



March 26, 2015

South Branch Wind Project Community Liaison Committee (CLC) – Meeting Minutes – Meeting #2

Time and Place

Tuesday March 24, 2015

2:00pm to 4:00pm

Dixon's Corners Community Centre
10951 Cook Road, County Road 18,
Brinston ON, K0E 1C0

Invited

Current CLC members/volunteers, EDP Renewables (EDP) representatives, and all interested members of the community

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Meeting purpose, goals and agreements
3. Project update
4. Community Liaison Committee (CLC) review of depositions
5. Q&A/Open discussion

Attendees

Total number of community members in attendance: **1**

Total number of agency members in attendance: **1** (Terri Forrester, MOECC)

CLC members present:

- Francois Lauzon (CLC Chair) from Stantec Consulting Ltd.
- Kimberly Wenborn (CLC meeting support) from Stantec Consulting Ltd.
- Bill Byker (CLC volunteer)
- Pieter Biemond (CLC volunteer)
- Chris Bazinet (CLC volunteer)

CLC Members regrets:

- Greg Vant Foort (CLC Volunteer)

Discussion

1. **Welcome and Introductions (CLC Chair).** The meeting was officially opened at 2:10 pm by Francois Lauzon (CLC Chair) with general introductions of CLC members Mr. Bill Byker, Mr. Pieter Biemond, Mr. Chris Bazinet, as well as Ms. Kim Wenborn from Stantec to assist. EDP staff (Erika Nelson, Tod Nash, and Nathan Roscoe) were also introduced.
2. **Meeting purpose, goals, and agreements (CLC Chair).** The purpose of CLC was explained in the context of the CLC Terms of Reference (ToR). The CLC acts as a mechanism for community members to communicate and voice concerns or questions in a community forum and to seek potential resolution of issues relating to the turbine project. It also provides EDP the opportunity to share information about the project with the community.
3. **Project Update (Erika Nelson, EDP).** An update of the South Branch Wind Project was provided by Erika Nelson (EDP). Highlights of the presentation included the following:
 - a) **Community Benefit Fund.** The 2015 community benefit fund payment to the Municipality of South Dundas was just over \$30k. Since 2014's payments is also held in the account, there is just over \$60k total in the fund available. For further information, Ben MacPherson is to be contacted at the following email address: bmacpherson@southdundas.com
 - b) **Road Use Agreement Compensation Fund.** EDP has issued \$2,684,476.86 to Dundas and the United Counties of SD&G as part of the road use agreement compensation fund. Of the nearly \$2.7 million, South Dundas received \$868,500, North Dundas received \$118,590 and the United Counties received \$1,697,386.
 - c) **Bird and bat mortality monitoring update (Kim Wenborn, Stantec).** An update of the first year of bird and bat mortality monitoring program was provided Kim Wenborn (Stantec). The update included mortality results for bird, bat, and raptor and a brief explanation of how the monitoring is conducted.
 - i. A question was asked when the study completed. The response by Stantec was over the course of 26 weeks in 2014 beginning in May until October, and an additional four weeks in November for raptors.
 - ii. A second question/comment was made as to whether mitigation measures had been implemented in response to an exceedance of bat mortality as set by MNRF mortality monitoring guidelines? Both Stantec and EDP responded by explaining that further consultation with MNRF is the current plan of action. A follow up comment by the questioner was that implementation of mitigation measures and reporting is required by MOECC should mortality rates exceed MNRF guidelines. In response to this comment, EDP stated they will follow-up on this issue.
 - iii. A third question was asked in terms of whether the 10 bats/turbine/year is a threshold or guideline? Stantec responded that 10 bats/turbine/year is a guideline set by MNRF.
 - d) **Acoustic monitoring.** The acoustic audit measurements are performed by an Independent Acoustical Consultant at three (3) different Points of Reception that

have been selected using the following criteria (1) the Points of Reception should represent the location of the greatest predicted noise impact, i.e., the highest predicted Sound Level; and (2) the Points of Reception should be located in the direction of prevailing winds from the Facility at a location of likely occupancy. The REA requires that the acoustic audit measurements shall be performed on two (2) separate occasions within a period of twelve (12) months that represent the lowest annual ambient Sound Levels, preferably (1) March and April, and (2) October and November. EDP needs to submit to the District Manager and the Director (MOECC) an Acoustic Audit Report no later than nine (9) months after the commencement of the operation of the Facility for the first of the two (2) acoustic audit measurements at the three (3) Points of Reception; and no later than fifteen (15) months after the commencement of the operation of the Facility for the two (2) acoustic audit measurements at the three (3) Points of Reception.

- i. Spring monitoring for 2015 is underway and results are expected to be available at the end of May 2015.
- ii. A question was raised to know if a previous deposition regarding night time noise had been replied to and the inquiring parties received any answers. The response by Stantec indicated that EDP had addressed the deposition before the last CLC meeting.
- iii. A second question was asked if there is a difference in noise among seasons such as winter and summer. The response by EDP is there is a difference between seasons. EDP also stated that environmental conditions also affect acoustics such as wind direction, wind speed, and cloud cover. EDP stated that such factors will be taken into account in the acoustic monitoring program.

4. **Depositions.** No depositions were brought forward, therefore no depositions were discussed.

5. **Questions and Answers/Other Discussion**

- a) A question was asked if EDP anticipates any construction/ maintenance this summer. EDP responded that turbine 110 has been out of operation for the last 140 days and must have the main bearing replaced. Turbine 104 is still operational but also requires a main bearing replacement. Work is being coordinated with Siemens and EDP is the work is tentatively schedule to begin in June. In addition to 110 and 104, one other turbine is being monitored closely for a main bearing replacement as well. EDP explained that this is a mechanical issue and while it is unfortunately, these things sometimes happen. EDP also explained that with the exception of this issue, the site is running very well and the turbines are performing quite well. At this time, the only other work expected to occur this summer would be the regular maintenance will occur this summer.



6. Wrap-up/Closing

The next CLC meeting is planned for 7PM on May 28, 2015.

All meeting participants were thanked for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.