

FEB 16 '17 PM 3:41
VT PUBLIC SERVICE BRO

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Docket No. 8816

Petition of Swanton Wind LLC for a certificate of public)
good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, for the construction)
of an up to 20 MW wind-powered electric generation)
plant powered by up to 7 wind turbines located along)
Rocky Ridge in Swanton, Vermont.)

AFFIDAVIT OF GILES N. WILLEY

NOW COMES Giles N Willey, and on oath does depose and swear as follows:

1. My name is Giles N Willey. I am 57 years old.
2. I live at 7 Red Barn Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452 and throughout the year I spend a great deal of time walking the woods around Fairfield Pond and swimming in Fairfield Pond with my friends, the Dubie's. Our families have known each other for many generations and it has become a place of refuge for me. I see what great stewards the Dubie Family and others located around the Pond have made of what makes Fairfield Pond and the ridge that backs it. They are all invested in making and keeping the place special for future generations of Vermonters and guests..
3. I am a member of Vermonters for a Clean Environment and support VCE's mission.
4. I am aware that Swanton Wind has applied to the Vermont Public Service Board for a Certificate of Public Good to build seven industrial wind turbines on Rocky Ridge in Swanton.
5. I believe that Swanton Wind's activities will damage Vermont's environment and economy. Swanton Wind's stormwater discharge has the real potential to damage several waterways, including, but limited to, Fairfield Pond and Lake Champlain. I believe that Swanton


Wind's activities will damage Vermont's natural beauty and, as a result, negatively impact Vermont's economy.

6. My father and I formed Vermont Systems, Inc in 1985 to develop software for Parks and Rec Dept around the world. We now have 90 employees and look to a strong Vermont economy to provide us with a viable work force. Unfortunately, the raw economics of Vermont don't make us competitive with neighboring states so we must then play the "Vermont" card – that magic vista that I fly over when I return from far away states littered with too many street lights and too many billboards. We have pristine trails, hamlets like Fairfield Pond, and cornfield lined roads to find that next hidden village. You can't get that in Boston. During one trip from San Diego over the mountains to El Centro to visit a Navy base, I was amazed to see both a wind farm and solar farm that went on for miles. It hit me that this was the perfect spot for a perfect alternative to fossil and nuclear. I feel it is important that we seek alternative energy sources for sure, but not ones that conflict with our desire to maintain the natural beauty of a Vermont ridgeline. VSI is in the recreation business and I can tell you first hand the vast majority of VSI employees are strong advocates of all that makes Vermont unique. If you start installing wind turbines on backyard ridgelines, you are taking that first step to billboards on Route 7.

7. I can't tell you the number of times I have enjoyed a peaceful "Pond Tour" with friends who like me, just want to take in the natural beauty that surrounds Fairfield Pond. You are OK to say as little or as much as you want. The rest of the conversation is implied. Some people gravitate to Yoga or Meditation, but for me, two hours circling the Pond is enough to fill my tank for another week of whatever I have to face. Forget the economics that have yet to prove fruitful without government credits, I just can't imagine how the ROI of seven turbines will offset the loss of what makes the ridgeline behind Fairfield Pond one of Vermont's crown jewels. I am not opposed to wind or solar – I simply believe the location of these projects have a place and that place is not on the Ridgeline above Fairfield Pond.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I love Vermont and our way of life.

DATED this 13th day of February, 2017.


Name

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 13th day of Feb., 2017.

Michelle Berthiaume
Notary Public
My commission expires: 2/10/19