



AECOM
 215 – 55 Wyndham Street North
 Guelph, ON, Canada N1H 7T8
 Tel: 519 763 7783 Fax: 519 763 1668



Minutes – Bluewater Community Liaison Committee

Attn.: CLC members, NextEra Staff, Consultants

Subject: Bluewater Wind Energy Centre, Community Liaison Committee (CLC): Meeting No.2

May 21, 2014 6:30pm – 8:30pm
 Stanley Community Centre
 38594 Mill Road, Varna ON N0M 2R0

Present:

CLC Members

- Paul Steckle, Dean Jacobs, Les Falconer

NextEra

- Nicole Geneau, Director, Development; Chris Mogler, Construction; Bourke Thomas, Construction and Environmental Liaison; Nancy O’Neill, Environmental Services; Jeffrey MacFarlane, Operations Manager; URS Archaeologist

Borea Construction

- Naomi Farough

URS

- Glenn Kearsley, Project Archaeologist

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- Avril Fisken (Committee Chair), Adam Wright (Committee Organizer)

Absent:

CLC Members

- Judy Keightly (*attended site tour, unable to attend CLC meeting*)

Minutes:

1. Welcome and Introductions	Action
<p>Avril Fisken (CLC Chair) welcomed the CLC, and reviewed her role in facilitating a robust and respectful dialogue.</p> <p>CLC Chair then welcomed the public and reinforced that anyone is able to provide a deposition to the Committee; people wishing to do so should submit an application to Avril one week in advance of the next meeting. It is the Committee’s role to review</p>	



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<p>and approve any deposition. The agenda and presentation deck were distributed for the public’s review.</p> <p>Committee members then introduced themselves and provided some background information about themselves:</p> <p>Dean Jacobs - From Walpole Island First Nation, I work for a First Nation government and I am the consultation manager. Our First Nation is a co-partner in a Northland Grand Bend power wind energy project and partnered with Aamjiwnaang First Nation.</p> <p>Paul Steckle - Interested resident of Bluewater.</p> <p>Les Falconer - Councillor for the Municipality of Huron East.</p> <p>Avril outlined the slide deck and that the parking lot issues remaining from last meeting would be discussed; others were dealt with in the Meeting Summary. As well, Avril outlined that if at the end of this meeting there are remaining concerns these will be added to the Parking Lot and communicated in the Meeting Summary¹ or at the next meeting.</p> <p>Avril outlined the agenda of the meeting (Slide 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions 2. Recap of CLC Meeting # 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Purpose of the CLC – Overview of the Project – Public Attendance and Depositions – Requests for Additional Information – Minutes (Parking Lot Items) 3. Activities and Questions/Comments Raised Since the First CLC Meeting 4. Update on Construction and Installation 5. Anticipated Timing of Commissioning and Operations 6. Depositions(if any requests received) 7. Tentative Items for Discussion at Future CLC Meetings 8. Plus/Delta 	
<p>2. Recap of CLC Meeting # 1</p> <p>Avril provided a brief recap of the first CLC meeting (slide 4).</p> <p>Purpose of the CLC:</p>	

