

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources
New York Natural Heritage Program
625 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, New York 12233-4757
Phone: (518) 402-8935 • **Fax:** (518) 402-8925
Website: www.dec.ny.gov



Joe Martens
Commissioner

May 14, 2015

Connor Liddell
Environmental Analyst
Environmental Design & Research
217 Montgomery Street, Suite 1000
Syracuse, NY 13202

Dear Mr. Liddell:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the proposed Jericho Wind Farm, located in the Towns of Chateaugay and Bellmont, Franklin County.

We have no records of rare or state-listed animals or plants, or of significant natural communities, within the project site or in its immediate vicinity. Enclosed is a report of rare birds documented within 10 miles of the project site, and rare bats documented within 40 miles of the project site, for use in assessing potential impacts of bird and bat collisions. For information on NYSDEC's environmental review of proposed wind energy projects, and for the document *Guidelines for Conducting Bird and Bat Studies at Commercial Wind Energy Projects*, please go to www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our databases. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other resources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

Sincerely,

Nicholas B. Conrad
Information Resources Coordinator
NY Natural Heritage Program



**The following rare animals have been documented in the
general vicinity of the proposed Jericho Wind Farm project.**

The impacts of wind turbines on animals include both impacts due to disturbance at the site of the turbines, and impacts due to flying birds and bats colliding with turbine blades. Therefore, when screening proposed wind energy projects for potential impacts on rare species, in addition to reporting rare plants and animals documented at the project site itself, NY Natural Heritage reports species of rare birds documented within 10 miles of the project site, and rare bats documented within 40 miles of the project site. These distances were determined in consultation with the NYSDEC Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources.

For information on NYSDEC's environmental review of proposed wind energy projects, and for the document Guidelines for Conducting Bird and Bat Studies at Commercial Wind Energy Projects, please go to www.dec.ny.gov/energy/66494.html.

Bats within 40 miles

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NY STATE LISTING	HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS*
Eastern Small-footed Myotis <i>Hibernaculum</i>	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Special Concern	S2
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Hibernaculum</i>	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Threatened <i>and Federally Listed as Threatened</i>	S3S4

Birds within 10 miles

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NY STATE LISTING	HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS*
Common Loon <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Special Concern	S4
Peregrine Falcon <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Endangered	S3B
Least Bittern <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Threatened	S3B,S1N
Pied-billed Grebe <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Threatened	S3B,S1N
Upland Sandpiper <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Threatened	S3B
Northern Harrier <i>Breeding</i>	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Threatened	S3B,S3N

* Conservation status in NYS as ranked by NY Natural Heritage Program on a 1 to 5 scale:

S1 = Critically imperiled

S2 = Imperiled

S3 = Rare or uncommon

S4 = Abundant and apparently secure

S5 = Demonstrably abundant and secure

B after one of the above ranks indicates the status rank is for breeding populations only.

N after one of the above ranks indicates the status rank is for nonbreeding wintering populations only.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New York Ecological Services Field Office
3817 LUKER ROAD
CORTLAND, NY 13045
PHONE: (607)753-9334 FAX: (607)753-9699
URL: www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2015-SLI-0787

April 29, 2015

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2015-E-02225

Project Name: Jericho Rise Wind Farm

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This list can also be used to determine whether listed species may be present for projects without federal agency involvement. New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list.

Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list. If listed, proposed, or candidate species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, coordination with our office is encouraged. Information on the steps involved with assessing potential impacts from projects can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (

http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Services wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the ESA. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Jericho Rise Wind Farm

Official Species List

Provided by:

New York Ecological Services Field Office

3817 LUKER ROAD

CORTLAND, NY 13045

(607) 753-9334

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2015-SLI-0787

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2015-E-02225

Project Type: Power Generation

Project Name: Jericho Rise Wind Farm

Project Description: The proposed project is a wind farm with approximately 36 turbines spaced throughout the polygon. The project would include construction of turbines, access roads, and buried electrical interconnect lines.

