

**STATUS UPDATE: June 26, 2007**  
**DEERFIELD WIND PROJECT**  
**GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST**

The Deerfield Wind Project is a proposal to construct and operate a wind energy facility on National Forest System (NFS) lands, expanding the existing Green Mountain Power (GMP) 11-turbine facility currently operating on private land in the town of Searsburg, Vermont. New development would occur on adjacent lands managed by the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF), and would add 17 new 2.0 megawatt class wind turbines. The right to use NFS lands would be granted through a special use authorization. A formal proposal is being evaluated through preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Record of Decision (ROD).

- After a few months delay, PPM Energy, owner of the applicant for the project, Deerfield Wind LLC, submitted its Vermont State Section 248 application to the Public Service Board (PSB) on January 8, 2007. The PSB has regulatory authority over the construction of electronic transmission facilities, electric generation facilities, and certain gas pipelines. Deerfield Wind must obtain a Certificate of Public Good in order for the facility to go online.
- After a preliminary review, the PSB found that more site specific details needed to be included in the application. Deerfield Wind expects to submit a revised application within the next month. Deerfield's Wind's special use application was updated to clarify these specific details.
- Practically all of the site specific details were simple clarifications of items already described in the original NOI and scoping notices. For instance, identifying a specific number of turbines rather than the original range; further clarification on turbine height; proposed use of a private access road rather than constructing an entirely new section of road.
- Some of the many studies completed for the project are being revised in line with the request for more site specificity. An economic assessment is currently being prepared.
- PPM and the GMNF completed recent public involvement efforts to update the local public on project status. A news letter was published and a well attended open house was held.
- The NEPA process, on hold for a few months as the State permit application was being prepared, is once again moving forward. Drafts of various sections of the DEIS are being prepared by the third party contractor.
- The Notice of Intent (NOI) will be revised shortly to note the site specific details and revised schedule. A letter will be sent to our mailing list to update project status, explain the new site specific details, and ask for any comments or concerns regarding changes from the original proposal.

- The GMNF continues to work collaboratively with our cooperating agencies and partners.

### **REVISED SCHEDULE**

The project schedule has been revised. The dates for the major project milestones are completion of the DEIS in early January 2008, and the FEIS and ROD in late June 2008. If the decision is to issue a special use authorization, it is estimated it could be granted in the Fall of 2008. Construction would begin no sooner than early summer 2009.

Questions may be directed to Bob Bayer, Deerfield Wind Project Coordinator, Manchester Ranger District at 802-362-2307 ext. 218, email [rbayer@fs.fed.us](mailto:rbayer@fs.fed.us)