¹ The Meeting Summary is not intended to be verbatim, rather it is provided to Committee members to ensure that key discussions have been accurately captured and that context is provided for readers who were not present at the meeting.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A forum for two-way communication between NextEra Energy Canada and the public • An opportunity to provide additional information and updates, and to respond to questions or concerns related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Construction and installation – Use and operation – Maintenance – Retirement of the Facility <p>Project Overview:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class 4 Wind Facility, in the Municipality of Bluewater and a transmission line that extends into Huron East in Huron County. • 37 turbines, with 80 metre towers and 50.5 metre blades • A generating capacity of 60 MWs • Status of studies and approvals • Outline of construction process <p>Is it well known how to make a deposition? Avril outlined the notification process / outreach efforts to the community (Notifications in local newspapers - Clinton News Record, Exeter Times Advocate, Goderich Signal-Star, Huron Expositor, Lakeshore Advance and Turtle Island News-). If you are having conversations with community members and you know they have a question, please relay this to Avril.</p> <p>Avril outlined Meeting Summary process and timeline for expectations (first draft is sent within 2 weeks of the meeting; 2 weeks for review).</p> <p>Comment (Les F.): It should be on the internet within two weeks, what's the delay? We want to ensure that everyone has the time to review. Minutes will take some time to pull together.</p> <p>I would prefer to have these out to the committee by Monday and then back to AECOM for Friday and then posted on the website. Avril explained that we cannot meet a Monday deadline, but 2 weeks is a more reasonable timeline. Committee agrees that if AECOM can get the minutes to the committee for review and then posted online within 3 weeks of the meeting that would be acceptable.</p> <p>Avril noted the parking lots items, and introduced NextEra to speak to these.</p>	<p>Meeting Summary to be circulated to CLC members by June 3, 2014 for review and comment.</p>
<p>3. Activities and Questions/Comments Raised Since the First CLC Meeting</p> <p>Map of projects in the area. NextEra outlined details of the map and reviewed project areas of interest - in particular where the Northland power project and the Goshen project is in relation to the Bluewater project (map is attached along with the Meeting</p>	



