

## Lori Olberg

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**From:** Kirby, Katherine E <kkirby@smcvt.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 02, 2013 3:55 PM  
**To:** Worden, Kevin; Tracy, Maxwell K.; Knodell, Jane; Vince Brennan; Rachel Siegel; Bryan Aubin; Shannon, Joan; Mason, Chip; Paul, Karen; Blais, Norman; Ayres, Tom; Decelles, Paul; Lori Olberg  
**Subject:** Winooski F-35 Resolution  
**Attachments:** Winooski F35\_Resolution.pdf

Dear Burlington City Councilors,

I want to thank you for giving your attention and consideration to the topic of the potential F-35 basing in South Burlington at BTV. I am extremely grateful that you are creating the opportunity for public discussion of this issue, and you are considering the Burlington City Council's role and responsibility in the decision-making process.

It occurred to me that it might be helpful for you all to have on-hand the Resolution put forth by the Winooski City Council in, July 2012. The Winooski City Council Resolution adopts the position that I would encourage Burlington to adopt, in that they concluded that there are too many unknowns and unanswered questions to support the basing at this time. Like Burlington, Winooski asked many questions of the Air Force, and found that the answers they received were not adequate to alleviate concern and uncertainty. Their Resolution does not oppose the basing for all time. Rather, it asks that Burlington be removed from consideration from *this round*.

Many of us believe that this is a reasonable compromise, because it would allow us to be considered at a later date, when the plane has (1) a flight history and established safety record and (2) a diminished risk of crash. Further, (3) once the plane is being regularly flown, perhaps it will be *demonstrated* that it can be flown more quietly than the FEIS (and previous DEIS's) say is possible. Currently, the Air Guard is claiming that they can fly it more quietly. But they've never flown this plane. And there is no evidence from Eglin (where the plane is being flown currently) to support their claim. Isn't it reasonable to hold off bringing it to our populated area until such time as this can be *demonstrated or proven*? There is no reason to think that we would go from being the Air Force's #1 choice (at this time) to being out-of-consideration during a later round of basing. So it is unclear why proponents of the basing will not consider this compromise.

I could not find email addresses for David Hartnett or Sharon Bushor, so I would greatly appreciate it if someone could forward this Winooski Resolution, and my message, along to them.

Again, thank you very much for your thoughtful consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

*Katherine E. Kirby, Ph.D.*

*Associate Professor, Philosophy Department*

*Director, Global Studies Program*

*St. Michael's College*

*Colchester, VT 05430*





# CITY OF WINOOSKI CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN  
[Mayor@winooski.vt.org](mailto:Mayor@winooski.vt.org)  
COUNCILOR SETH LEONARD  
COUNCILOR JOHN LITTLE  
COUNCILOR SARAH ROBINSON  
COUNCILOR SALLY TIPSON  
KATHERINE R. DECARREAU  
CITY MANAGER

## Resolution

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### **RE: Comment on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Proposed Beddown of the F-35A at the Burlington Air National Guard Station**

**Whereas** the United States Air Force is considering changing the current fighter jets at the Burlington Air Guard Station from the current F 16 to the F 35A, and

**Whereas** the City of Winooski is directly impacted by the operations of the Vermont Air National Guard and, as such, wished to respond to a request for comments on the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement issued by the United States Air Force, and

**Whereas** the City of Winooski wishes to support the Vermont Air National Guard located at the Burlington International Airport, and

**Whereas** the City of Winooski recognizes the valuable impact of the Air Guard Station on the local economy, and

**Whereas** the City of Winooski, the State of Vermont, the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, and our private partners have invested over \$175 million dollars in revitalizing our downtown which, in turn, has sparked a revitalization of the entire City of Winooski as an attractive place to live and work, and

**Whereas** the Revised Environmental Impact Statement has been released by the United States Air Force, indicating increased noise in the City both in maximum volumes and in the average Day Night Level (DNL) resulting in adverse, unavoidable impacts on noise level, which will rise to or above the Federal Aviation Administration has determined to be incompatible with residential land use, and



**Whereas** the sixty five (65) decibel DNL contour band in either scenario would encompass more than fifty percent (50%) of our community as a result of the proposed change in operations, disproportionately impacting the residents of the city including most of the low income and minority populations outlined in the study, and

**Whereas** the Revised Environmental Impact Statement indicated that the F 35A is louder than the F 16, leaving serious concerns about the potential increase in health risks related to the exposure of residents including those in a nursing home, several senior living complexes, and a school, and

**Whereas** the conditions outlined in the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement leave open the possibility that property values would decline and the downtown would become less desirable, and

**Whereas** the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement indicates significant impact to a healthy environment for the community, and

**Whereas** the Environmental Impact Statement process has been difficult and divided our community, the overwhelming number of public statements demonstrate our citizen's desire to stop the deployment, and

**Whereas** the Winooski City Council has issued a Resolution on May 21, 2012 and a Statement on June 18, 2012 in response to the original Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and

**Whereas** in that Resolution. the City of Winooski has requested information from the United States Air Force and have yet to receive complete responses, and

**Whereas** the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement in Section 2.2.6 states that McEntire Joint National Guard Base is the "environmentally preferred alternative for ANG basing locations", and

**Whereas** we are proud of our little city of 7,300 people where over twenty (20) languages are spoken; we are proud to hear the number of our residents who love living and working in the City; and we recognize our responsibility to protect that new energy and investment of time and passion as well as money,

***Now, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winooski, therefore be it***

**Resolved** the Revised Draft of the Environmental Impact Statement did not adequately address the questions and concerns expressed in our Resolution of May 21, 2012 and our Statement issue on June 18, 2012, and

**Further Resolved** the Winooski City Council opposed any activity that will increase noise in a manner that will have a detrimental effect on our community, and



**Further Resolved** that noise impacts must be mitigated to ensure that both the DNL contours and the maximum noise levels remain at their current state (magnitude and spatial orientation) as with F 16 operations, and

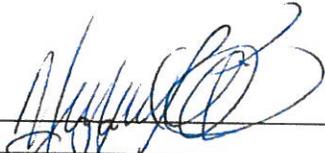
**Further Resolved** that the Winooski City Council formally requests that the Burlington Air Guard Station be removed from consideration of current basing of the F 35A.

## Resolution # 2013 - 2

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Dated July 12, 2013

Affirmative Vote

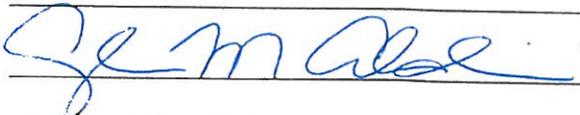

Negative Vote

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Adopted 7/12/13

Rejected

Attest

  
Assistant City Clerk

Approved Date

7/12/13

