as a preservationist, I have worked
8 statewide on hundreds of projects involving Act 250 and Section 106 Review for
9 state and federally funded projects. I have ongoing contracts with Housing
10 Vermont, Inc., the largest affordable housing non-profit in the state, and the
11 Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, providing recommendations for the
12 rehabilitation of buildings listed in or eligible for listing in the State and National
13 Registers in order to avoid adverse effects to these resources according to federal
14 and state standards. For a number of years I was an adjunct professor at Norwich
15 University and the University of Vermont.

16
17 I testified before the Public Service Board during the proceedings for the VELCO
18 Northwest Reliability Project. I provided testimony before the District
19 Commission for the Agency of Transportation's recent roadwork improvements
20 on Route 7 between Shelburne and South Burlington, and for the Fletcher Allen
21 Health Care Renaissance Project in Burlington, Vermont. Most recently, I

1 provided testimony before the PSB in the UPC / Firstwind project. My resumé is
2 attached as Exhibit Petitioner LP-1.

3

4 Q4. What is the purpose of your testimony?

5 A4. My testimony details the results of the Historic Buildings Evaluation Report that I
6 prepared to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed Georgia Mountain
7 Community Wind Project (“Project”) upon historic buildings. A copy of my
8 report is included as Exhibit Petitioner LP-2.

9

10 **2. Summary of Assessment and Conclusion**

11 Q5. Please summarize your findings and conclusions regarding the Project’s potential
12 impacts upon historic buildings.

13 A5. This historic resource review report provides a thorough investigation of the
14 breadth of the Area of Potential Effect for the Georgia Mountain Community
15 Wind Project, the significance of the historic resources in the 10-mile viewshed
16 area, and the potential to impact the inventoried twenty-five resources determined
17 significant within a 10 mile radius of the Project. The Georgia Mountain
18 Community Wind Project, comprising the installation of three to five wind
19 turbines on Georgia Mountain, has the potential for an adverse effect to historic,
20 above-ground resources; however, this effect will not be undue. The identified,
21 significant historic resources will be more than 1 mile from the Project located on
22 the ridgeline of Georgia Mountain in Georgia and Milton, Vermont. At this

1 distance, the turbines will not overwhelm or dominate the setting and
2 characteristics that qualify the historic resources for listing in the State and
3 National Registers, nor will they affect the ability of the public to interpret and
4 appreciate these resources. Overall, the character of the significant landscape
5 features and historic structures in Milton, Georgia, Fairfax, Westford and
6 surrounding towns will not be substantially impacted by the installation of this
7 small wind turbine facility.

8

9 Q6. Does this conclude your testimony at this time?

10 A6. Yes, it does.