

**STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Docket No. 7156

Petition of UPC Vermont Wind, LLC for a Certificate of )  
Public Good pursuant to 30 V.S.A. section 248, )  
authorizing it to construct up to a 52 MW wind electric )  
generation facility, and associated transmission and )  
interconnection facilities, in Sheffield and Sutton, Vermont,) )  
and operate the same. )

**PREFILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF  
MICHAEL S. CHANNON**

**ON BEHALF OF UPC VERMONT WIND, LLC**

September 25, 2006

Summary:

Mr. Channon offers his opinion as a local resident on UPC Vermont Wind, LLC's proposed project. He is in support of the wind project.

1 **Q. What is your name and address?**

2 Response. My name is Michael S. Channon. I am a Newark resident.

3

4 **Q. Are you or any member of your immediate family employed by UPC?**

5 Response. No.

6

7 **Q. Do you or any member of your immediate family have a financial interest in UPC?**

8 Response. No.

9

10 **Q. How long have you lived in Newark?**

11 Response. I was born in Saint Johnsbury, VT, and have lived in Newark for most of my  
12 life. I live with my wife, three year old daughter, and one year old son.

13

14 **Q. Where is your property in relation to the wind project, and will you be able to see  
15 the project from your property?**

16 Response. My home, and other land that I own, are within ten miles of the Sheffield  
17 wind project. In addition to my residence, I own a large piece of land on Packer  
18 Mountain in Newark. From the top of my property, I will be able to view the entire site  
19 of the windfarm, and this is something that I look forward to.

20

21 **Q. What outdoor activities do you enjoy from your property, or otherwise in the area  
22 where the UPC wind turbines would be located?**

1            Response. I am an avid hunter and hiker. I spend much of my time on Packer Mountain  
2            in Newark.

3

4            **Q.     Will you be able to see the turbines from roads that you routinely travel on or from  
5            other public places in the area that you frequent?**

6            Response. I will be able to see these turbines from many locations that I frequent  
7            regularly, including my own property, Sugar House Road and also my workplace.

8

9            **Q.     Expert witnesses for the Town of Sutton, and Universal Health Service, Inc., UHS of  
10          Sutton, Inc., and Ridge Protectors, Inc. variously testified that the turbines will be  
11          “freakish giants in the landscape” (Brown p. 10, line 11), and will shock and offend the  
12          average person, because they will be out of character with their surroundings, and  
13          significantly diminish the scenic qualities of the area (Brown p. 8, lines 16-18; Dodson p. 15,  
14          lines 16-22; Jewell p. 26, lines 4-8). Do you agree?**

15          Response. I support this project. I don’t feel I will be negatively impacted by this project  
16          in any way, and will continue to hunt, hike and recreate on my land and throughout the  
17          Northeast Kingdom regardless of the wind project. I feel the benefits of this project far  
18          outweigh the value of anyone’s view. Secondly, I think it will be visually beautiful.

19

20          **Q.     Do you have any additional thoughts about the proposed project?**

21          Response. I have an investment in my community, not just my real estate. I don’t  
22          believe that property values will go down, but even if my property value hits zero it will  
23          only help this Vermonter stay in Vermont – maybe then I can afford my taxes, which

1           went up 40% this year. Secondly, in the tradition of Vermont, this project represents  
2           property rights and independence. If it doesn't go through, I fear we have lost much  
3           more than a view of one or two ridges.

4

5   **Q.    Does this conclude your testimony at this time?**

6    Response. Yes it does.