Clear Skies Above Barre, Inc.

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## **Press Release**

## **For Immediate Release**

Headline: Attorney General asked to investigate possible ethical misconduct by Heritage

Wind LLC and Apex in Town of Barre

Barre, NY. January 4, 2019

On January 2, 2019 Clear Skies Above Barre, Inc. (CSAB), as concerned citizens of the Town of Barre, submitted a detailed letter to the NYS Attorney General's Office alleging potential ethical misconduct by Heritage Wind, LLC, and its parent company Apex. The letter outlines five areas where Heritage Wind and Apex may have violated a Wind Developer Code of Conduct Agreement with the New York State Attorney General.

One of CSAB's primary concerns about the proposed Heritage Wind project is the uncomfortably close relationship between Apex and multiple members of the Barre town government. CSAB lacks the resources to effectively investigate this issue, and has therefore have asked the Attorney General's Office to help the residents of Barre by investigating the conduct described in their letter. CSAB is concerned the conduct of Heritage Wind, Apex, and various Barre town officials violates the Code of Conduct Agreement, and could also violate other state laws.

The letter specifically alleges Heritage Wind and Apex:

- 1. Failed to properly update a list of Town officials who have a personal or family interest in a wind lease or other agreement with Heritage Wind;
- Continue to work with conflicted town officials who failed to recuse themselves from
  official duties relating to Heritage Wind, while seeking the passage of beneficial
  legislation by conflicted municipal officers;
- 3. Improperly offered wind leases to municipal officers or their relatives without prior recusal;
- 4. Failed to publish or serve a conflict disclosure list in accordance with the Code of Conduct Agreement; and
- 5. Potentially failed to inform the Barre Town Attorney of municipal officer conflicts of interest.

CSAB believes Heritage Wind and Apex should be held accountable for what looks like a corporate take-over of the Barre town government. It is our understanding that the Attorney General can collect penalties of up to \$100,000.00 per violation of the Code of Conduct Agreement.

Clear Skies Above Barre, Inc. will be hosting an open house at the Town of Barre Town Hall on January 12, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm, all are welcome and encouraged to come learn more. For additional information please email clearskiesabovebarre@gmail.com or call 585-678-6657.