

State Environmental Quality Review
Determination of Significance
POSITIVE DECLARATION

Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Date: April 28, 2010

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Town of Alabama Town Board, as SEQR Lead Agency, has determined that the proposed action described below has significantly changed from the project that was subject to a DEIS that was submitted and accepted by the Town Board on February 26, 2008 and that the potential exists for new or additional significant impacts on the environment that were not previously evaluated and that a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) will be prepared. This SDEIS will supplement the DEIS completed and accepted for the Alabama Ledge Wind Farm Project.

Name of Action: Alabama Ledge Wind Farm

Applicant: Alabama Ledge Wind Farm, LLC

SEQR Status: Type 1 Action

Description of Action: The project will consist of up to 40 wind turbines and include associated components including meteorological towers, an operations and maintenance building, laydown yard, and substations. The project will require the construction of new access roads and involve improvements to existing public roads, and will include the placement of both overhead and underground electrical lines. The total power output of the project is not expected to exceed 80MW.

Location: The project is located in the southern portion of the Town of Alabama, Genesee County, New York and is generally bound by Macomber Road in the east, Route 77/63 to the west, the Alabama/ Pembroke town line to the south, and Ham Road to the north.

Reasons Supporting this Determination:

1. The number, location, and type of wind turbines has been altered and may result in new or additional environmental impacts not previously studied.
2. The locations of the associated facilities, including substation, laydown area, and operations and management building have changed and may result in new or additional environmental impacts not previously studied.
3. New or revised studies/ information has been completed since the acceptance of the DEIS.

Public Scoping: The Town Board will hold a public scoping meeting on **May 5, 2010 at 7:00pm** in the Alabama Fire Hall, 2230 Judge Road, Oakfield, New York to gather input on the project change and the potential significant environmental impacts associated with this project and determine what information should be included in the SDEIS. Written comments on the draft scoping document should be provided by May 15, 2010 to one of the contacts below.

For Further Information:

Janet Sage, Town Supervisor
2218 Judge Road
Oakfield, New York 14125
Phone: (585) 948-9341

Paul R. Chatfield, P.E., Town Engineer
Chatfield Engineers, P.C.
2800 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, New York 14616
Phone: (585) 227-6040

A copy of this notice sent to:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Region 8

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Region 4

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

New York State Public Service Commission

Genesee County Manager

Genesee County Planning Department

Genesee County Highway Department

Genesee County Industrial Development Authority

Applicant

**ALABAMA LEDGE WIND FARM
FINAL SCOPE: SEQR SDEIS FOCUS AND CONTENT
TOWN OF ALABAMA TOWN BOARD
SEQR LEAD AGENCY**

Public Scoping Meeting: May 3, 2010
Final Scope Adopted by Town Board: July 12, 2010

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Town of Alabama Town Board has been established as the Lead Agency for purposes of conducting a coordinated environmental review of the proposed Alabama Ledge Wind Farm Project (the Project) pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the implementing regulations found in 6 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 617. The proposed Project is located within the Town of Alabama in Genesee County, New York. The proposed Project will consist of up to 40 wind turbines and their associated access roads and interconnection facilities, a substation, operations and maintenance building, and proposed construction laydown area. The Project will have a maximum output capacity of up to 79.8 megawatts (MW), dependent upon the turbine model selected for the Project.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the Project was accepted by the Lead Agency on February 26, 2008. A public meeting was held on March 25, 2008 at the South Alabama Fire Hall in Oakfield, New York. The public comments on the DEIS were accepted through May 13, 2008 but this comment period was extended to May 30, 2008 at the request of interested agencies. Since the Town of Alabama accepted the DEIS in February 2008, Alabama Ledge Wind Farm, LLC (ALWF or the Applicant) has revised the Project layout, reducing the number of proposed turbines and subsequent installed capacity and shifting the proposed location of the operations and maintenance building, laydown area, and substation connecting the Project to the on-site transmission line. In support of the Town's desire to review the proposed changes in more detail, ALWF agrees to develop and submit a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) to the Town for public comment and review. On April 12, 2010, The Town of Alabama, as Lead Agency, reissued a positive declaration on the project for the preparation of a SDEIS.

