

HOW TO COMMENT ON THE DEERFIELD WIND PROJECT

The Deerfield Wind Project (the “Project”) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been released for public comment. The DEIS has been prepared in accordance with the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Forest Service manual and handbook direction. A Notice of Availability (NOA) will be published in the Federal Register (expected on October 3). Although the comment period officially begins the day after the notice appears in the Federal Register and requires a minimum comment period of 45 days, I will begin accepting comments immediately. I will accept comments for the record until the close of business on November 28, 2008.

In order to be considered, comments should be provided orally or in writing (phone, facsimile, mail, or email), and received (postmarked or facsimile imprinted) no later than the closing date of the comment period, November 28, 2008. Written comments are preferred. Please make your comments as specific as possible as they relate to the Proposed Action, alternatives, and anticipated impacts of the proposed activities. Please include your name, address, and, if possible, telephone number and email address. All comments should be sent to: Bob Bayer, Project Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, 2538 Depot Street, Manchester Center, VT 05255 (mail); (802) 362-1251 (facsimile). Comments submitted electronically via email should be sent to “comments-eastern-green-mt-finger-lakes-manchester@fs.fed.us” (no quotes). Electronic comments should be in TXT, RTF, DOC, PDF or other Microsoft Office-compatible formats, with the Subject titled “Deerfield Wind DEIS Comments”. Comments may also be submitted by telephone to 802-362-2307 ext. 218 (voice mail is available) during normal working hours of 8:00 to 4:30.

Comments received in response to this letter, including name and address of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this Project and will be available for public review¹. **If you would like more information** concerning the Project or on how to comment, please contact Bob Bayer at (802) 362-2307 ext. 218 (voice) or rbayer@fs.fed.us (email). Email comments on the DEIS **will ONLY be accepted** to the comments email address in the paragraph above, “comments-eastern-green-mt-finger-lakes-manchester@fs.fed.us” (no quotes), and NOT at the “rbayer@fs.fed.us” email address.

At this time, a public meeting/open house is being considered for some time in late October or early November. Stay tuned for further developments.

¹ Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered. Additionally, pursuant to 7CFR1.27 (d), any person may request that a submission be withheld from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that confidentiality is granted in only very limited circumstances. The Forest Service will inform the requester of its decision regarding a request for confidentiality. Where the request is denied, the submission will be returned, and the requester notified that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address.