

Meeting Notes

Community Working Group Meeting # 4

Amherst Island Wind Energy Project / 160960595

Date/Time: May 25, 2017 / 6:45-8:45 PM
Place: Amherst Island Public School

Next Meeting: TBD

Attendees: Ariel Bautista (Windlectric), Tim Sullivan (Windlectric), Katharine Myrans

(Stantec), Emily Hartwig (Stantec), Gwen Lauret (local resident), Larry Fleming

(local resident), Janet Grace (local resident)

Absentees: Chris Raffael (MOECC), Duncan Ashley (Loyalist Township)

Distribution: All Committee Members

Safety Moment: Facilitator invited CWG members to provide a safety moment.

Safety moment: Vehicle safety in poor weather conditions - reminder to keep a safe distance from other vehicles when visibility is poor due to inclement weather.

Item:		Action:
Review of	Agenda and Action Items from CWG # 3	
	ms from March 30 th meeting were reviewed. The status ire as follows:	
1)	Windlectric sent an email about community benefits and it is expected to be included in the upcoming newsletter as well.	Windlectric to add information on community benefits to the website.
2)	Windlectric contacted Murray Beckel at the Township to discuss setting up a permanent trailer as a local office. A trailer would fall outside of the site plan as identified in the Renewable Energy Approval. For this reason the office would need to be located within an existing building.	Windlectric will further examine potential locations for a local office on the island.
3)	Windlectric left a message for David MacPherson at Loyalist Township to confirm if there is a by-law against setting up a drop-box at Centennial Park.	Windlectric will reach out again to David MacPherson.
4)	Windlectric to finalize and distribute a community newsletter. A CWG member asked if the CWG could review the newsletter before it is provided to the public. Windlectric has agreed.	Windlectric has hired a communications company and expects the first newsletter to be produced within two weeks.



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Item:		Action:
5)	Windlectric to look into an electronic board that can inform local residents of construction and traffic issues. Currently, the Township is looking into their own solutions for traffic management.	Windlectric to continue to pursue this option.
6)	Windlectric believes the 3-5 business day commitment for responding to public inquiries has been removed from the Project website but one of the CWG members has still seen it on the website.	Windlectric to search and update response time on the website.
7)	Windlectric announced and hosted a Town Hall meeting.	Windlectric will look into
8)	Windlectric will continue to consider ways to involve the public in the project and provide notification of project activities.	notices/information on the message board at the local store. Members of
9)	It was determined that Windlectric has provided sufficient information on the sale of shares and their new partner.	the public who wish to be on the email list for
10	Windlectric has not posted information on the website about the incident at Picton Terminal because they have not received the report from the Coast Guard. When the report is received Windlectric will consider posting information online.	updates should reach out to Windlectric.
11) At CWG#3 Duncan Ashley indicated that the Township had provided a template for a communications plan that Windlectric could consider using. Windlectric is unable to find this template.	Windlectric will follow up and ask for the communications template to be re-sent from the Township.
12) The need for Windlectric to follow up with the contractor about fuel truck schedules is no longer applicable.	
13) Windlectric has forwarded to Pennecon the offers from islanders to house construction staff. Pennecon will follow up with these individuals.	
14	Windlectric discussed safety/traffic concerns with the contractors, who are following Book 7, and Windlectric has updated the Operations Plan with mitigation measures. Until the Township approves the Operations Plan Windlectric is limited in how they can address the issues of speed, traffic and construction vehicles.	Windlectric to add information to Q&A document on where mitigation is found in the Operations Plan.
Company	' Updates	
The island	dock has been completed and work has now moved onto and.	
The South	CPU amendment was granted. The switchyard is under ion.	



