

## Community Working Group Meeting # 16

Amherst Island Wind Energy Project / 160960595

Date/Time: June 13, 2018 / 6:45-8:45 PM  
 Place: Remote – Conference Call  
 Next Meeting: TBD  
 Attendees: Ariel Bautista (Windlectric), Leah Weller (Stantec), Gwen Lauret (local resident), Larry Fleming (local resident), Janet Grace (local resident)  
 Absentees: Chris Raffael (MOECC), Katy Potter (MOECC), Emily Hartwig (Stantec)  
 Distribution: All Committee Members

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

Safety Moment: With the increase in extreme weather events lately, it is important to have an emergency safety kit in your home and one in your car. Stock your home kit with bottled water, non-perishable food items, batteries, a flashlight, a battery-operated radio, and an emergency blanket.

Item:	Action:
<p><b>Review of Agenda and Action Items from CWG #15</b></p> <p>There were no action items from the May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting.</p>	
<p><b>Company Updates</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The turbines are almost all commissioned; there are 23 turbines currently undergoing, or having recently completed, testing. Final commissioning is anticipated by the end of the week.</li> <li>2) All circuits have been tested, are operational, and are awaiting ESA sign-off.</li> <li>3) Restoration activities have been initiated and will be ongoing through the summer and into the fall. Calcium will be applied to the roads as required for dust control and shoulder repair will be undertaken as required. Restoration activities are generally starting at the western end of the island and moving east.</li> <li>4) Tim Sullivan has left the project to pursue other opportunities.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Review of Submitted Questions</b></p> <p>Windlectric provided the CWG members with a log of all questions received by the company from members of the public from May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, through June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The facilitator read each of the questions aloud, and the company provided answers.</p>	

<b>Item:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
<p>Follow-up to question:</p> <p>Q1. Is Jeff Broadbent replacing Tim?</p> <p>A1. Jeff is overseeing the restoration activities on landowner properties, and is also working with the site manager.</p> <p>Q2. The turbine at Dump Road is very noisy. Why is this?</p> <p>A2. It shouldn't be any louder than any of the other turbines. Although the sound power level may vary slightly with each turbine, they have all been carefully designed and tested to meet MOECC noise requirements. The MOECC verifies compliance with noise requirements, and Windlectric will install noise-sensing monitors at various locations in the vicinity of turbines within approximately one year of the plant becoming operational.</p> <p>Q3. Will the noise sensors be measuring infrasound?</p> <p>A3. The sensors measure sound as per international acoustic standards, and as required in the REA permit. Details should be available on MOECC's website.</p>	
<p><b>CWG General Discussion and New Questions</b></p> <p>Q.1 Amendment 4 to the REA requires a 17 metre by 6 metre sound barrier on the south side of the main transformer substation. When will that be constructed? What sound measurements have been conducted to ensure that sound does not exceed regulations at Receptor 166, the property on Second Concession and at the Amherst Island Public School and Community Centre?</p> <p>A1. The sound barrier is already constructed and is located around the sound source of the transformer substation. Measurements of noise levels will commence after the project has become operational.</p> <p>Q2. I was extremely disappointed with the vague non-answers to the questions provided after the last meeting. What exactly is Windlectric going to do to remedy the soft spots on Island roads? When will the work occur? Just taking down the "soft spots" signs does not solve the problem.</p> <p>A2. The signage was put in place to warn drivers of significant soft spots that had developed as a result of unusually wet weather conditions and to advise them to slow down while driving over the soft spots. As the weather has dried up and the degree of softness has greatly improved, the signs have been removed. However, restoration activities are still ongoing, and the Township will sign off on the restoration work when it is complete, before all restoration personnel and equipment are removed from the island.</p>	