This Scoping Document outlines the proposed focus of the SDEIS. The purpose of the Scope is to identify the Project-related impacts to be evaluated in the SDEIS and to identify the information to be included in the SDEIS concerning the changes to the proposed Project. Agency and public comments on this Scope help shape the way the SDEIS analysis is conducted. To minimize duplication, the SDEIS will follow the same general outline as the DEIS and will incorporate various sections of the DEIS by reference. Only information that has been updated or added since preparation of the DEIS will be specifically addressed in the SDEIS. Where information is the same as described in the DEIS, it will be so noted in the SDEIS.

Comments obtained from the public scoping meeting held on May 3, 2010 and during the comment period from Involved and Interested Agencies and the public have been considered and additional scoping items deemed substantive by the Town Board have been added to the Final Scope and will guide the creation of the SDEIS.

SCOPE FOR PROPOSED ALABAMA LEDGE WIND FARM SDEIS

The SDEIS should include all elements required by 6 NYCRR 617.9. The following sections will be included in the SDEIS.

i. SDEIS Cover Sheet:

All draft and final environmental impact statements (EIS) must be preceded by a cover sheet stating the following:

- whether it is a draft or final EIS;
- name or descriptive title of the action;
- location (county and town, village or city) and street address, if applicable, of the action;
- name and address of the lead agency and the name and telephone number of a person at the agency who can provide further information;
- names of individuals or organizations that prepared any portion of the statement;
- date of its acceptance by the lead agency; and
- in the case of a DEIS (or SDEIS), date by which comments must be submitted.

ii. SDEIS Table of Contents:

The Table of Contents will list all sections within the SDEIS, all tables, figures, maps, appendices/attachments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Summary will include a brief description of the proposed action, a listing of anticipated environmental impacts, and anticipated mitigation measures. A summary will be provided of the permits required and subsequent approvals, and the alternatives to the proposed action that are evaluated in the SDEIS.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Introduction will provide a brief description of the proposed action, and the changes that have occurred since the preparation of the DEIS.

2.0 REVISED PROJECT DESCRIPTION SINCE DEIS

This section of the SDEIS will describe the changes to the Project since the DEIS and reference the detailed Project description and regional and local contexts provided in the DEIS.

2.1 Project Summary

The purpose of this section is to define the action that will be studied in subsequent sections of the SDEIS. The proposed Project is located within the Town of Alabama in Genesee County, New York. The proposed Project will consist of up to 40 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and their associated road and interconnection facilities, a substation, operations and maintenance building, and construction laydown areas. The maximum total Project nameplate capacity will be up to 79.8 MW. It is anticipated that all installed turbines will be the same make and model and

uniform size. Depending in the model selected, the turbine rotor diameter will range from 82 to 90 meters and the hub height will range from 78 to 100 meters for a total maximum turbine height of 145 meters (476 feet).

2.2 Project Location

This section will describe the local context, size, and land use composition of the Project Area. Maps and graphics showing the location of the components of the proposed Project, including the turbines, access roads, electrical collection system, transmission line, substation, meteorological (met) towers, operations and maintenance building, construction parking areas, storage/laydown areas and other Project components, will be provided.

2.3 Project Facility Owner/Developer/Operator

This section will describe the owner/developer/operation of the proposed Project. ALWF is a wholly owned subsidiary of Horizon Wind Energy, LLC (Horizon). Horizon develops, constructs, owns, and operates approximately 2,800 MW of wind farms throughout the United States.

2.4 Project Facility Layout and Components

This section will summarize the facility layout criteria that have been implemented since the DEIS, such as field-based wetland delineations and cultural resource investigations. An updated description of Project components such as roads and foundations will be included.

2.5 Project Construction

This section will provide a typical Project construction schedule updated as necessary from the information that was provided in the DEIS. The construction methods remain unchanged from what was provided in the DEIS.

2.6 Operations and Maintenance

This section is as described in the DEIS.

2.7 Decommissioning

This section will update the Decommissioning Costs Summary presented in the DEIS.

2.8 Project Purpose, Need and Benefit

This section will restate the Project purpose, need and benefit.

