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**TATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

**Petition of BNE Energy Inc. for a  
Declaratory Ruling for the Location,  
Construction and Operation of a 3.2 MW  
Wind Renewable Generating Project on  
New Haven Road in Prospect, Connecticut**

**Docket/Petition No. 980**

**February 14, 2011**

**Prefiled Testimony of Robert Moore**

**1. Please state your name and address for the record.**

My name is Robert Moore. I live at 42 Woodcrest Drive, Prospect, Connecticut.

**2. Where is your home located in relation to the proposed site of the industrial wind turbines?**

My home is located on a ridge, approximately 2,300 feet from the proposed south turbine tower. My rear yard faces west and the tower would be directly in the line of sight from my house and rear yard, to the west-southwest. I recently remodeled my house to put a picture window in the master bedroom, the master bathroom and four eight foot high picture windows in the family room to take advantage of the westward view and sunsets.

**2. Do you have any personal experience with observing wind turbines in operation?**

Yes. I have seen wind turbines in several locations in Europe. The turbines were sited offshore or on farmlands far from residences. I also observed a wind turbine tower in Poland that had collapsed after a wind storm. It is clear to me that wind power can be a part of a renewable energy program, but proper siting in order to eliminate the significant risks and detrimental effects on residential areas is of utmost importance.

**3. Do you have any personal or professional experience with noise studies and noise issues?**

Yes. In my career in a factory setting, we would continually monitor and study the factory noise, examining both the ambient noise and spikes in noise over a two-day period. I reviewed the noise study submitted by BNE in this case. I do not believe that these studies examined the issue of noise with appropriate rigor and depth of investigation. In essence, to approve BNE's plans based on this study would be to give license to make the nearby residents the test subjects, because BNE has not conducted an adequate pre-construction investigation of this issue.

I also personally suffer from tinnitus and a 50% hearing loss, which I trace to my service in Vietnam working in a gunfire support position on a naval destroyer. I have hearing aids which are very sensitive and pick up all background noise. For example, when I am in a restaurant, I cannot wear my hearing aids because the background noise makes it impossible for me to hear conversations. I am deeply concerned about the adverse effects of turbine noise on people like me, who have tinnitus. I am also deeply concerned that the noise from these industrial turbines will interfere with my ability to use my hearing aids within my home and greatly affect my enjoyment of life by interfering with my ability to hear and carry on normal conversations within my home.

I believe that BNE's application before the Siting Council does not reflect a remotely sufficient investigation of these issues.

**4. What other reasons do have for coming before the Siting Council to testify regarding this project?**

I have lived in my home for 31 years. My son lives two houses down the street. I live in a neighborhood where the children of homeowners want to come back to live and raise their

families. It is a special place to us.

It should be obvious that if two industrial wind turbines sitting atop a 100 meter tower, reaching 492 feet into the sky are sited as proposed, our entire way of life will change. Our neighborhood will be changed from a respected and desirable middle-class community to one that is stigmatized, where sunset views are replaced with the noise, shadow flicker and imposing sight of an industrial wind turbine looming over our homes. This is wrong. It is the wrong place for such a facility. Had there been standards in place before this project was proposed, this site would never have been considered. It is grossly inappropriate.

I am also here to speak to the social obligations of business and government. The social obligations of any organization are many. This includes private business as well as state and local governments. BNE Energy is a private business and has chosen Wind power as its product as a means of achieving the primary goal of any business which is to make a profit. As a person who has worked in a business environment for over forty years, I applaud that goal. But, this cannot be achieved without fulfilling its social obligation to all of the stakeholders, just not a few.

BNE Energy is proposing an unprecedented industrial project in the town of Prospect, which does not have an industrial base, in an extraordinary fast track. From October 18, 2010 at the Prospect Fire House to the filing for a declaratory ruling from the Connecticut Siting Council today's hearing. This is slightly over four months and caught all but a few by surprise. During this brief time period, BNE extols the goodness of wind energy while dismissing those that have serious issues with the project a practicing NIMBYism, being anti green, anti progress, anti business and using scare tactics to get the message out.

None of this is true. BNE has made no effort to learn anything about the neighbors and the

neighborhoods in which they reside. In fact, they only reached out the abutters on October 29, 2010 to inform them of the filing to the CSC.

Other organizations within this process also bear a responsibility to the ultimate stakeholders, the residents who will have to live under the shadow of two 492 foot industrial wind turbine facility. Prospect is not an industrial town. Yes, it has many light manufacturing facilities, but they will be dwarfed by this huge project if the site is approved. Prospect is a bedroom town primarily serving the business of Waterbury, New Haven and surrounding towns. The residents have worked hard to create this quality of life for themselves.

There are many different levels of social responsibility within this project besides BNE providing a return for its investors. The state has a responsibility to the desire to receive grant and subsidies from the federal government against the health, safety and quality of life for its citizens. That is the reason we ask government agencies to create responsible laws, standards and regulations to protect its citizens and keep them from being rolled over by large, well funded organizations. The local municipalities bear the same social responsibility as the state but on a different scale. They are more intimate and need to weigh the perceived increase in property tax revenues with the citizens. They need to develop laws, standards and regulations that deal with specific local issues with the needs of the health, safety and quality of life that are consistent with the character of the community.

The citizens have a social responsibility to speak out to their state and local officials when situations arise that were not properly planned for such as the lack of proper regulations and oversight. They must educate the remaining citizens of any adverse effects on their health, safety and quality of life. The citizens of Prospect have recognized the BNE has failed in its obligation

to the town and its residents by moving forward with this project in spite of the opposition raised by the town government and the residents of Prospect.

The residents have taken a principled stand against this project moving forward without proper regulations that protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents. State and local governments throughout the world have taken to instating regulations after their experiences with industrial wind turbines have produce negative effects on their health, safety and quality of life. We asked that our leader learn from their counterparts around the world and be pro-active in the regulatory process. We don't want to create a group of guinea pigs only to find out what the rest of the world knows from their own experiences.

The Prospect Town Council, Mayor Bob Chatfield, State Senator Joan Hartley, State Representative Vicki Nardello, and Senator Richard Blumenthal have taken principled stands to protect the health and safety of residents by calling for laws, standards and regulations that protect all of the stakeholders. The Siting Council must fulfill its legal, moral and social obligations as well. In this case, there is only one outcome that is compatible with those obligations and that is to deny BNE Energy the right to proceed with this ill-considered project.