

425-foot high wind turbines proposed for "small" Derby Line project

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DERBY LINE - Developers who want to erect two 425-foot high wind turbines overlooking the Village of Derby Line officially provided their required 45-day notice last week. A public meeting was held Tuesday at the Village Hall in Derby Line where they presented their plans.

The Developers - Encore Redevelopment, Blue Wave Capital, and Altris Renewables - believe there is public support based on what they were told by town officials, they said.

Karen Jenne, however, has heard from several residents who are opposed to the turbines. They contacted her, she said, because they know she is opposed to the project as well. Jenne wondered why the farmers interested in hosting the wind turbines couldn't use other forms of energy production.

Derby Line Trustee Chairman Keith Boadle said that he has heard support for the project. Vermont State Rep. Lynn Batchelor said she is hearing mixed reviews.

Brian Smith, chairman of the Derby Select Board, spoke in favor of the project and noted that it will help the farmers who want to host the turbines, Grandview Farm and the Smugglers Hill Farm.

A couple who neighbor Jonathan and Aynne Chase of Smugglers Hill Farm were very upset by the proposal of turbines near their home. They said they are getting ready to sell their home and are worried about how the project will affect the sale.

The developers said that the turbines are quieter than other turbines and are slow turning. However, the turbines will also create moving shadows, or "flicker effect," in homes near by.

They also said that once they file with the Public Service Board (PSB) under Section 248 (a), residents who are concerned about the impact of the project could file comments with the PSB.

Saeve Wright of Craftsbury, an opponent of the Lowell Wind Project, asked for the right to speak, and trustees approved. He said that getting involved with the PSB when opposing a project is a lengthy and a very complicated endeavor. He said Craftsbury and Albany raised \$112,000 of private funds to oppose the Lowell Wind project, all of which is almost gone. He said legal assistance is needed.

But Chad Farrell with Encore Redevelopment said that he brought with him a 22-page citizens guidebook for participating in the process and he didn't think it was too complicated to figure out.

Jenne said that she heard the tax payment to the town of Derby would be around \$50,000, and noted that the amount would only equal a few dollars off of tax bills for every property. Jenne wants the project taxed at \$10-million, the cost of the project.

Farrell said it's a customary practice to tax on the production.

Developers argued that the project will provide clean, local energy, support the farmers, and provide stable energy cost.

"Will it make my light bill go down?" someone in the audience asked. "No" was the reply, by Nick Richardson of Encore. Both Richardson and Farrell said the area is so beautiful and the turbines could increase tourism.

Developers also promised to compensate those in the view shed, which is a ten-mile radius that includes Holland, VT, and

Stamstead, Que.

Phil Lavoie said he doesn't think the Canadians should be involved in the conver-

sation regarding the project because they erected a cell tower and didn't discuss it with the U.S.



An artist's rendition of the proposed Derby wind turbines. Courtesy photo.

Scams

From page one.

There are several variations of this scam, but in it the victims are being told they have won a prize and, in order to receive it, they must pay the taxes and shipping. The victims are then told to send the money via Western Union, wire transfer through a third party, or pre-paid cash cards. The individuals then intimidate the victims into becoming third party recipients of these transfers for other victims. In one incident, the victim

Debt Collector or Money Fraud.

This is a nationwide fraud scheme specifically targeting victims who have obtained a "payday loan" online from a company located outside the U.S. The victim obtains the loan and shortly thereafter receives numerous calls from an individual claiming to be a debt collector and has details of the victim's personal information.

The callers identify themselves with vari-