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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 5, 2018**

The Town of Somerset is disappointed to report that Lighthouse Wind LLC, a subsidiary of Apex Clean Energy ("Apex"), has taken the next step in its plan to convert our entire Town into a sprawling industrial wind energy plant of massive proportions. Today, by publishing draft stipulations with state agencies, Apex has clearly signaled its resolve to limit the review of their project's environmental, economic, and public health impacts. Apex has also reaffirmed its intent to trample Home Rule by having the state government "waive" our local zoning laws.

Somerset is confident that all parties will think carefully before signing any agreement that could improperly limit the review of environmental and economic impacts. A growing body of evidence shows the devastating impact industrial wind can have on people and the environment--especially in lake-shore communities like Somerset. It would be a shame if the so called "stipulations" published today are used to prevent a hard look at the major bird migration route passing over Somerset, the visual impacts of 70 new 60 story towers, or the dangers to public health posed by noisy turbines.

The only positive to take away from today's publication of draft agreements is that the secretive stipulation process, which has kept the public in the dark for almost 2 years, is now over. The truth is that Somerset has already suffered enough economic harm at the hands of Apex. Public opposition remains strong, but unfortunately this ill-conceived project has impacted some neighbors and families who have been torn apart by the divisive and secretive tactics of a big industrial wind company. Today, as Apex continues its quest to overturn our local zoning laws, the time for healing has not yet begun.

Governor Cuomo, I call upon you to stop the sacrifice of upstate property at the altar of industrial wind development.