2.9 Project Cost and Funding

This section will update project costs and funding figures presented in the DEIS.

2.10 Permits and Approvals Required

This section will provide any updates since the writing of the DEIS.

2.11 Public and Agency Involvement

This section will provide any updates since the writing of the DEIS.

2.12 SEQRA Process

This section will describe the SEQRA process that has been carried out as of the writing of the SDEIS and will describe the remaining SEQRA process as it applies to the Project.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

For each resource within the affected environment, this section of the SDEIS will identify any additional information that has been collected since the writing of the DEIS. While ALWF believes that the Project changes since the DEIS will result in reduced environmental and other impacts in comparison with the Project as initially proposed and described in the DEIS, additional studies advanced in the SDEIS will serve to identify and quantify these changes or reductions in impacts.

To minimize duplication, the SDEIS will follow the same general outline as the DEIS and will incorporate various sections of the DEIS by reference. Only information that has been updated or added since preparation of the DEIS will be specifically addressed in the SDEIS. Where information is the same as described in the DEIS, it will be so noted in the SDEIS. The content of each section will follow the same general outline:

- Existing Conditions
- Anticipated Impacts:
 - Construction (temporary)
 - Operation (permanent)
- Anticipated Mitigation Measures:
 - Construction
 - Operation

The text of this section will be supplemented as needed with maps, graphics, photographs, agency correspondence, Geographic Information System (GIS) data analyses, and completed support studies.

3.1 Geology, Soils and Topography

This section will provide revised soil impact calculations based on the SDEIS layout. In addition, this section will provide an update to potential impacts and mitigation of Prime Farmland Soils and Soils of Statewide Importance.

3.2 Water Resources

This section will provide revised wetlands and water resources impact calculations based on the SDEIS layout. This section will also provide an update on the studies and agency coordination that has been conducted since the preparation of the DEIS. The updated Wetland Inventory Report will be presented in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and will include calculations of temporary and permanent impacts as a result of the construction of the Project.

3.3 Biological, Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology

This section will provide updated calculations for land cover and vegetation within the Project Area based on the SDEIS layout. This section will reference that ALWF is preparing a Draft Avian and Bat Monitoring Plan in coordination with the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC) and will seek approval from the NYSDEC for the post-construction monitoring protocol. No new avian or bat surveys were conducted since the DEIS, however the

final Avian and Bat Studies report will be appended to the SDEIS as an update to the DEIS which appended the January 31, 2007 version of the Avian and Bat Studies report.

3.4 Agricultural Resources

This section will be created to specifically discuss the agricultural resources and any potential impacts and mitigation. The updated agricultural discussion proposed to be located in Section 3.13 “Land Use and Zoning” should be relocated to this section.

3.5 Climate and Air Quality

This section will summarize the results of the Avoided Emissions Report to be provided as an Appendix to the SDEIS.

3.6 Aesthetic/Visual Resources

This section will provide a summary of the additional photographic simulations conducted at the request of the Lead Agency since the acceptance of the DEIS. This section will also summarize the results of the Revised Shadow Flicker Assessment based on the SDEIS layout that will be provided as an Appendix to the SDEIS.

3.7 Historic, Cultural and Archaeological Resources

This section will summarize the results of the Archaeological Phase IB investigation and the Architectural Survey report that have been completed and submitted to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP). This section will provide an update of the consultation process with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and State Archaeologist.

3.8 Noise

This section will summarize the results of the Updated Noise Impact Assessment based on the SDEIS layout that will be provided as an Appendix to the SDEIS.

3.9 Transportation

This section will provide any updates to the proposed construction and equipment delivery routes since the DEIS. Overall, due to the reduced Project size, fewer roads will be required.

3.10 Socioeconomics

This section will provide updated information related to the existing socioeconomic local and regional conditions. This section will also provide a summary of any newly available studies regarding potential impacts of wind farms on property values.

3.11 Public Safety

This section is as described in the DEIS except for the Preliminary Draft Emergency Response Plan prepared for the Project that will be included as an Appendix to the SDEIS.

3.12 Community Facilities and Services

Updated information regarding Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) review of the Project will be provided in this section.

3.13 Communication Facilities

This section is as described in the DEIS.

