

PUBLIC NOTICE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE

Please take notice that Blue Sky West, LLC and Blue Sky West II, LLC (the "Applicants"), subsidiaries of First Wind, with principal offices at 129 Middle Street, 3rd Floor, Portland, Maine 04101, (207-228-6888) are intending to file a Site Location of Development Act permit application and a Natural Resources Protection Act permit application with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Department), pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 480-A et seq., and 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 481-490, respectively, and regulations thereunder. The Applicants are also seeking a Section 401 Water Quality Certification pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1341. The Applicants intend to file the combined permit application on or about April 2, 2013.

This application is to allow for construction and operation of the Bingham Wind Project in Mayfield Township, Kingsbury Plantation, Moscow, Parkman, Abbot, and Bingham, in Somerset and Piscataquis Counties, Maine. The proposed project includes 63 turbines capable of generating up to 186 megawatts of electricity. The project would also include access to the turbines utilizing existing and new roads, 34.5-kilovolt electrical collector lines among the turbines and connecting to a new collector substation, up to 5 permanent meteorological towers, an operations and maintenance building, and an approximately 15-mile electrical generator lead extending easterly to an existing Central Maine Power Company substation in Parkman, Maine.

The Site Location application will include a request, pursuant to 12 M.R.S.A. § 685-B(1-A)(B-1), that the Land Use Planning Commission (Commission) certify to the Department that the development is an allowed use in the subdistricts in which it is proposed and that the development will comply with applicable Commission land use standards that are not considered in the Department's review.

The Site Location application, including the request for certification, will be filed for public inspection at the Department's office in Bangor and the Commission's office in Augusta and in Bangor during normal working hours. A copy of the application may also be seen on the Department's website (<http://www.maine.gov/dep/land/sitelaw/selected-developments/index.html>), at the Somerset County Commissioner's office in Skowhegan, the Piscataquis County Commissioner's office in Dover-Foxcroft and at the municipal offices in Bingham, Moscow, Abbot and Parkman.

A request for a Department public hearing must be received by the Department in writing, no later than 20 days after the application is found by the Department to be complete and is accepted for processing. A public hearing on the Site Location application may or may not be held at the discretion of the Commissioner. Public comment on the Site Location application will be accepted by the Department throughout the processing of the application.

Written public comments on the Site Law application may be sent to the Department's regional office in Augusta where the application is filed for public inspection: Dan Courtemanch, Daniel.Courtemanch@maine.gov, MDEP, 17 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333 (287-3901).

A request for a Commission public hearing on the request for certification and/or a petition for leave to intervene in any such hearing must be received by the Commission in writing no later than 20 days after the request for certification is found by the Commission to be complete and accepted for processing. The Commission will consider the degree of public interest when determining whether to hold a public hearing, but the decision whether to hold a hearing is at the Commission's discretion. If the Commission holds a public hearing, members of the public also may offer testimony at the hearing without formally intervening in the hearing, and/or may submit written comments until the close of the record. A request or petition that is not timely filed will be denied unless the requestor/petitioner shows good cause for failure to file on time. Filing may be by electronic mail or facsimile if followed by receipt of an original signed document within five working days. The Commission's provisions for intervention may be found in Chapter 5, section 5.13 of the Commission's rules, which are available at <http://www.maine.gov/doc/lupcl>.

If no public hearing is held, interested persons may submit written comments on the certification throughout the processing of the certification. Written public comments and questions on the request for certification may be mailed to the Commission's office in Augusta: Land Use Planning Commission, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333; or emailed to Marcia.Spencer-Famous@maine.gov; or faxed to (207) 287-7439.

Questions about the project can be directed to Dave Fowler of First Wind at 207-653-2466.