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Item:	Action:
Construction of the mainland dock and the mainland transmission line will occur during Summer 2017.	
Windlectric staff have been working with the Township concerning the operations plan (with a vote to be held on Monday, May 29 th 2017).	
CWG #4 Review of Submitted Questions	Windlectric to update the
Windlectric provided the CWG members with a log of all questions received by the Company from members of the public from April 1st 2017 through May 16th 2017. The facilitator read each of the questions aloud, and the company provided answers.	Question and Answer document where indicated to clarify responses prior to posting online.
Follow up to Question #3	
Q. (Original question) How will the reduced construction vehicle speed limit near wildlife areas be implemented?	
The revised answer on the Q&A document should include references to speed limits for specific project components.	
Q: What will your speed limit be through the village?	
A: The posted speed will be followed.	
Follow-up to Question #7	
Q. Will there be any alterations to the Church road?	
A. The Church road will not be modified. Technical solutions for the vehicles carrying components will be implemented as an alternative to modifying the road.	
Follow-up to Question #8	
Q. (Original question) How are landowners on and off of the island notified about public meetings and other such events?	
The revised answer on the Q&A document should include: use of a message board in the store (if allowed); weekly reports in advance of construction activities; consideration of daily mailouts; and referencing the communications plan in the Operations Plan.	
Q. How are people who own property on the island but who do not permanently live on the island receiving communications? Suggestion that Windlectric obtain contact information from the Township tax rolls	Windlectric to consider obtaining names/addresses for landowners living off-island



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Item:	Action:	
and send a letter indicating that if they wish to be informed they should contact Windlectric and be added to the email list.	and notifying them of how to be on the project's email list should they wish	
Follow-up to Question #9	to be kept informed.	
Q. How many non-construction related cars do you expect to be on the ferry every day? Is it possible for these cars to avoid the ferry on certain days and at certain times (such as Fridays in the summer months)?		
A. Windlectric has committed to not using the public ferry for construction staff. The public ferry will be used by non-construction staff (engineering staff performing surveys, biologists, archaeologists, etc.). An average usage on the order of 10-12 vehicles round trip could be using the ferry on a daily basis, with some days requiring no staff using the public ferry. The Operations Plan details how use of the ferry will be avoided at peak times and how priority will always be given to the residents during ferry boarding.		
Follow-up to Question #13		
Q. What is the \$40,000 donation?		
A. The \$40,000 donation consists of various contributions to local initiatives. Additional information will be released in consultation with the recipients.	Windlectric will contact the groups who received funding from the \$40,000	
Q. How much money was allocated to the school? Can a breakdown of the donation distribution be given?	donation – an update will be provided at CWG meeting #5.	
A. The groups that received funding will need to be contacted before this information can be released – they may want to make the funding announcements on their own time. It is expected that this information will be included in a newsletter in the future.		
Follow-up to Question #14		
Q. Is this \$75,000 on top of restoring roads to their original condition?		
A. Yes, this is in addition. Windlectric has posted a Letter of Credit for road repair. The \$75,000 is above and beyond repair/remediation. The company will repair the roads to the condition they were in prior to construction (if any damage were to occur).		
Q. Why does the Road Use Agreement not stipulate that the money should come to the Island and why is Windlectric not performing road maintenance?		



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Item:	Action:	
A. In the original agreement, the Company had proposed that a stipulation be put in place that the funds be used for the island, but the Township wanted this wording removed. The Township has indicated that the Islanders prefer to have the roads maintained in a specific way and so the Township is looking after this itself.		
Follow-up to Question #15		
Q. Can this type of information (benefits of green energy) be included in the monthly or weekly notifications to the public?	This initiative is currently being addressed. An	
A. This initiative has been started. The information could be provided online in a separate area by adding a link such as "if you would like more information on the benefits of green energy, click here".	update will be provided at CWG meeting #5	
Follow-up to Question # 22		
Q. Is this money over and above the funds in the Community Benefits Agreement?	Windlectric to indicate in the newsletter than	
A. Yes. Anyone can request funding from Windlectric by submitting a proposal.	anyone can request funding.	
Follow-up to Question #23		
Q. (Original question) Can Algonquin guarantee the safety of sheep and guard dogs from coyotes if a fence is broken?		
The revised answer on the Q&A document should indicate that it is assumed the question refers to accidental damage to private fences during construction because construction activities will be coordinated with participating landowners to protect livestock and pets. In the unlikely event that a private fence is damaged the crews would have the equipment and supplies on site to fix the fence immediately.		
Follow-up to Question # 24		
Q. (Original question) Has a legal title search been conducted on affected properties on Front Road, Third Concession and South Shore Road?		
The revised answer on the Q&A document should reference specific sections of the Operations Plan. The accuracy of the right-of-way surveys is to within 0.3 m.		



