

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

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February 14, 2013

Thomas Irvin
c/o Jim Wilson
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
2781 Lancaster Road Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario
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RE: Review and entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports of the marine archaeological assessment report entitled: “**Underwater Archaeological Assessment, Proposed Submarine Cable Route & Dock Facilities — Amherst Island Wind Energy Project, North Gap between Amherst Island and Millhaven, Ontario**”, Dated January 23, 2013, Filed by MTCS Toronto Office on January 28, 2013, MTCS Project Information Form Number **2012-001-002-2012**, OPA Reference Number **FIT-FUT3NOX**, MTCS File Number **HD00579**

Dear Mr. Irvin:

This report was submitted to this ministry as a condition of licensing under the Ontario Heritage Act.¹ The ministry reviewed the report to determine whether the licensed marine archaeologist met the terms and conditions of their licence and whether the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations are consistent with the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.²

The report documents the assessment of the study area as shown in the Project Area Location map, Appendix A, figure 1, of the report and recommends the following:

Project Study Area

The identified targets of archaeological concern within the Project Study Area, AT2 and AT4, are outside the proposed submarine cable route or the proposed docking facility option locations. The following recommendations are made for each target:

AT2 – The Skiff Wreck Site, BbGe-28: The proposed docking facility and submarine cable will not impact this location. However it is recommended that this site be avoided with a minimum buffer of 100 metres surrounding the wreck.

¹ This letter constitutes the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's written comments where required under section 22 of O. Reg. 359/09, as amended (Renewable Energy Approvals under the Environmental Protection Act), regarding the archaeological assessment undertaken for the project. Depending on the study area and scope of work of the archaeological assessment as detailed in the report, further archaeological assessment reports may be required to complete the archaeological assessment for the project under O. Reg. 359/09. In that event, ministry comments under section 22 of O. Reg. 359/09 will be required for any such additional reports.

² In no way will the ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the report or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the report is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.

AT4 – Unidentified Timber Feature: It is recommended that this feature be avoided with a minimum buffer of 40 metres surrounding the feature.
Targets AT1, AT3, AT5 and AT6 are considered sufficiently documented and no further archaeological assessment is recommended. No archaeological buffer is recommended for any of these targets.

North Amherst Wreck

The shipwreck located during the MTO bubbler line survey is likely from the 19th or 20th century. While this site is situated outside of the submarine cable route, it is recommended that the site be avoided with a 100 metre buffer.

Based on the information contained in the report, the ministry is satisfied that the fieldwork and reporting for the archaeological assessment are consistent with the terms and conditions for a marine archaeological licence. This report has been entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. Please note that the ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of reports in the Register.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Andy Schoenhofer
Archaeology Licensing and Information Officer

- c. Mr. Sean Fairfield, Algonquin Power Co.
Mr. Vic Schroter, Ministry of the Environment