

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Petition of Georgia Mountain Community Wind,)
LLC for a Certificate of Public Good, pursuant)
to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the construction)
and operation of a 5 wind turbine electric)
generation facility with associated electric)
collection and interconnection facilities on)
Georgia Mountain, in the Towns of Milton and)
Georgia, Vermont, to be known as the “Georgia)
Mountain Community Wind Project”)

Docket No. _____

**PREFILED TESTIMONY OF
MICHAEL LEW-SMITH**

**ON BEHALF OF
GEORGIA MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY WIND, LLC**

March 26, 2009

Mr. Lew-Smith’s testimony describes assessments performed by Arrowwood Environmental concerning the Project’s potential impacts upon the natural environment under Section 248(b)(5) of Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated, and concludes that the Project will not have an undue adverse impact.

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1 **1. Introduction**

2 Q1. Please state your name, occupation and business address.

3 A1. My name is Michael Lew-Smith. I am an environmental consultant with the
4 company Arrowwood Environmental, located at 950 Bert White Road,
5 Huntington, Vermont.

6

7 Q2. Please describe your educational background and work experience.

8 A2. See attached resume, Exhibit Petitioner AE-1.

9

10 Q3. What is the purpose of your testimony?

1 A3. Our testimony introduces our report that describes our assessment of the Georgia
2 Mountain Community Wind Project (“GMCW Project” or “Project”) impact
3 upon water quality and the natural environment under 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5).
4 Section 248(b)(5) provides, in pertinent part, that a generation or transmission
5 facility should not have an undue adverse effect on water purity or the natural
6 environment, with due consideration having been given to the criteria specified in
7 10 V.S.A. § 1424a(d) (outstanding resource waters) and § 6086(a)(1) through (8)
8 and (9)(K) (various Act 250 criteria). Our report, Exhibit Petitioner AE-2,
9 addresses the Project’s potential impacts upon outstanding resource waters (10
10 V.S.A. § 1424a(d)), primary resource waters/headwaters, (§ 6086(a)(1)(A)),
11 floodways (§ 6086(a)(1)(D)), streams (§ 6086(a)(1)(E)), shorelines (§ 6086
12 (a)(1)(F)), wetlands (§ 6086(a)(1)(G)), rare and irreplaceable natural areas (§
13 6086(a)(8)), soil erosion (§ 6086(a)(4)), necessary wildlife habitat and endangered
14 species (§ 6086 (a)(8)(A)).

15

16 **2. Summary of Assessment and Conclusion**

17 Q4. Based upon your evaluation and analyses, will the Project have an undue adverse
18 effect upon on water purity or the natural environment, with due consideration
19 having been given to the criteria specified in Section 248(b)(5)?

20 A4. No. We investigated and evaluated the Project’s potential impacts under each of
21 the above-mentioned criteria, and found that the Project met the criteria. It is our
22 conclusion that the Project will not have an undue adverse effect on water purity

1 or the natural environment, with due consideration having been given to the
2 specified criteria. The details of our investigation and analyses supporting this
3 conclusion are set forth in our Environmental Report, Exhibit Petitioner AE-2.

4

5 Q5. Does this conclude your testimony?

6 A5. Yes, it does.