



February 28th 2017

The Honorable Phil Scott
Governor, State of Vermont
109 State Street, Pavilion
Montpelier, VT 05609

Dear Governor Scott,

The Village of Swanton would like to start out by congratulating you on your election and wish you much success as our Governor.

The Village of Swanton has owned its own Hydro Electric Facility since 1894. Over the years we have grown to a 9.8MW facility serving about 3700 customers. Swanton Village Electric is a municipally owned facility. We are a not-for-profit company, a publicly owned utility proudly serving its shareholders who are our rate payers.

Swanton Village Electric is a member of VPPSA (Vermont Public Power Supply Authority). VPPSA is a joint action agency serving the interest of Public Power within Vermont and serves 12 Municipally Owned Utilities. Other organizations serving Public Power are NEPPA (Northeast Public Power Association) and APPA (American Public Power Association). Swanton Village Electric is a proud member of all these agencies serving the betterment of Public Power from across America and in Vermont. We are proud to have one of the lowest rates in the State of Vermont, sharing these low rates with three other municipally owned Utilities. However, New England is ranked highest among the Country in electrical rates for the United States. Vermont's average rate is lower than 4 other New England States, with Maine having the lowest average rate for 2016.

The reason for our letter is to share our concern over large scale wind projects, but in particular the Swanton Wind LLC project. This project serves no real interest for Vermont's power needs in our region. The design of this project is for sales outside of our State and holds no value to anyone other than the investors and owners of the project. The potential impact to our personal health our ridgeline and wildlife causes our community to speak out in opposition for this project. We are particularly concerned with how these large scale projects will impact rates on Publicly Owned Utilities like Swanton Village Electric.



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Vermont was built on buy local and Vermont owned. Local control and local oversight over large scale projects such as this should be a matter of due course, and a standard for doing business in Vermont's small communities. Without local control, we lose the ability to retain our identity and our small country charm and give way to large commercial Wind projects whose interests are self serving.

The Village of Swanton joins the Town of Swanton in opposing the Swanton Wind Project.

Respectfully,

Swanton Village Trustees

Neal Speer – Village President

Handwritten signature of Neal A. Speer in black ink.

Chris Leach – Village Trustee

Handwritten signature of Christopher D. Leach in black ink.

Eugene LaBombard – Village Trustee

Handwritten signature of Eugene LaBombard in black ink.

Adam Paxman – Village Trustee

Handwritten signature of Adam P. Paxman in black ink.

Reginald R Beliveau Jr – Manager - Village of Swanton

Handwritten signature of Reginald R. Beliveau Jr in black ink.