

# Maine Natural Areas Program

17 Elkins Lane

State House Station #93

Augusta, Maine 04333

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**Date:** May 30, 2013

**To:** Dan Courtemanch, DEP

**From:** Don Cameron, Ecologist

**Re:** Rare and exemplary botanical features, Bingham Wind Project

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I have searched the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Data System files for rare or unique botanical features in the vicinity of the proposed site in response to your request received May 28, 2013 for our agency's comments on the project.

According to our current information, there are no rare botanical features that will be disturbed within the project site. This finding is available and appropriate for preparation and review of environmental assessments, but it is not a substitute for on-site surveys. Comprehensive field surveys do not exist for all natural areas in Maine, and in the absence of a specific field investigation, the Maine Natural Areas Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of unusual natural features at this site. You may want to have the site inventoried by a qualified field biologist to ensure that no undocumented rare features are inadvertently harmed.

The Natural Areas Program is continuously working to achieve a more comprehensive database of exemplary natural features in Maine. We welcome the contribution of any information collected if a site survey is performed.

Thank you for using the Natural Areas Program in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have further questions about the Natural Areas Program or about rare or unique botanical features on this site.

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