

Project Meeting Minutes			
Community Liaison Committee Meeting			
Committee Chair:	John Woods	Note Taker:	Mary-Frances Lynch
Location:	Ellershouse Community Hall	Date:	June 24, 2014
Attendance	Representation	Present	Regrets
CLC Members			
Shirley Banfield	Local Resident, Landowner	X	
Dave Blanchard	Local Resident, Landowner, Community Hall	X	
Myles Cornish	Local Resident, Engineer in Training		X
Yvonne Davison	Local Resident, Landowner	X	
Greg McNeil	Local Resident		X
Dougie Ross	Local Resident, Snowmobile Association		X
Steve Sharpe	Local Resident, Landowner, Business Person		X
Peter Wilson	Local Resident	X	
Wanda Blanchard	Local Resident, Landowner	X	
Project Team Members			
Mary-Frances Lynch	Minas Energy	X	
John Woods	Minas Energy	X	
Chris Peters	Minas Energy	X	
Guests			
Alvin Atwell	Local resident	X	
Sandra Dorie	Local resident	X	
1. Adoption of Meeting Agenda			
	Welcome to new members Wanda Blanchard and Pete Wilson. Adopted meeting agenda.		
2. Review of February 25, 2013 Meeting Minutes			
	<p>February 25th CLC meeting minutes, approved. Moved Yvonne, seconded Dave.</p> <p>Action items:</p> <p>Bring forward complaints process for CLC's consideration at next meeting. ADDED TO TODAY's AGENDA.</p> <p>Photomontage from Sharpe property will be undertaken by Minas Energy. Completed.</p> <p>Inquire as to whether AREA is willing to divulge more information about contributions. AREA cannot share project budget information due to commercial sensitivity.</p> <p>Question:</p> <p>If the government wasn't aware of the agriculture land, could that have been a condition of the EA (p.2 of minutes)? <i>The Dept of Agriculture approved the project and does not have any issue with</i></p>		

agriculture and its compatibility with wind farms.

3. Development Agreement Update

The Development Agreement was approved by West Hants Council on May 13th. It is currently in the process of being signed by West Hants, AREA and Atlantic Star Forestry.

Key points of DA:

- Staying within environmental guidelines – ie. sound, shadow flicker, Environmental Protection Plan for construction
- 1000m setback from dwellings that existed as of Feb 13 2014
- 550m from woods camp
- 1x turbine height + 25ft from property line
- Health and safety standards, will work with Fire Chief
- Decommissioning is the proponent's responsibility, decommissioning fund will be in place

Municipal Planning Strategy allows for wind farms. Policies are in place and need to be followed.

Comment:

Impression that community could be involved in the Development Agreement process, though the community felt that their input was not heard.

4. Project Next Steps

What's Next:

- Sign development agreement
- Survey and geotechnical investigations
- Engineering design -> ie. Civil – roads and crane pads, Electrical – connection to grid, Structural –turbine pads
- Meet applicable environmental conditions prior to construction
- Clearing and road work – can't cut a tree within bird season without having a birder
- Foundations
- Interconnection
- Turbine erection

Survey/Geotechnical

- Will survey in the field with GPS to determine road grade and position of roads
- Will need to put boreholes at turbine locations
- Test pits along the road to determine underlying material

Engineering Design

- Hire engineer to design roads and crane pads, Enercon (the turbine manufacturer) will need to approve
- Enercon will design foundations which will be reviewed by Canadian engineer and adjusted for geotechnical investigation
- Electrical design will include substation, collector system, and transmission line

Clearing and Road Construction

- Examples given from South Canoe Wind Farm, pictures of main entrance before and after

Foundation Construction

- Need to excavate pit 3m deep, put mud-slab down, then add rebar to create steel cage, foundation is inspected by engineers
- Kaizer Meadow concrete pour photo-lapse video – 70 to 75 concrete trucks for one foundation, pour started at 6am and ended at 5pm.

Turbine Delivery

- Pictures from Kaizer Meadow project
- Tower comes in pieces, blades in one piece
- Will be delivered from Quebec by road

Turbine Erection

- Phased erection
- Tower pieces stacked on top of one another
- Concrete towers are higher than steel towers
- Post tensioned concrete at Kaizer Meadow

Tentative Schedule

- Engineering Design – Summer 2014
- Clearing/Road Construction – Fall 2014/Winter 2015
- Foundations/Erection – Spring/Summer 2015
- Interconnection – Summer 2015
- Project Completion – Fall 2015

The schedule may change and will keep the CLC posted.

