



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Green Mountain & Finger Lakes
National Forests
Supervisor's Office

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File Code: 2710

Date: November 17, 2004

Mr. John Zimmerman
enXco, East Coast, Inc.
1209 Harvey Farm Road
Waterbury Center, VT 05677

Dear John,

I have reviewed the second level screening criteria as required (36 CFR 251.54(e)(5)(i)-(v)), and have determined that all five second-level screening criteria have been satisfied. This completes the pre-application screening process. Therefore, Deerfield Wind LLC may submit a detailed special uses application for processing. Please complete Form SF-299 using attachments as necessary to provide the needed detail.

Your response to second level criteria (i) – (iii), and (v), in your letter dated August 11, 2004, and the final report of our auditor in review of criteria (iv), was used to make my determination. In regards to the second level criteria, I find that:

1. The proposed use would not be inconsistent or incompatible with the purposes for which the lands are managed, or with other uses.

The proposed use is compatible with our existing Forest Plan direction. The possible outcomes of our revised Forest Plan have also been looked at and it is anticipated that your proposal will continue to be compatible with Plan management area direction.

2. The proposed use would be in the public interest.

Your documentation demonstrates that the proposed use would be in the public interest. The May, 2001 Executive Order encourages actions to expedite projects that may increase the production and conservation of energy on federal lands. Furthermore, development of renewable energy sources should improve air quality, diversify New England's energy portfolio, reduce the region's reliance on natural gas and other fossil fuel sources, and as such, contribute to the overall public good.

3. The proponent is qualified.

Your description of enXco's experience and history in wind energy development demonstrates that Deerfield Wind LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of enXco and managed by the parent corporation, is capable and qualified to submit this proposal.



4. The proponent demonstrates technical and economic feasibility of the proposed use and has the financial and technical capability to undertake this proposed use and to fully comply with the terms and conditions of the authorization.

The auditor's financial review and final report supports this conclusion. He recommends that the special use application be accepted. He makes the following summary and additional recommendation:

"Deerfield Wind, LLC. is developing the wind farm project and at this time has no long-term power contracts or a commitment from its owners guaranteeing the capital investment needed to expand the Searsburg wind farm. This is not unusual for a wind farm development.

After the master plan is approved and before construction commences, I would recommend that the Forest confirm the funding commitments and long-term power contracts, to verify that they provide the required financing, to insure successful construction of the project.

According to direction in 36 CFR 251.54, an applicant must provide sufficient evidence to satisfy the authorized officer that the applicant has the ... *financial capability to construct, operate, maintain and terminate the project for which the authorization is requested.* Deerfield Wind LLC and its parent companies clearly meet this requirement."

5. There is a person or entity authorized to sign a special use authorization and accept responsibility for adherence to the terms and conditions of the authorization.

Therefore, please feel free to submit your application to my office and send two copies to the Manchester office. Any questions on appropriate content may be directed to Bob Bayer at the Manchester office, 802-362-2307 ext. 218.

Sincerely,



PAUL K. BREWSTER
Forest Supervisor

cc: Gina Owens, Carolyn Williams, David Bosch, Robert Bayer