<b>Item:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
<p>Q3. When will the "temporary" mainland dock cease operations and be removed?</p> <p>A3. Restoration activities will continue into the fall months, and as a result the dock is likely to stay until 2019.</p> <p>Q4. Why are the piles of gravel and other materials at the Island laydown site not covered? When will the materials be removed?</p> <p>A4. The gravel piles are not required to be covered. The requirements for materials storage depend on the type of materials being stored/stockpiled. Erosion and sediment control is required for finer-grained materials such as topsoil or sand, but under MOECC requirements, coarser gravel materials do not require these measures. The gravel will be used for restoration activities and will likely remain until all restoration activities are complete.</p> <p>Q5. Was Deputy Mayor Bresee consulted concerning the donation to the Kingston Hospital Foundation?</p> <p>A5. Due to privacy considerations, Windlectric does not disclose the nature of consultation or other activities associated with donations.</p> <p>Q6. Residents are well aware of the content of the noise by-law. The question was "what justification did Windlectric use for a exemption related to electrical commissioning as it was neither unplanned nor an emergency?"</p> <p>A6. The information provided included a council report that contained the application for the variance from the noise by-law, in which justification was provided. The details of this application are in the public domain. The project planning for construction activities was extensive, and the restrictions associated with the noise by-law were well understood by project staff. It was anticipated at the project planning phase that exemptions to the noise by-law would be required, as a result of unavoidable construction activities such as some nighttime work, work that may need to take place over a longer day and cannot be paused for the night, electrical commissioning work, as well as the potential for the variability in weather conditions that can affect the timing of turbine erection. For these reasons, the exemptions to the noise by-law were requested and granted by the municipality.</p> <p>Q7. What is the project safety record? How many accidents have occurred as part of the project?</p> <p>A7. The safety record for the project is not published; Windlectric takes safety extremely seriously. Some minor and infrequent reportable incidents are normal on any construction site, however there have been no major safety incidents or accidents on the project to date.</p> <p>Q8. Is electrical commissioning complete? What approvals are outstanding? What is the status of the Commercial Operations Date?</p>	

<b>Item:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
<p>A8. Commissioning is nearly complete. There are no outstanding approvals remaining for construction activities.</p> <p>Q9. Why does grading of access roads continue during the breeding and nesting season of Blanding's Turtles?</p> <p>A9. Access roads outside of Blandings Turtle areas continue to be worked on, however no work is being undertaken within Blandings Turtle areas during the turtle timing window. Any traffic seen within these locations is likely to be that of the Turtle Monitors and the Independent Biological Inspector.</p> <p>Q10. Turbines are turning when there is little or no wind. Has the reduction in cut in speed to minimize the impact on bats been successfully tested in accordance with the Wildlife Mitigation Plan?</p> <p>A10. The cut in speed reductions start when the turbines are operational and will be applicable during the bat timing window. The company has tested the turbines under these operational restrictions and can confirm that they are easily implementable.</p> <p>Q11. Raptors have all but disappeared on the Island. Has Windlectric started counting dead birds? Have staff been employed for this purpose?</p> <p>A11. Windlectric staff have kept a daily photographic log of wildlife sightings, and this includes multiple raptor sightings. Windlectric will follow the REA limits on raptor mortality and has a program in place for monitoring wildlife and surveying for mortality once the turbines are operational. Staffing for this program is still being decided.</p> <p>Q12. Who is now responsible for Tim Sullivan's role? When will this information be communicated to the public?</p> <p>A12. A communication with landowners regarding Tim's departure will be issued shortly. Currently there are no plans to replace Tim, as the restoration activities are now underway and any questions or comments from island residents can be directed to restoration staff or the site manager, or though the toll-free number.</p> <p>Q13. When will the gates to the access roads be constructed and the public road allowance from Lower 40 Foot restored to enable public access?</p> <p>A13. Towards the end of the restoration period the gates will be constructed. The public currently has access to Marshall 40 foot. The unopened road allowance on Lower 40 was not open to the public.</p> <p>Q14. Why is Dump Rd not open to the public? When will this be rectified?</p>	

<b>Item:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
<p>A14. Dump Road is currently under construction and will be one of the first roads to be complete; it will likely open this summer.</p> <p>Q15. Given the recent severe weather, are measures in place to ensure the safety of island residents? Will there be staff on the island 24-7 to monitor for safety concerns?</p> <p>A15. The turbines have been rated for gusts of much greater force than typical during high wind events on the island. Software linked to the weather monitoring station will automatically adjust the turbine configuration in response to weather conditions. While not a regulatory requirement, and even though remote monitoring can be used to monitor the project and alert staff in case of a need for unplanned maintenance, Windlectric has committed to having operational staff on the island, based out of the Operations and Maintenance building, to monitor the project. It is also anticipated that, for the first few years of operation, staff from the turbine manufacturer will also be on-site to monitor the project.</p> <p>Q16. After the project is complete, will Windlectric donate any excess aggregate for community projects?</p> <p>A16. Please provide the details of what types of aggregate are required/the purpose of the aggregate. If Windlectric has excess aggregate upon completion of restoration activities that will be suitable for the intended purpose, we will consider the request. This request can be sent directly to .</p> <p>Q17. When will the community benefits be given to the Township?</p> <p>A17. Once operational, the community benefits will be delivered annually to the Township, as outlined in the Community Benefits Agreement, the details of which are on the Township website. The council will decide how to allocate those benefits, so if you have requests or suggestions, please contact your councilor.</p>	
<p><b>The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM</b></p>	

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.

**Stantec Consulting Ltd.**



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