



solar 

thermal 

wind 

**RE: H.B. No. 6249**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON THE SITING OF WIND PROJECTS UNTIL THE ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS.**

**Energy & Technology Committee**

**February 3, 2011**

Dear Co-Chairs Fonfara and Nardello:

Thank you for allowing Alteris Renewables to submit testimony regarding House Bill 6249 which would establish a moratorium on all wind turbine projects in Connecticut. As a renewable energy integrator and a member of the community, with offices in all of New England as well as NY, NJ, and PA we support the installation of *properly sited* wind turbines. We fully recognize that not every location is suitable or necessarily appropriate for a wind turbine installation. But, there must be a clear understanding of the difference between the installation of an on-site, distributive generation, community scale wind turbine and wind farms (defined as utility scale wind turbines for the sale of wholesale electricity to the utility and does not apply to any net metered wind projects). An example of an on-site distributive generation installation is the Northwind 100, a 100kW wind turbine at Phoenix Press, Inc., in New Haven, CT which we installed in February 2010, and which helps offset the electrical needs at the property. It was a properly sited installation that had the support from the local community and the city. We have installed turbines for schools, businesses, and affordable housing complexes.

In these difficult economic times, a moratorium on wind turbine installations not only impacts integrators like ourselves, but also businesses and municipalities who are trying to control and offset their energy costs, while exhibiting environmental stewardship. There are Federal incentives in place this year that assist in the financial viability of these projects and the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund has a Request for Proposals for wind turbine projects with submissions that are due on February 28<sup>th</sup>. A moratorium would essentially close the window on a sector of an emerging market and force companies like ours to move resources and focus our efforts in states that have a favorable wind environment.

We understand the need for proper siting considerations that address fall zones, acoustic characteristics, flicker, environmental considerations, and view shed. All of these factors can be properly addressed and supported with data. There is a strong tendency for a misunderstanding and misrepresentation of the characteristics and impacts of wind turbines. We strongly believe a moratorium placed on on-site distributive generation projects is not the answer and that these projects can be handled responsibly on a local level with proper consideration given based on the facts and merits of the project.

We ask that the Energy and Technology committee consider Rep. Nardello's and Sen. Hartley's proposed bill **No. 5210: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF CERTAIN COMMERCIAL WIND PROJECTS**, but with some adjustment. This bill as currently written penalizes on-site distributive generation wind projects. We propose the elimination of the one megawatt or more language and recommend the following language: differentiated between on-site distributed generation projects (i.e. net metered projects which are currently capped at 2MW) and utility scale wholesale generation wind farms. All the proposed bills should have mandate for rules and regulations to be established within 90 days of passage.

We applaud the great work that the members of the Energy and Technology committee have done in recent years in advancing renewable energy development. Passage of 6249 in its current form without amendments, would have a severe impact on wind turbine businesses in CT

We ask for your support on this issue. I have attached past community scale installations that we have completed in the Northeast. These are the types of projects we are currently developing in Connecticut.

Sincerely,



Bob Chew

Bob Chew, President

Wind Business



## Phoenix Press – New Haven, CT



Alteris Renewables installed the NW100 turbine at Phoenix Press in February 2010. It is the first commercial scale wind turbine installed in Connecticut.

## Bolton Valley Ski Resort – Bolton Valley, VT



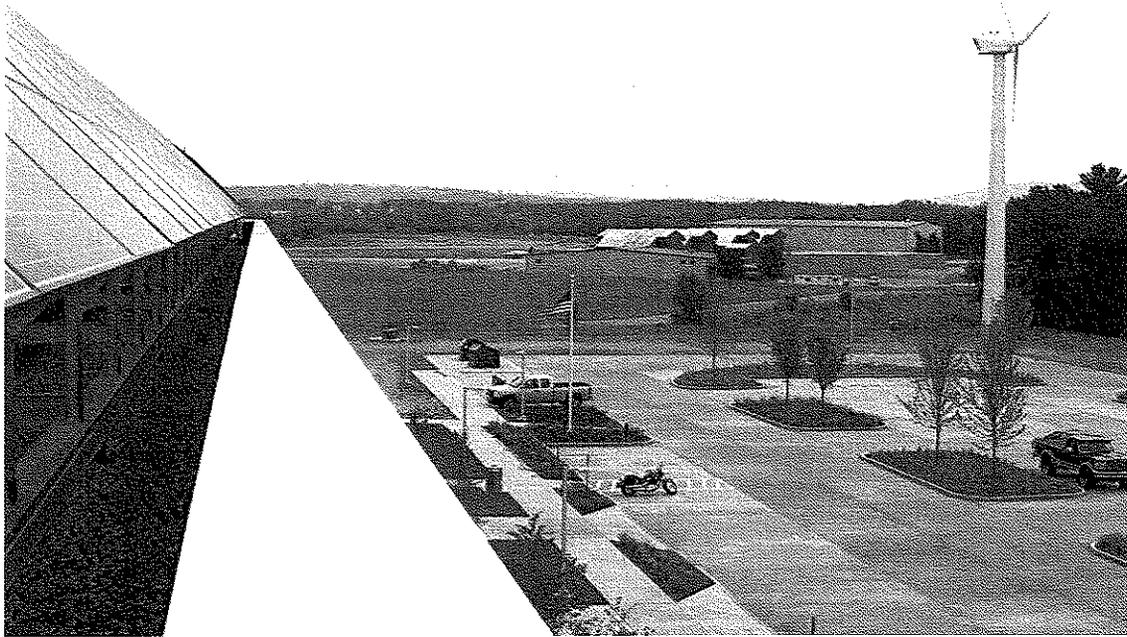
Alteris Renewables installed a NW100 wind turbine at Bolton Valley in the fall of 2009. This is the first wind turbine installation at a ski resort in Vermont and only the second at a ski resort in the U.S. The turbine is installed near the top of the Vista Quad and will generate approximately 250,000 kilowatt hours per year.

