



Proposed Wind Energy Project

Newsletter - November 2013

FIELD TRIP TO THE KAIZER MEADOW WIND TURBINE

Interested in experiencing a turbine up-close? We are organizing a field trip to the Kaizer Meadow Wind Turbine on Saturday November 30th (rain date December 7) leaving the Ellershouse Community Hall at 1pm and returning by 4pm. This is a great opportunity to answer any questions you have about turbines.



Kaizer Meadow is a 2MW turbine next to the Kaizer Meadow Landfill on Hwy 14 in the Municipality of Chester. If interested, please contact Mary Frances at maryfrances.lynych@minasenergy.com or (902) 306-1449 by November 27 to reserve your spot. Transportation will be provided to and from the site.

COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Following the open-house, a Community Liaison Committee has been established for the project. Committee members are responsible for representing local interests and act as a link between the development team and the community.

CLC members include: Shirley Banfield, Dave Blanchard, Weiner Brown, Myles Cornish, Yvonne Davison, Greg McNeil, Dougie Ross and Steve Sharpe.

For more information on the Community Liaison Committee and the project, visit our website at:

<http://www.areans.ca/project.html>

What is being proposed?

Nova Scotia municipal electric utilities are proposing to develop a small wind energy project in West Hants near Ellershouse. The utilities have created the Alternative Resource Energy Authority who will own the project and have commissioned Minas Basin Pulp and Power to develop the project.

Pending approvals from Nova Scotia Environment and the Municipality of West Hants, the project could have 7 wind turbine generators. Construction would start mid-2014 and electricity could be produced by late 2015.

Project Update - Meeting Your Community...

Over the past few weeks, we have been meeting with the community to discuss the project.

Open House

An open house was held on October 1 and was attended by 75 people. Residents chatted with project team members about the proposed wind project and learned about the Environmental Assessment process and studies, health studies, visual assessments, the Community Liaison Committee, project benefits, etc.



Meeting with Recreationists

A meeting was held on October 17 to discuss current recreational use by snowmobilers, ATVers, hunters and cottagers and continued access to the site. The development team is currently engaging with the project insurer to determine a solution that would ensure continued use of the site by the various groups.

Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meetings

The CLC met in October and November and discussed the following topics:

- CLC guidelines
- Environmental Assessment studies
- Health and Safety concerns - sound, infrasound and shadow flicker
- Direct benefits to Ellershouse

The CLC will be meeting on a frequent basis and all are welcome to attend. Please visit the website (www.areans.ca) to learn about upcoming meetings.

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are common questions we have heard from you over the past few weeks:



1. What is the project schedule?

We are currently completing Environmental Assessment (EA) studies for the site and plan to submit the report to Nova Scotia Environment mid-December. Once the EA has been approved, a Development Agreement process with the Municipality of West Hants would be launched (likely February 2014). Pending Environmental Assessment and Development Agreement approval, construction would start mid-2014 and electricity would be produced for the municipalities by late 2015.

2. What is the Environmental Assessment process?

The purpose of the Environmental Assessment (EA) is to identify environmental effects at an early stage in project development and help the project minimize the effects on the environment. The EA is evaluated by Nova Scotia Environment and other government departments and is open to public comment. The Nova Scotia Minister will only approve the EA once these conditions are satisfied.

The process includes the following steps:

We will post information on our website and send information to our Community Liaison Committee and email list when the EA has been submitted to Nova Scotia Environment.



3. What route will be used to deliver turbine equipment to the project site and will roads need to be modified?

We will complete a transportation plan for the project in cooperation with the Dept. of Transportation Infrastructure and Renewal to ensure it meets their standards. A preliminary study indicates that turbines will likely be delivered using the Hartville and Quarry Roads. At certain locations, turning radii will need to be widened and some roads on the project site will need to be modified. We will work with the community and the turbine manufacturer to ensure that all considerations are taken into account when planning the final route.

4. What type of access will be granted to snowmobilers, ATVers, hunters who currently use the project site?

We have met with a small group of snowmobilers, ATVers, hunters and cottagers and understand that the site is frequently used by recreationists. To facilitate continued site access, we are meeting with the project insurers to discuss conditions under which main access roads will remain accessible and only side roads to the turbines themselves would be gated.

5. What are the expected sound levels from the turbines? Could it be harmful to my health?

Nova Scotia Environment's standard sound level is 40dBA outside a home and is meant to be protective of human health. The sound study results for this project show that most residences fall below 35 dBA. To put it into perspective, 40dBA is equivalent to the sound of a quiet library outside your home.

6. Are there plans to increase the number of turbines or expand the project at a later date?

There are currently no future plans to expand the project.

To read more Frequently Asked Questions, please visit our website at www.areans.ca/projectfaqs.html

PLEASE CONTACT US WITH YOUR QUESTIONS AT:

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Minas Basin Pulp and Power

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