3.14 Land Use and Zoning

This section will provide an update as to the compliance of the new turbine locations with the Town's Zoning Code and Wind Energy Conversion Systems Law.

4.0 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

This section is as described in the DEIS unless changes to unavoidable adverse impacts have changed due to the project change.

5.0 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

The section will include a revised description and evaluation of the range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Alternatives to the proposed Project that were considered and evaluated in the DEIS included: no action, alternative energy production technologies, alternative Project area, alternative turbine technology, alternative Project design/layout, and alternative Project size/magnitude. The analyses of the first three alternatives (no action, alternative energy production technology, and alternative Project area) are unchanged and remain as described in the DEIS. Alternatives to be updated in this section of the SDEIS will include alternate turbine technologies, alternate Project size/magnitude, and alternate Project design/layout.

6.0 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

This section is as described in the DEIS.

7.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Updated information on other projects in the vicinity of the Project will be provided to the extent that new information is available.

8.0 GROWTH-INDUCING ASPECTS

This section will update any changes to the growth-inducing aspects of the project as a result of fewer turbines and new turbine locations.

9.0 EFFECTS ON THE USE AND CONSERVATION OF ENERGY RESOURCES

This section is as described in the DEIS unless changes to effects on the use and conservation of energy resources have changed due to the project change.

10.0 REFERENCES

This section of the SDEIS will list any sources of relevant information cited directly in the report text.

APPENDICES TO ACCOMPANY SDEIS

A summary of all SEQRA related documentation and agency consultation will be included as an Appendix to the SDEIS.

To supplement the information required in each topic section, the following will be included as an Appendix to the SDEIS where appropriate:

- Relevant Technical Maps, Figures and Exhibits
- Project Plans, Specifications, or Construction Information
- Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Summary
- Avian and Bat Studies Report
- Avoided Air Emissions Report
- Supplemental Visual Simulations
- Updated Shadow Flicker Analysis
- Phase IB Archaeology Study (placeholder only, contains sensitive information)
- Five-Mile Ring Historic Architecture Survey
- Updated Noise Impact Assessment
- Preliminary Draft Emergency Response Plan

LIST OF PREPARERS: List of firms and persons responsible for both overall preparation of the SDEIS and the underlying plans and other exhibits relied upon.



TETRA TECH EC, INC.

October 29, 2009

Ms. Nancy Herter
Staff Archeologist
New York State Historic Preservation Office
Pebbles Island Resource Center
Delaware Avenue
Cohoes, New York 12047

**Subject: Phase 1B Archeological Investigations
Alabama Ledge Wind Farm
Town of Alabama, Genesee County, New York
OPRHP Review No. 07PR05824**

Dear Nancy:

On behalf of Alabama Ledge Wind Farm, LLC (ALWF), Tetra Tech EC, Inc. (Tetra Tech) conducted the Phase 1B archeological survey of the proposed Alabama Ledge Wind Farm (the Project) during the fall of 2008 and spring of 2009. A Tonawanda Seneca representative monitored the archeological survey as requested by the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Following SHPO guidance and our approved work plan, the entire area of potential effect (APE) was examined by shovel tests or surface surveys. One historic-period archeological site and 14 prehistoric-period archeological sites were identified. Enclosed is one bound copy of the Phase 1B archeological report, a CD containing a PDF of the report, and the unbound archeological site forms for sites identified during the survey.

We look forward to your comments and continuing consultations should you require additional information relating to possible Project effects on archeological resources. Please feel free to contact me at Erika.Roberts@tetrattech.com or 617-457-8223 with any questions, and thank you in advance for your timely review and consideration of the Project.

Sincerely,

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erika Roberts".

