



08-1134

August 10, 2015

Via Fax 651-297-7073

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
127 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RECEIVED
AUG 11 2015
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: FLAT HILL WINDPARK I, LLC'S PETITION FOR MODIFICATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE SITE PERMIT & FLAT HILL WINDPARK I, LLC'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF NEED CHANGES

Docket IP-6687/CN-08-951, WS-08-1134

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Please accept my comments in response to the above-noted petitions filed by Flat Hill Windpark I, LLC/Quantum Utility Generation.

I would like the commission to know that I am a landowner along Flat Hill's preferred High Voltage Transmission Line and am opposed to any extension, re-issuance, renewal, modification, and amendment to Flat Hill's current permits and certificate of need.

I am still amazed and angered that this private utility company does not believe it is necessary to inform all landowners in the project footprint of their requests for changes to permits and certifications. The proposed turbines, substations, and high voltage transmission line covers an area greater than 20,000 acres.

I am wondering if this was done purposely to deceive the public. I am also wondering, why the staff and reviewers of projects/petitions at the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy and Environmental Review don't follow through with their questioning of why no further public hearing was held or in their prior recommendation in this matter.

Again, this private company will further erode the rights of Minnesota property owners without the project even being built. (Please see my attached comments in this docket from May 2013).

The truth is their project can be built without federal taxpayer subsidy. The other reason they don't want to mention is the decrease in electrical consumption. Also, most of the utility companies have already reached their renewable energy mandates. What is really preventing Quantum/Flat Hill from putting their "own" money into a project? Is it they want the most profit from it? Apparently the greening of the pockets of investors and owners is more important than the actual project and the accolades for the Minnesota Mandate after all.

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From: **kastradley@hotmail.com**
Sent: Fri 5/24/13 4:29 PM
To: Public Utilities Commission (publiccomments.puc@state.mn.us)
Cc: publiccomments.puc@state.mn.us (publiccomments.puc@state.mn.us)
Bcc: Kathleen Stradley (kastradley@hotmail.com); Kathy Stradley (kathy@bossartlaw.com)
2 attachments
20099-41706-01 Public Comments Sept 2009.pdf (723.3 KB) , 20099-41590-03 Public Comments.pdf (225.4 KB)

May 24, 2013

Dr. Burl W. Harr
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Dear Dr. Harr:

Please accept the following comments for the Public Utilities Commission's consideration concerning Flat Hill Windpark 1/Quantum Power Generators, LLC's requests to:

1. Amend the site permit for an additional two years to commence construction and to obtain a power purchase agreement or other enforceable mechanism;
2. For an extension to the term of the LWECs site permit to 30 years from the date of re-issuance, if re-issued; and,
3. Amend the route permit for an additional four years to commence construction.

I submit my previous comments that were filed in the above dockets as if they were fully rewritten herein, and, in addition, all of the public comments of Tony Frink, Natalie Herzog, Lanny & Donna Baer, Scot Stradley, Susan Larson Pederson, and Daniel Pederson, that were filed in this matter under all three docket numbers

Please note, this includes comments made during the public hearing and testimony of the undersigned and the individuals named above.

I would like the commission to know that I am opposed to any extension, re-issuance, renewal, and amendments to Flat Hill's current permit(s) for all the reasons stated in the public comments of the undersigned and individuals noted above.

The public had no opportunity to comment, or have a public hearing on Flat Hill's petition request to extend its in-service date from May 20, 2013 to December 2015.

I believe the rights of property owners in this project area (Turbines & Transmission) have been violated.

I have a great view of nature from my front yard. There are no power lines or power poles to look at because our utility buried the lines when the land was developed.

The PUC and Flat Hill have destroyed my property value without "the project" even being built. I am now required to disclose to any future buyer of my real estate that there will be a huge transmission line and giant power poles in my front yard. This hardly seems fair.

This is not the idea I had when I moved to Minnesota. I thought I would spend my golden years in Minnesota with my home and land as my greatest asset.

If you give Flat Hill what they want, then my property may as well be condemned, whether they build their project or not.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Stradley

3116 Highway 9 South

Glyndon, MN 56547

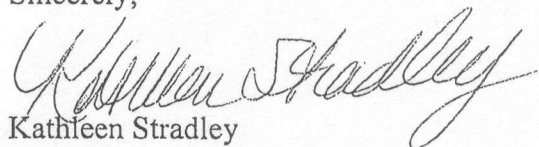
I am not going to burden the staff of the Commission by attaching all of the articles, prior comments, and sworn testimony filed in Docket IP-6687/CN-08-951, WS-08-1134, but please know those are as valid today in this matter as they were when filed.

The public counts and depends upon the experience, knowledge and responsibility of the State of Minnesota to protect the interests of the public and that is not being done here.

It is this Commission that protects the public trust so that in theory no one individual has to ask these questions.

Notice and opportunity to be heard requires full disclosure which is sorely missing from Quantum/Flat Hill.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Stradley
3116 Highway 9 South
Glyndon, MN 56547

Scot A. Stradley, Ph.D.
3116 Hwy 9 S
Glyndon, MN 56547

August 9, 2015

To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Re: Petition for a Permit Amendment
Flat Hills Windpark I Project
Docket No. IP6687/WS-08-1134

1. I recommend that you do NOT renew this company's permit.
2. I continue to protest this taking by a government and a corporation to whom you have granted a permit to construct a wind factory the output of which is so large they cannot find a market. They are asking for more time because they are playing the political game. This game bets that the federal government renew subsidy for wind generated electricity. The government has subsidized this in the past and the end of this subsidy program is the other reason this project has not completed. Altogether this violates my property rights and constitutes an ongoing taking by government. They are violating my property rights without compensation.
3. The MN DNR is not doing its job of protecting a bird that has been on the endangered species list. *Timpanicus cupido* regularly flies east/west, especially during the winter to gain access to food. There is a recent study that found that some species of birds abandoned their territory and/or ceased reproduction upon the introduction of turbines. There should be a similar study here before the generating factory and transmission line are built. There has been no effort to study this and hence the permit should not be renewed. Their preliminary turbine layout will inflict severe damage on birds due to the close proximity of each turbine with the others. I see that they can clear out of a part of their permitted area for a television station, but not for nature. The DNR should stand up to this legislative destruction of nature.
4. A thirty year timeframe is completely unreasonable for the other property owners, especially those experiencing a taking. It is clear to me that you have gone out of your way to violate my property rights with this vague liability hanging over my lifetime investment. Amending this permit forces me to consider my options.
5. A change of political regimes in Washington may make this amendment a complete waste of time. The federal government is not capable of a green energy subsidy program due to fiscal issues. Any increase in spending must come with a corresponding decrease in spending. This is another reason to not amend their permit to extend time. If you give them this extension and the other conditions are not realized this is a complete waste of time, but is generating costs. It is not clear what part natural gas will play in the transition to a lower gas economy.