## Nantucket High School – Nantucket, MA



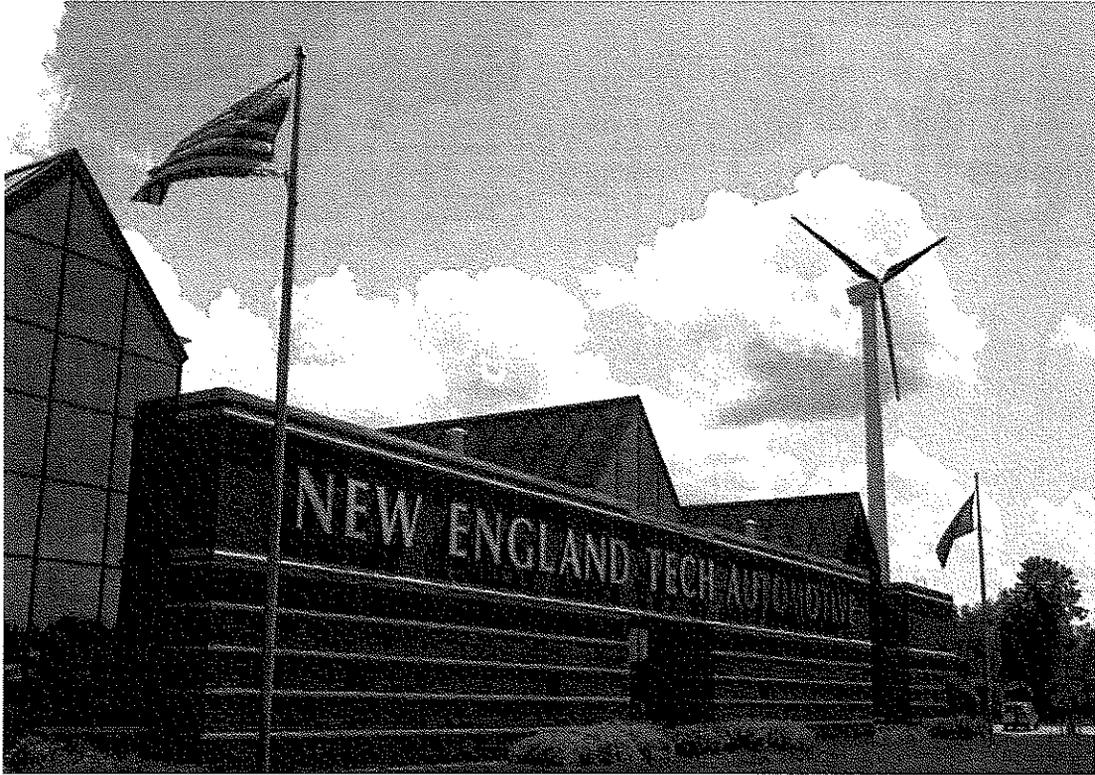
Alteris performed the feasibility study, assisted with securing the MassCEC Design and Construction Grant, and installed the NW100 for the Town of Nantucket at Nantucket High School. The wind turbine will offset a portion of the school buildings electricity, and will also be used as an educational tool in the classrooms. The wind turbine was installed in September 2010.

## Heritage Aviation Center – South Burlington, VT



The NW100 installed at Heritage Aviation Center by Alteris Renewables is the closest commercial scale wind turbine installation to any airport in the United States. Working with Heritage was very much a collaborative process. They had a grand vision of what they wanted and we helped them to refine that vision to optimize the potential of the site from a power production, visual impact, and siting perspective. The result is a solar PV array that greets every visitor as they drive into the facility and a wind turbine that meets all FAA and local requirements.

