

August 16, 2007.

Memo:

To the Director General of the MRC Brome-Missisquoi: Mr. Robert Desmarais

To the Mayors of the MRC Brome-Missisquoi:

Cowansville	- Mr. Arthur Fauteux
Abercorn	- Mr. Jean-Charles Bissonnette
Canton de Bedford	- Mr. Gilles Staint-Jean
Bedford	- Mr. Claude Dubois
West Bolton	- Mr. Donald Badger
Brigham	- Mr. Steven Neil
Brome	- Mr. Leon Tom Selby
Dunham	- Mr. Marcel Poirier
East Farnham	- Mrs. Medelaine Chabot
Farnham	- Mr. Josef Husler
Frelighsburg	- Mr. Gilles Chabot
Lac-Brome	- Mr. Richard Wisdom
N.D. de Stanbridge	- Mr. Michel Pelletier
Saint-Armand	- Mr. Réal Pelletier
Saint-Ignace-de-Stanbridge	- Mr. Albert Santerre
Saint-Pierre-de-Véronne	- Mrs. Pierrette Alarie
Sainte-Sabine	- Mr. Laurent Phoenix
Stanbridge East	- Mr. Greg Vaughan
Stanbridge Station	- Mr. Lucien Messier
Sutton	- Mr. Kenneth Hill

Your choice is important

I would like to express my encouragement to all the mayors who will make a very important decision on Tuesday August 21, 2007, that you break all tradition at the MRC and choose to vote NO, by an informed personal decision, not according to the collective mind-set. This may require that you dare to step out of your assumed role of “supporting your fellow Municipalities”. By simply voting yes, because you think that the Municipality wants the project to go ahead, are you choosing to vote according to what would be ETHICALLY RIGHT for the MRC Brome-Missisquoi as a whole, not in the short-term that we are accustomed to these days, but say for the next century? In our Municipality of Stanbridge Station our councilors have come to a decision but they have never consulted the citizens of the community. For a project of this magnitude, shouldn't we also include the people who live there?

Green energy

Yes we all would like to promote cleaner energy sources, however we need to ask, “What is Green Energy?” Does it mean that we need to tear communities apart to realize cleaner solutions? Does it mean that we have to completely ignore our health and well being for financial gain? Does it mean that our small communities need to live in turmoil because of a handful of farmers who believe that they own the sky and have the right to develop their land as they please, even though this particular project is an industrial one and not an agricultural use of the land? Why are the Government Guidelines such as the Guide d'Integration des Eoliennes au Territoire not being followed? Will the recommendations in the reports on health by Marion Hill and Yves Hennekins be respected?

Citizens have rights

The majority of the citizens of Stanbridge Station, **do not** want this industrial wind turbine project to be developed in a **rural inhabited neighborhood**. Wind power could be a good thing, but it needs to be developed intelligently and without harming communities and the citizens within

them. The request for a moratorium has not been accepted. The request for a referendum has been rejected (let it be noted that in the communities of St. Sebastien and Henryville there will be a referendum).

Conflict of interest

As a mayor, how would you proceed if you were in conflict of interest? Our mayor, Mr. Lucien Messier has told us, through his spokesperson Mr. Edouard Raymond, that he has the **possibility** of being in conflict of interest along with two councilors Mr. Rolland Tougas and Mr. Donald Tougas. Can you vote on August 21, 2007, with a clear conscience, knowing that your decision could change the future of the Eastern Townships forever, when you know that the municipality of Stanbridge Station is not truly being represented in a democratic fashion. Is it not the responsibility of the MRC to question the proceedings in another community, to make sure that a fair and democratic process is being followed? If you do not question, who will? Could this lead to conflict of interest lawsuits such as those currently in the Gaspé?

Health

There is a lot of controversy about the health effects of wind turbines and those who live in close proximity. It is understandable that your municipality may not feel affected by the project, however in all fairness, your vote needs to be an informed one. It needs to be clear, that the information that has been presented by the promoter SM International, and taken from the Minister of Municipal Affaires and its Regions (MAMR) web site, are purely guidelines for the implantation of wind turbine projects and not scientific studies. I have personally confirmed this by a telephone call to the Ministry. Therefore, the information on human health and low frequency noise, human health and the stroboscopic effects, in the promoters' presentation are inadequate. I trust that you all received an email last week, with the attached study, **Inter-Noise 2007: Public health and noise exposure: the importance of low frequency noise**. This study is worthy of consideration, and contributes to a greater understanding of Vibro-acoustic Disease (VAD) and the link between low frequency noise and living in close proximity to industrial wind turbines.

Real estate

In its final report, the Township of Lincoln Wind Turbine Moratorium Committee, demonstrates real estate value decreases of up to 26%, within and beyond a 1.6 km distance. The citizens of Stanbridge Station, Pike River and Canton de Bedford are likely to witness a similar decrease in their property values. This is unacceptable and needs further study.

I have mentioned just a few of the issues in the forefront of this wind power discussion. For the past eight months, I have been closely involved with the proceedings, from a citizens' point of view. Much more research and study needs to be done, before the MRC signs off our precious landscape to a well-intentioned promoter.

For your convenience the web site www.eoliennesinfos.com has specific reports and information about wind turbine projects around the world and links to other similar web sites.

Trusting that you will make an informed decision and vote NO!

Sincerely,

Susan Muir
1304 Brais, Stanbridge Station
Citizens group www.eoliennesinfos.com