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U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

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August 27, 2009

JAMES H. ZOIA
CHIEF OF STAFF

William H. Chambliss, Esq.
General Counsel
State Corporation Commission
Tyler Building, 11th Floor
1300 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Chambliss:

I am writing in my capacity as the Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources of the U.S. House of Representatives, and as the U.S. Representative of the Third Congressional District of West Virginia, which includes Pocahontas County, to express my concern over the impact the Highland New Wind Development project will have on historic resources such as the Camp Allegheny Battlefield, a site on the National Register of Historic Places.

In this regard, I commend the State Corporation Commission (SCC) for its Order dated August 26, 2009, to conduct a public hearing on September 2, 2009, into the allegation filed by the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Historic Resources that Highland New Wind Development has failed to comply with the SCC's Final Order approving the wind project permit. In addition, I share the views set forth by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program in Chief Paul Hawke's letter to you dated August 26, 2009.

As the Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction over the National Historic Preservation Act, please know that I take serious any threat to a valued and noteworthy historic resource such as the Camp Allegheny Battlefield in the sovereign State of West Virginia. I urge the SCC to not only hold a public hearing on this matter, but to fully investigate the issues raised by the Department of Historic Resources and the National Park Service.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources