

From: Springer, Darren [Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 1:16 PM
To: senatorayer@gmavt.net
Subject: Maine Sound Standard

Hi Senator Ayer,

Below please find some analysis detailing the Maine sound standard, which is different than the Vergennes standard and actually appears more permissive in some respects than our current 45 decibel exterior standard in effect in large wind projects in Vermont.

Please let me know if you need more information.

Thank you,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

The Maine sound standard is set out in Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection regulation – as opposed to state statute – and is very detailed with respect to how measurements are taken and analyzed. The standard is very different from the 10 dBA above ambient that was included in the CPG for the project at Northlands Job Corps in Vergennes.

Here is the salient info pulled from the Maine sound standard for wind generation facilities:

(2) Sound Level Limits for Routine Operation of Wind Energy Developments

The sound levels resulting from routine operation of a wind energy development measured in accordance with the measurement procedures described in subsection 1(8) shall not exceed the following limits:

(a) 75 dBA at any time of day at any property line of the wind energy development or contiguous property owned or controlled by the wind energy developer, whichever is farther from the proposed wind energy development's regulated sound sources; and

(b) 55 dBA between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (the “daytime limit”), and 42 dBA between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (the “nighttime limit”) at any protected location.

The actual document can be found here -
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/06/chaps06.htm>

Chapter 375, download and scroll to Pg. 28.