## New England Institute of Technology - Warwick, RI



Starting in Fall 2009, the curriculum in New England Tech's Associate Degree program in Electrical Technology was expanded to include renewable energy generation. Topics covered include various renewable energy sources such as wind power, photovoltaic power, hydro power, fuel cells, tidal power, solar hot water and geo-thermal power. Students examine the components, installation, environmental impact, maintenance, practicality, site sustainability, and local regulations pertaining to renewable energy sources and track the energy produced by New England Tech's NW 100 wind turbine and photovoltaic panels including net metering analysis and economic impact. Upon completion, students are prepared to take the national certification exam offered by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP).

## General Service Administration Border Crossing – Jackman, ME



“Photo taken prior to final commissioning”.

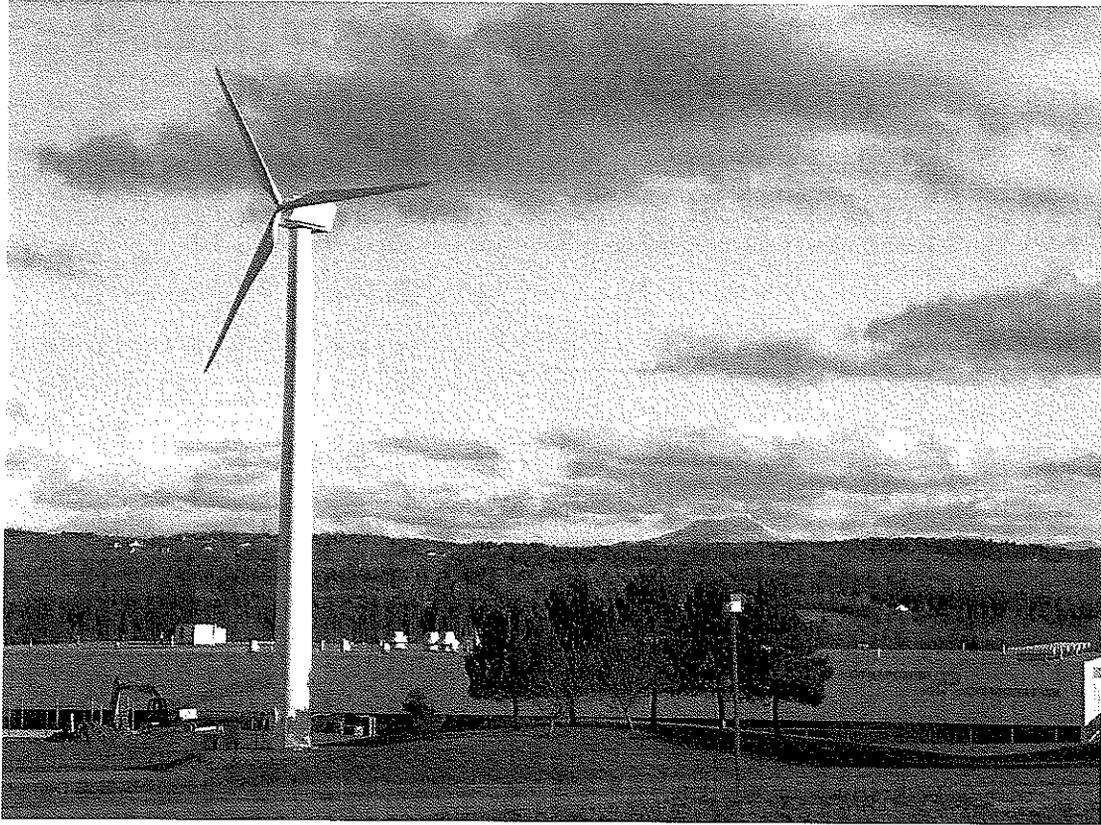
Alteris installed two (2) NW 100 wind turbines at the Land Port of Entry in Jackman, ME in July 2010. This project has been selected as one of the top 12 ARRA funded projects in the country. The GSA (General Services Administration) had over \$6 billion dollars in projects in 2010. The turbines are installed at the U.S border crossing and will provide approximately 204,590 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year per turbine, for a total of over 400,000 kWh.

## Appalachian State University – Boone, NC



Appalachian State University incorporated the NW100 wind turbine installed by Alteris Renewables into their innovative undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Data provided through the advanced Smartview Data Acquisition System is used in the classroom to educate the next generation of Green Collar professionals in engineering and technical trade training. Additionally, ASU uses the PublicView interface to show the public through the ASU website the production and current performance and status of the turbine as a way to initiate interest in Renewable energy and draw attention to the excellent work done by the student run Renewable Energy Initiative (REI).

## DynaPower Corporation - South Burlington, VT



Alteris Renewables installed a NW100 wind turbine at Dynapower Corporation in the summer of 2010. You can glimpse it from VT Interstate 89; or you can catch an eyeful traveling through South Burlington on Hinesburg Road. The turbine will generate about a fifth of Dynapower's average load.