Erika Roberts
Project Manager

cc Gary Davidson – ALWF
Sydne Marshall – Tetra Tech





**New York State Office of Parks,
Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189
518-237-8643
www.nysparks.com

David A. Paterson
Governor

Carol Ash
Commissioner

January 26, 2010

Gary Davidson
Alabama Ledge Wind Farm, LLC
2 Borden Avenue, Suite 203
Perry, NY 14530

Re: CORPS, DEC
Alabama Ledge Wind Farm
Town of Alabama, Genesee County
07PR5824

Dear Mr. Davidson:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). We have reviewed the Phase IB Cultural Resources Investigation Report, prepared by Tetra Tech and dated October 2009, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Based upon this review, the SHPO understands that 14 precontact archaeological sites and one historic archaeological site were identified and recommends either site avoidance or a Phase II Site Evaluation for all 15 sites. A short-term and long-term avoidance plan will be necessary for those sites to be avoided. Suggested avoidance measures are enclosed. For those sites that cannot be avoided, please submit Phase II Site Evaluation scopes-of-work.

SHPO USN #	Site Name
03701.000120	Site 01 Precontact Site
03701.000121	Site 02 Precontact Site
03701.000122	Site 03 Precontact Site
03701.000123	Site 04 Precontact Site
03701.000124	Site 05 Precontact Site
03701.000125	Site 06 Precontact Site
03701.000126	Site 07 Precontact Site
03701.000127	Site 08 Precontact Site

SHPO USN #	Site Name
03701.000128	Site 09 Precontact Site
03701.000129	Site 10 Precontact Site
03701.000130	Site 11 Precontact Site
03701.000131	Site 12 Precontact Site
03701.000132	Site 13 Historic Site
03701.000133	Site 14 Precontact Site
03701.000134	Site 15 Precontact Site

The SHPO appreciates the opportunity to comment on this information. Please telephone me at ext. 3280 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Nancy Herter
Scientist, Archaeology

cc. Chief Roger Hill, Tonawanda Seneca Nation *(via email only)*
Stuart Reeve, Tetra Tech *(via email only)*
Sydne Marshall, Tetra Tech *(via email only)*
Erika Roberts, Tetra Tech *(via email only)*



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) Avoidance Plan for the Protection of Archeological Sites

Short Term Site Avoidance/Protection

- The site(s) boundary (including buffer) will be clearly delineated on the final construction plans and identified as a “Sensitive Area/No Access”.
- Each site will be protected with temporary fencing during all construction activities and signage stating “Sensitive Area/No Access”.
- A preconstruction meeting with the construction contractor(s) is required to notify those in charge of the requirements to avoid/protect the site(s).
- Existing landscape at the site(s) will be maintained. Any proposed modifications will require consultation with the OPRHP.

Long Term Site Avoidance/Protection

- An archeology covenant will be transferred with each property containing the avoided/protected site(s).
 - State and federal regulations that include restrictions associated with this project will include provisions for site(s) avoidance/protection.
 - Unauthorized activities within the site boundaries will require notification to the OPRHP at (518) 237-8643, ext 3280.
-



TETRA TECH EC, INC.

December 9, 2009

Mr. Robert Englert
Staff Architectural Historian
New York State Historic Preservation Office
Peebles Island Resource Center
Delaware Avenue
Cohoes, New York 12047

**Subject: Alabama Ledge Wind Farm
Town of Alabama, Genesee County, New York
OPRHP Review No. 07PR05824**

Dear Mr. Englert:

On behalf of Alabama Ledge Wind Farm, LLC (ALWF), Tetra Tech EC, Inc. (Tetra Tech) conducted a Historic Architectural Resources Investigation (5-Mile Ring Area of Potential Effects) for the proposed Alabama Ledge Wind Farm (the Project) during December, 2006 and September, 2008.

Tetra Tech sought the permission of the Tonawanda Band of the Seneca Nation to enter their Reservation to perform the historic resources survey as this land lies within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The Nation's Council chose not to participate in the study and asked that Tetra Tech not survey within the boundaries of the Nation's land (see Appendix A). Their request was respected; therefore, no data were collected for buildings, structures or cemeteries within the boundaries of the Seneca Nation. Enclosed is one bound copy of the Historic Architectural Resources Investigation report and a CD containing a PDF of the report and high resolution copies of the images used.

We look forward to your comments and continuing consultations should you require additional information relating to possible Project effects on historic architectural resources. Please feel free to contact me at Erika.Roberts@tetrattech.com or 617-457-8223 with any questions, and thank you in advance for your timely review and consideration of the Project.

Sincerely,

Tetra Tech EC, Inc.

