

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7508

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

PREFILED TESTIMONY OF
WILLIAM B. JORDAN

ON BEHALF OF THE
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

September 18, 2009

Summary: The purpose of Mr. Jordan’s testimony is to provide the Department’s position on whether Georgia Mountain Community Wind’s proposed generation facility is in compliance with 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(3) and 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(10).

Pre-filed Direct Testimony
Of
William B. Jordan

1 Q. Please state your name and occupation.

2 A. My name is William B. Jordan, and I am an Electrical Engineer for the Vermont
3 Department of Public Service (the "Department"). My business address is 112 State
4 Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

5
6 Q. Please summarize your professional background and experience.

7 A. I have worked for the Department since February 2007. My primary
8 responsibility is to review the appropriateness of Vermont electric utilities' transmission
9 and distribution plans and operations. Prior to working for the Department, I worked for
10 the Vermont Public Service Board for approximately three years as a Utilities Engineer. I
11 received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering & Physics from the University of
12 Massachusetts at Lowell in 1999 and an M.A. in Electrical Engineering from Princeton
13 University in 2001. I also received a B.S. degree in Wildlife Biology from the University
14 of Vermont in 1992, and worked for consulting engineering firms performing
15 environmental permitting for infrastructure projects until 1997.

16

17 Q. Have you previously testified before the Vermont Public Service Board?

18 A. Yes. I testified in Docket 7250 concerning Deerfield Wind's petition for a wind
19 generation facility in Deerfield, Vermont.

20

1 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

2 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide the Department's position on whether
3 Georgia Mountain Community Wind's proposed generation facility (the "project") is in
4 compliance with 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(3) and 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(10).
5

6 Q. 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(3) states that the Board shall find that the project "will not adversely
7 affect system stability and reliability." Do you believe that the project meets this
8 criterion?

9 A. I am not able to provide an opinion at this time. To determine the impact of the
10 project on system stability and reliability, a system impact study needs to be performed.
11 According to Georgia Mountain Community Wind's testimony and discovery responses,
12 Georgia Mountain Community Wind plans to complete both the turbine selection and the
13 system impact study in post-certification. The Department can not provide a final
14 opinion on this criterion until, at a minimum, the system impact study is completed and
15 reviewed by the Department.
16

17 Q. 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(10) states that the Board shall find that the project "can be served
18 economically by existing or planned transmission facilities without undue adverse effect
19 on Vermont utilities or customers." Do you believe that the project will meet this
20 criterion?

21 A. It is known that interconnection of the project will require a new 34.5 kV collector
22 circuit from the transformers at the wind turbines to a Point of Interconnection at the
23 Husky Injection Molding facility entrance. However, because, as mentioned above, the
24 system impact study has not been completed, it is not known with certainty at this time
25 what upgrades, if any, to existing transmission facilities would be required for the project.
26 Until the system impact study is completed for the revised project, and the need for

1 further transmission upgrades determined, it is not possible for the Department to provide
2 a final opinion as to whether the criterion of 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(10) would be met. It is,
3 however, the Department's understanding that the costs of transmission upgrades specific
4 to this project will be the responsibility of Georgia Mountain Community Wind.
5

6 Q. Does this conclude your pre-filed direct testimony?

7 A. Yes.