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To Whom It May Concern,

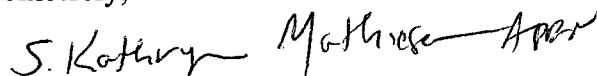
I am writing this letter on behalf of Steve and LuAnn Therrien. I am a psychiatric nurse practitioner in Newport, VT and have been seeing them individually since April 2015. It is my belief that Steve and LuAnn suffer from a form of a form of trauma-induced and stressor-related disorder which can be compared to Post-traumatic Stress Disorder in that a specific trigger or stressor, in this case the wind turbines situated near their former home, has caused them lasting negative impacts in the form of disturbed sleep and subsequent mental health issues.

In this case, the anxiety and depressed mood generated by the noise and/or sound waves from the turbines has continued past six months (one of the diagnostic criteria) despite their having had to leave their home. This has manifested in significant impairment in social, occupational, and other important areas of functioning. I also believe that having to make the decision to abandon their family home in order to regain some kind of normality for themselves and their children has manifested in prolonged depression and complex bereavement of a sort for the loss of their lifelong dream to live off the grid in a remote, and at one time pristine, area.

I did not know the Therriens prior to their coming to see me but I have heard the stories of a life that had to be abandoned out of desperation and fear for their and their children's well-being. Steve and Luann are very resilient people, but this episode in their life has changed them – and altered the ending to the story of living as a family in Vermont's mountains. Stress comes in many forms and in my profession I try and help people see what their current stressors are so that positive changes can be made to alleviate anxiety and depression. In this case, it was impossible for me to remove a wind turbine from their lives. I have much admiration for their bravery and strength in trying to bring some measure of peace and back to their lives – but this battle has taken its toll in the form of severe sleep deprivation, and radically-altered mood that has cost them much in the way of lost income, emotional upheaval, and a well-deserved right to live out their life as they originally chose it.

Please let me know if I can offer any other insights into the negative sequelae caused to this family by industrial wind turbine noise.

Sincerely,



S. Kathryn Mathieson, APRN, Ph.D.