Erika Roberts
Project Manager

cc Gary Davidson – ALWF
Sydney Marshall – Tetra Tech





**New York State Office of Parks,
Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

www.nysparks.com

David A. Paterson
Governor

Carol Ash
Commissioner

February 26, 2010

Erika Roberts
Project Manager
Tetra Tech EC, Inc.
133 Federal Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: PSC, SEQRA
Alabama Ledge Wind Farm
Alabama, Genesee County
07PR05824

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the project in accordance with the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law, Section 14.09. Please be advised that if federal agency involvement occurs the project will also be evaluated under the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

At this time, no other state or federal agency has been in contact with our office to establish a formal Section 14.09 (NYSPRHPL) or Section 106 (NHPA) consultation process. As a result, we have completed our review of the cultural resource information associated with the survey area for the project as defined in our generic wind farm survey guidance. When those permitting agencies become involved and if their project area differs (extends beyond) the area evaluated, additional survey work will be required and supplemental comments will be issued by this office.

The evaluated survey area, as defined by our generic survey guidance, was a five-mile ring drawn around each of the individual turbine sites. The outer edges of these circles are connected thus producing a five-mile survey area around the entire project. It was also recommended that for an analysis of potential visual impacts to historic resources that the next step was to determine sight lines based on topographic features and the locations and maximum heights of each turbine. It is expected that any survey of potential visual analysis would also include the guidance established by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation under their program policy titled: *Assessing and Mitigating Visual Impacts*.

Based on the survey report titled "Historic Architectural Resources Investigation (5-Mile Ring area of Potential Effects) Alabama Ledge Wind Farm" (Tetra Tech EC, Inc.) dated December 2009 and received by this office on December 10, 2009 a total of 103 historic properties were identified as being within the defined project survey area. Within this group of resources there is 1 property that was previously *listed* in the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places (Map Point 13), 4

properties previously determined eligible for the registers, 1 eligible historic district (8 buildings) and 90 individual properties that meet the criteria for inclusion in the registers.¹

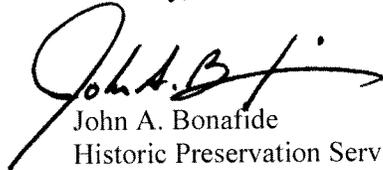
The eligible and listed properties identified in the survey report are diverse in nature and their physical settings. Properties that will be in the view shed of the project include those in established village/hamlet settings as well as resources that occupy rural agricultural settings. With few exceptions the scale of the building stock is limited to the height of single and two-story residential, commercial and agricultural buildings with few non-agricultural elements breaking the treetops.

As defined in Section 14.09, 1(c) of New York State Parks and Recreation Law, it is the opinion of the New York State Historic Preservation Office that the undertaking identified as the Alabama Ridge Wind Project will have an *Adverse Impact* on cultural resources within the Area of Potential Impact surveyed. Specifically, the introduction of the sleek, ultramodern, 403 foot tall kinetic wind turbines (up to 40 proposed) throughout this landscape forever alters and changes the rural setting, which itself is a significant element in much of the survey area and serves as the backdrop of the architectural and cultural heritage of these communities. Specifically we believe that the properties at Map Points 11, 28, 31, 39, 41, 44, 70, 71, 86, 89, 91, 94 and 102 may be the most visually impacted.

We now encourage the project sponsor to continue the consultation process under Section 14.09 by fully exploring all feasible and prudent alternatives that could avoid or minimize the adverse impacts. This consultation should involve those state agencies directly associated with the permitting/approval process for this project.

At this point in time we have concluded our evaluation of potential impacts to cultural resources associated with this project. If you should have questions regarding our evaluation process or the basis for our effect recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at 518-237-8643, ext.3263.

Sincerely,



John A. Bonafide
Historic Preservation Services
Coordinator

cc: Andrew C. Davis, PSC (via e-mail)
Marcia Kees, OPRHP (via e-mail)

¹ See report titled: Historic Architectural Resources Investigation (5-Mile Ring area of Potential Effects) Alabama Ledge Wind Farm” (Tetra Tech EC, Inc.) dated December 2009, Appendix B for list of properties.