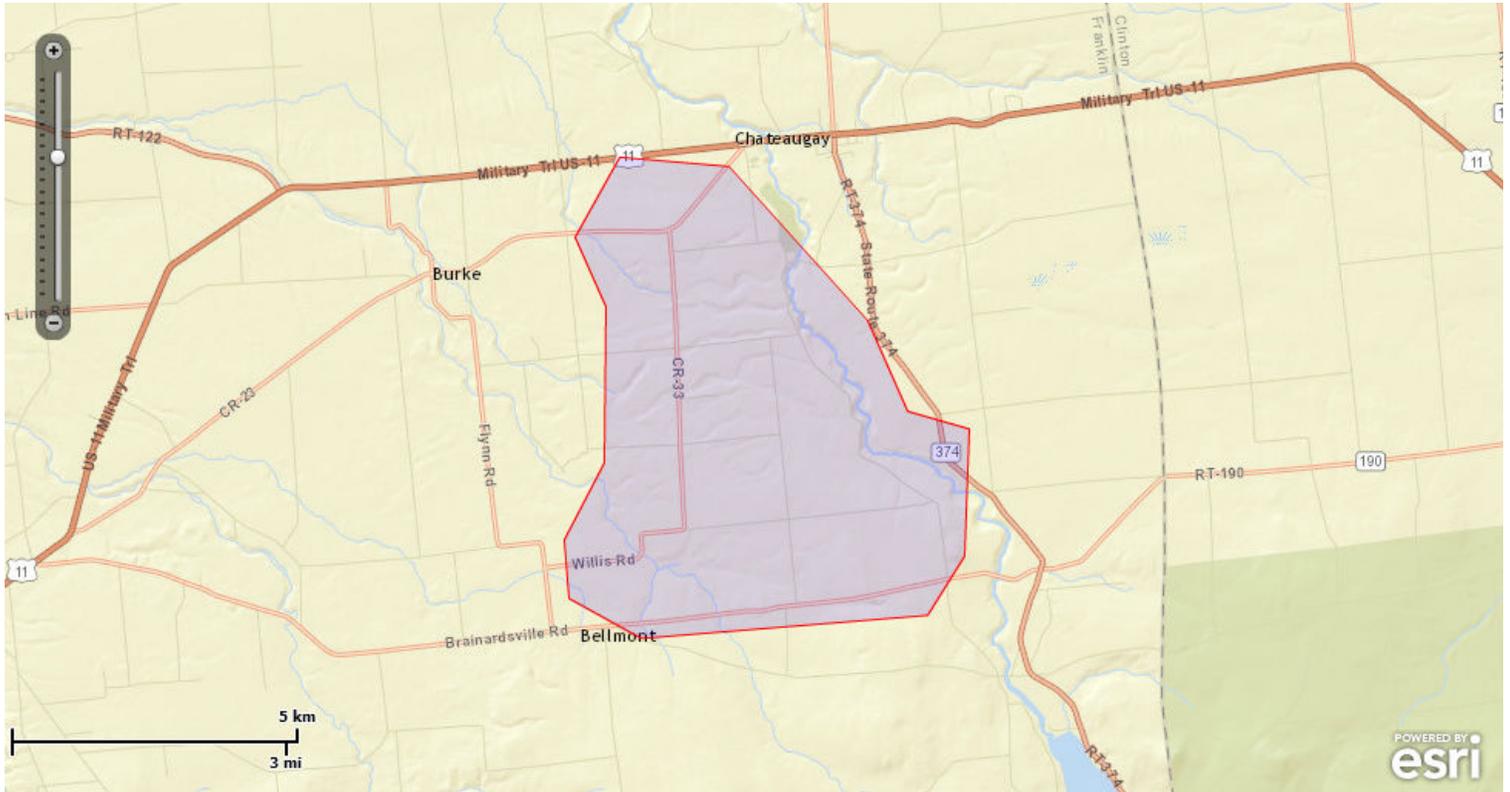
Please Note: The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Jericho Rise Wind Farm

Project Location Map:



Project Coordinates: MULTIPOLYGON (((-74.0490865 44.8798288, -74.0501164 44.8597552, -74.0583733 44.8503851, -74.1222314 44.846734, -74.1383675 44.8530624, -74.1393803 44.8623104, -74.1304539 44.8744765, -74.1301106 44.8991537, -74.1369771 44.9100964, -74.1270207 44.9227507, -74.1026448 44.9212922, -74.0717458 44.8969771, -74.0628194 44.8826264, -74.0490865 44.8798288)))

Project Counties: Franklin, NY



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Jericho Rise Wind Farm

Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 1 threatened or endangered species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Mammals	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Northern long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Threatened		



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Jericho Rise Wind Farm

Critical habitats that lie within your project area

There are no critical habitats within your project area.



Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROSE HARVEY
Commissioner

August 06, 2015

Mr. Grant Johnson
Cultural Resources Analyst
Environmental Design & Research, D.P.C. (EDR)
217 Montgomery Street
Suite 1000
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: SEQRA
Jericho Rise Wind Farm
Approximately 5,895 acres of leased private lands in the Towns of Chateaugay and
Bellmont; The five-mile-radius study area includes parts of the Towns of Bellmont,
Burke, and Chateaugay in Franklin County, and Clinton and Ellenburg in Clinton
County.
15PR03895

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has received the documentation you provided on your project. As the state agency responsible for the coordination of the State's historic preservation programs, we offer the following comments.

We appreciate the time spent reviewing existing survey information in this office for various windfarms that had been proposed in the vicinity of the current boundaries of Jericho Rise and the discussion with survey staff as to how to best approach review for the current project. We concur with the approach that edr outlined in your memo dated July 10, 2015 and we are pleased that edr will undertake updating existing information in our CRIS database.

This approach is acceptable for review of above ground resources and we understand that archaeological resource impacts will be reviewed separately

Please refer to the Project Review number (PR) in any future correspondence regarding this project.

Sincerely,

Ruth L. Pierpont
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation

Division for Historic Preservation

P.O. Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189 • (518) 237-8643 • www.nysparks.com

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

APR 01 2015

Mr. Frank O'Brien
COMSEARCH
19700 Janelia Farm Blvd.
Ashburn, VA 20147

Re: Jericho Rise Project: Franklin County, NY

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

In response to your request on January 27, 2015, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration provided to the federal agencies represented in the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) the plans for the Jericho Rise Wind Farm, located in Franklin County, New York.

After a 45+ day period of review, no agencies had issues with turbine placement in this area.

While the IRAC agencies did not identify any concerns regarding radio frequency blockage, this does not eliminate the need for the wind energy facilities to meet any other requirements specified by law related to these agencies. For example, this review by the IRAC does not eliminate any need that may exist to coordinate with the Federal Aviation Administration concerning flight obstruction.

Thank you for the opportunity to review these proposals.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Tenhula
Deputy Associate Administrator
Office of Spectrum Management