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Item:	Action:
Q. What are the legal implications for using forced roads (can you do what you would like on these roads)? If there is a legal precedent for private ownership of the road, what is your option then?	
A. This is under the jurisdiction of the Township. Windlectric would rely on the Township's rules and regulations. For legal matters that can't be addressed by the Township Windlectric will rely on legal counsel.	
Follow-up to Question # 30	
Q. (Original question) How will safety be addressed at the intersection of Front Road and the Island Dock?	
The revised answer on the Q&A document should indicate that the STOP signs have already been installed on either side of Front Road. Construction vehicles will abide by all posted signage. Windlectric plans to request OPP presence on the island to monitor construction staff traffic speeds.	
Follow-up to Question #31	
Q. There are no icebreakers available in this part of the Great Lakes – what marine vehicle will be used to maneuver through the ice when you are barging?	
A. The use of the barge is expected to be complete by the time an icebreaker would be required, however tugboats can pass through an ice thickness of 12 inches. Windlectric can explore bringing in an ice breaker if necessary.	
Follow-up to Question #32	
Q. (Original question) Why are you not complying with NPC 300?	
The revised answer on the Q&A document should indicate that NPC 300 is not applicable to the project and that the project will be complying with noise requirements under the REA.	
CWG Discussion and New Questions	
Q1. Have the higher than normal water levels had any impact on the project?	
A. Windlectric planned in advance for high water and has been keeping an eye on the levels. Adjustments were made to erosion controls to ensure their effectiveness. Potential implications from changing water levels were factored into the work plans.	



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Item:	Action:
Q2. Is there a revised date for project operation?	
A. The latest public release date for project completion is April 2018.	
Q3. How many people will you employ in this project? Will permanent jobs be filled by Islanders?	
A. During construction potentially 200-250 jobs. For project operation potentially 10-15 permanent jobs, with a preference for local workers	
Q4. There are a lot of people on the island who are concerned about the modifications to the roads in terms of road widening. It is hard to see on the online maps where widening and tree removals will be.	
A. The pre-construction study (online) includes maps of the roads that will be modified or restored. At the Town Hall meeting a poster board identified trees that will be impacted. The pre-construction study is published on the website for viewing.	Windlectric to confirm quality of online maps.
Q5. What do you mean by restoration and road widening?	
A. There is a distinction between "restoration" vs "widening". Restoration refers to returning roads to their original widths if they have shrunk over time due to maintenance or vegetation growth. There is an existing road bed, and where the road has shrunk over time, we will restore the travelled portion of the road to that original width. Widening refers to extending the road beyond its original road width.	
Q6. Would you know at this time what work is proposed on an individual's property, and could the individual get in touch with you if they cannot see these locations on the maps provided on the website?	
A. Yes. Meetings can be coordinated with those individuals who have concerns, and a map of their specific area of concern can be provided to those individuals.	
Q7. What are the historical widths of the roads?	
A. The width of roads varies, a land surveyor is required to assess each specific area.	
Q8. Two emails were sent through the comment page, one on April 10 th and one on April 9 th . An acknowledgement was received from the website when the email was submitted, however no direct	



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Item:	Action:
response was sent back to the individuals who submitted the comment.	
A. The list of questions provided to the CWG include the questions submitted to the website. The questions are placed into a tracking spreadsheet. Some questions may have been missed or there may be a communication issue. Questions can be forwarded directly to ensure they are provided a response.	Windlectric to look into issues with the email system.
Q9. Why has the information on the Catholic church not been updated as per the previous meeting minutes?	
A. Windlectric will make sure it gets addressed and corrected as appropriate.	
Q10. There is a concern about the CWG meetings being closed, how can we better address the public's concerns?	Windlectric to update information on the Catholic church.
A. CWG members will continue to share information with the public and to review meeting notes for accuracy. Once a local office is up and running, community members can meet with Windlectric directly. In the meantime, Tim Sullivan is available to speak with members of the public who have concerns, and we also have an office in Amherstview.	
The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM	

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.

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