

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

Southeast Regional Office • 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville MA 02347 • 508-946-2700

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November 29, 2012

Falmouth Board of Selectman  
ATTN: Kevin Murphy, Chair  
59 Town Hall Square  
Falmouth, MA 02540

**RE: MassDEP Sound Sampling Study- Falmouth Wind #1 and Wind #2  
Daytime Sampling**

Dear Chairperson Murphy;

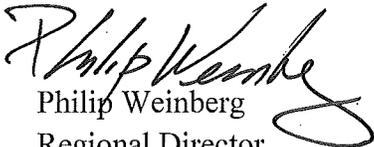
With this cover letter I am sending you the results of MassDEP's attended sound sampling of Falmouth's Wind Turbine #1 and Wind Turbine #2 located at the Waste Water Treatment Facility on Service Road in Falmouth. The enclosed report was prepared in response to a request by the Town of Falmouth that MassDEP assist the Town in conducting attended sound sampling to augment the unattended sound study conducted by HMMH in the summer of 2010. This report is a follow up to the study we provided you on May 15, 2012 that detailed attended sound sampling results for the night time period.

This study presents the results from the daytime sampling of the combined sound from Wind #1 and Wind #2. Over the course of four days, MassDEP collected sound data representative of both operating wind turbines at six residential locations close to the wind turbines. Data was also collected for background sound with the wind turbines shut down. Because the sampling was attended, the study was able to focus directly on sound from the wind turbines and the analysis is not significantly influenced by sound from other sources.

MassDEP's sampling results conclude that during the day time period, the combined sound levels from the two wind turbines do not exceed the 10 dBA threshold established in MassDEP's Noise Policy. The off-peak traffic day time period sampled (9 am through 4:30 pm) is considered "worst case" in establishing the background noise level, so the sounds from the wind turbines during times when background sound is elevated due to commuter and truck traffic on Route 28 traffic would exhibit even less impact than what was found.

Should you have any questions requiring the enclosed report, please feel free to contact Laurel Carlson at 617-348-4095.

Sincerely,

  
Philip Weinberg  
Regional Director

W/LC/lm

Cc: Julian Suso, Town Manager  
Heather Harper, Assistant Town Manager  
Frank Duffy, Town Counsel  
Jerry Potamis, Director, Wastewater Treatment Department  
Martin Suuberg, Deputy Commissioner, MassDEP  
Nancy Seidman, Assistant Commissioner, BWP, MassDEP  
Maria Pinaud, Deputy Regional Director