Questions and Comments:

- Interesting that same rules don't apply to forestry as they do to wind farm with regard to cutting trees and bird season.
- Will you use 70-75 trucks per foundation in Ellershouse? *Suspect that 75 would be the max for the Ellershouse project.*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern about wear and tear on roads from truck traffic. <i>Transportation Infrastructure and Renewal will give a permit for the road. If any damage happens to the road, TIR will need to fix roads. Turbine equipment will be delivered via the Hartville Road, not the Ellershouse Road.</i>
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5. Local Skills

	<p>We want to hire as many local people and contractors as possible on the project, but first need to know what skills exist in the community. At South Canoe, we held business meetings and met with local skilled peoples in order to compile a “local business directory”. We would like to do the same thing here and hold a first meeting with businesses/skilled peoples in August.</p> <p>Would ask members of the Ellershouse community and surrounding areas (Brooklyn, Windsor, Falmouth, etc) to come and share their business info with us that night. Once we’ve got a list, we can more easily share this with major contractors on the project.</p> <p>Questions for CLC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>What are your thoughts on a meeting held in Ellershouse? Any important things that we should consider?</i> <i>What types of businesses exist here?</i> <i>What radius do you consider local?</i> <i>What is the best way to reach them?</i> <i>Would a meeting in Ellershouse be appropriate?</i> <p>Meeting to be held in August with local businesses. CLC will be kept informed of meeting planning.</p> <p>Questions and Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No need to put limit on “local”, where necessary move outside of Ellershouse but try and use as much from Ellershouse as possible. Advertise in Hants Journal Put on Ellershouse website Robert Archibald has a crane company Jeff Hart does excavating Gerald Spencer does well digging Forestry and roads skills could be local Security could be local Suggestion to speak with General Store in Ellershouse Brooklyn or Three Mile Plains for diesel Crossing for restaurants
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6. Community Benefits

	<p>Community Benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> AREA Contribution to Ellershouse of \$5000/year over the life of the project.
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- 2. BullFrog Power will provide a small renewable energy project – ie. solar panels on community building.

Timeline for community benefits – BullFrog Power project in 2014, AREA funding to begin in 2015.

Suggestion that a sub-committee of the CLC form and meet over the summer to discuss how best to administer the AREA funding as well as the BullFrog Power project AND report back in September

For example, South Canoe has established a sub-committee and they decided to split project funding into a few areas:

- Non-profit grants (over and under \$1000) – ongoing now
- Scholarships
- Micro-loan

Examples of their early sponsorship criteria from South Canoe as well as application form for grants under \$1000 were handed out.

Process would be that the sub-committee would be the main body that would review and recommend funding and AREA would review and sign off from there.

We would ask that you meet at some point before our next CLC meeting, review the documents and provide us an update at our next meeting. **ACTION ITEM.**

ACTION ITEM - MF to approach BullFrog on solar project for community hall. Myles to spearhead on behalf of the CLC.

ACTION ITEM – MF to share CLC member emails with the committee.

Questions and Comments:

- Is there a possibility to get funding out of Minas Energy/Scotia Investments? *Minas is a small team. All requests would need to be made to parent company Scotia Investments Limited. Would have made suggestion by now if that were a possibility.*
- If the hall gets the solar panels, they should not expect to receive \$5000 funding. Funding should go to scholarships, for the kids in the community.
- Community hall should still receive funding - it is a community hub and should be supported, even if later on.
- Hall, monument, cemetery, church are four main items/spaces that all belong to or are owned by the community.
- Idea to put a playground near church property.
- Church needs upgrades. It has been used to host photography exhibitions.
- \$5000 does not go a long way, especially if you split it up among groups.
- Should dedicate funding to scholarships.
- Need to structure how money would be spent over 20 years since CLC may not still be in place at that point.

7. Complaint Resolution Plan

See diagram for Complaint Resolution process.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Complaint received 2) Mary-Frances Lynch as first point of contact – all complaints logged. 3) Depending on nature of concern, she could address on her own OR share with Construction Manager and/or Project Manager. 4) From there, the team would work to resolve complaint. <p>Complaints may also be submitted to Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) if the community member wishes to do so. NSE may also ask to review the complaints received by the project team.</p> <p>CLC members to share complaints with the group.</p>
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8. Round Table of Future Topics

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit to South Canoe in the fall • Bullfrog solar project and community benefits • Construction schedule • Contractors • Follow up on local businesses and local directory <p>Roundtable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in having the project start, disconcerting to see trees cut down at South Canoe, but they will grow. Have visited wind farms and have no issue with it. • How many RPMs for blades? Max 25 RPMs. • Move forward and see positive things coming out of project. Can't please everyone. Hopefully dissent hasn't divided community. New things are positive. • Replacing oil is a positive. Community benefit is good. Disappointed that more community members are not involved. • Learning experience. • Everyone has opinion but all should work together. • Should be progressing. • Proud to know that less coal being burned as a result of wind farm.
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9. Meeting Close Out

	<p>Next meeting <u>September 23, 2014 at Ellershouse Community Hall.</u> Meeting Adjourned 8:10pm</p>
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Minutes compiled by:	Mary-Frances Lynch
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