

February 11, 2015

NYS Board on Electric Generation Siting 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: Niagara Orleans Lighthouse Wind Farm Project

Project 14-F-0485

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter as the CEO of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail, to advise your Board of our concerns regarding the proposed wind farm project proposed for Orleans and Niagara Counties in the Route 18 corridor.

Route 18 through most of Orleans and Niagara County is the designated route of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail, a federally designated National Scenic Byway. It is our position that the scale and environmental impacts of the towers would be detrimental to the view scape and agricultural nature of the trail in this area. The Lake Ontario Shoreline and lake plain are part of a well-documented avian migration flyway; the towers would represent a significant threat to bird populations well beyond western New York.

We also have an overarching concern regarding the vitality and livability of all of the communities along the trail. We are concerned that the industrial scale and environmental impacts of the wind turbines would be a significant negative impact to nearby communities. The legislation creating the Byways has been adopted by local municipalities and is embedded in their Zoning requirements.

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail is not opposed to development which is economically beneficial to the area; however, we seek to ensure that the natural and scenic resources of the area are carefully addressed by those empowered to approve such development. Please advise of any public hearings or public information available regarding this project.

Sincerely,

John P. Hall

CEO, Great Lakes Seaway Trail

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