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<p>Summary).</p> <p>NextEra outlined the Bobolink Habitat Compensation Plan. - Typical bobolink habitat removed within a wind project area is hayfield and sometimes clover. For this project, there have been 2.2 hectares of habitat removed within the project area. Per Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) requirements, NextEra has created 4 hectares of suitable habitat in compensation, which is a gain of 1.8 hectares of suitable habitat for bobolinks. This area will be maintained in a state that protects the habitat during breeding season for the life of the Project; unlike a typical farmer’s hayfield, where they are able to remove hay at any time, without restriction.</p> <p>What are the numbers again? NextEra reviewed the net gain of 1.8 hectares of habitat.</p> <p>How far apart are these areas? The habitat that is removed is not all in one region, this is across the whole area. However, the 4 hectares of protected habitat is contiguous.</p> <p>How did they come to this amount of compensated land? The MNR has thresholds that must be followed.</p> <p>Who monitors the success of the habitat? It will be monitored by biologists for 3 years after the construction process is complete.</p> <p>Ongoing agenda item to provide updates on success of Bobolink habitat plan</p> <p>This entire habitat is on one property? Yes, that is correct; this is all on one property.</p> <p>Is there a reason this property was selected? There were six (6) areas in total that were initially considered, we worked to negotiate with the land owners who were willing to host such a habitat area and settled with one.</p> <p>So the hope is that the Bobolink will just go to the area? If a habitat is created, Bobolinks will typically go to this region naturally. This area is more protected than typical situations where farmers can impact the area.</p> <p>Are there past projects with similar habitat plans? Yes, the Summerhaven project.</p> <p>How long has the Summerhaven habitat plan been going on and is there any data on that? NextEra reviewed Labour rates (slide 7).</p>	<p>To be provided as it becomes available.</p> <p>Update will be provided for Meeting No.3.</p>
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<p>4. Update on Construction and Installation</p> <p>NextEra and Borea provided an update on Construction and Installation (Slide 11)</p> <p>The Construction laydown area will be reclaimed and returned to farm fields. Depending on what the landowner wants, we can work with them. If they want grassland we can seed this or leave it for them to farm in the future.</p> <p>Borea continued to provide an update on Construction and Installation (Slide 12).</p> <p>Did the winter slow you down at all with all the freezing of top soil? We used a method of milling. We can adjust the machine to ensure only topsoil is removed to keep from mixing it with the clay. This process is more beneficial to the reclamation process. When it did re-freeze we removed additional top soil with the milling method and will ensure it is replaced in an appropriate manner.</p> <p>Did this take longer than expected? This process was a challenge and took longer than expected at the beginning. Once you get the method down it becomes quicker, so it is tough to speculate on the impact to the overall schedule.</p> <p>Regarding 200 staff members, was this the plan or did you have to hire because you were behind? This was the amount planned but not all at the same time; because of the long winter, we have more workers on site than usual (typically 150 for this size project at this stage). We also wanted to ensure that experienced workers were there to train and provide mentorship to the new workers.</p> <p>Borea continued to provide an update on Construction and Installation (Slide 13).</p> <p>Is this the largest a turbine can be on a foundation sized 20m x 20m x 3.5m? This is the biggest the turbine can be. The foundation is specifically designed for this size of turbine and its specific location.</p> <p>How much of the foundation is removed? How many tons is that? I am not sure of the tonnage, but at decommissioning the foundation is removed to a depth of 1m.</p> <p>Is the intent for the land to be returned to agricultural production? Yes that is correct. One (1) metre removal allows the land to be returned to its prior use.</p> <p>It is my understanding that concrete has a lot of toxins? Concrete is a prevalent building material in our built environment and has been used for thousands of years in thousands of applications. It is considered inert.</p>	
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<p>Borea continued to provide an update on Construction and Installation (Slide 14/15).</p> <p>Is there a reason they chose not to connect to the 230kV line? There are no nearby 230kV lines. <i>Clarification: The question referred to the nearby 500kV line.</i> Connections from a generation project the size of this one (60 MW) directly to a 500kV line, which is considered the backbone of the Provincial electricity grid, are not feasible for a variety of technical reasons.</p> <p>Borea continued to provide an update on Construction and Installation (Slide 17).</p> <p>By mid-June the project is expected to be running. We have not started commissioning yet, but we have started pre-commissioning.</p> <p>Point of clarification: what is commissioning / pre-commissioning?</p> <p>Pre-commissioning - Borea team will go up and down the tower and do all the checks to the point where they can start the turbine up. This is a functional testing process.</p> <p>Commissioning - This is where the turbine is started up and we do any adjustments and add any programs that are needed. This is done in conjunction with the turbine manufacturer, GE.</p> <p>When is pre-commissioning slated to occur? That will take place in the next few weeks or so. The turbines will turn on for a couple hours and then turn off. Then we will go to another turbine.</p> <p>Borea continued to provide an update on Construction and Installation (Slide 18).</p> <p>Reclamation has been difficult with all the mud. As soon as we can, we will start reclaiming and restoring the work areas back to plantable fields. We will be restoring the turning radius areas back to their previous state, and will start to clear away all the construction machines. We will ensure that the landowners are satisfied with the level of restoration.</p> <p>Within the next two weeks, the community roads will start to be restored back to their original state. As soon as we can start cleaning up the Right of Way we will. We will not start paving until everything is cleaned up. There is no sense in re-paving until we are finished. Re-paving will most likely occur mid-August.</p>	
<p>5. Anticipated Timing of Commissioning and Operations</p> <p>NextEra reviews Operations (slide 19)</p> <p>Where is the operations centre located? It is in Zurich at 27 Main Street.</p>	



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Outlined the maintenance / preventative maintenance procedures as well as spill prevention and best practices that will be implemented during scheduled maintenance. If something fails we take the turbine out of operation until the repair is complete.

There is a comprehensive control system in place which is networked to the operations building and a central control centre, which is staffed 24/7.

Have these been shut down in the past due to a concern?

The question is very broad. Unless there is an obvious problem at hand, the only individuals who can order a shutdown are the MOE / MNR, the same people who grant the permit for operations.

Do you have a list to ensure that the complaint is registered?

The REA requires that complaints be logged with the MOE. There is no public tracking document.

What are the standard procedures in case of a fire?

There is protocol specifically detailing the required activities. This process starts with prevention, so we meet and work with the local emergency response teams to ensure there is adequate training and we have local action plans that outline all of the required steps. NextEra will provide emergency response plan for Meeting # 3.

Are you involved in the transmission lines repairs or accidents that happen to these lines?

We would not expect anyone reporting a problem with a transmission line to know whether the line is NextEra's or HONI's, therefore, we have an emergency response agreement with them. They would be the first responders in case of a report of a problem and would make the line/area safe. Performance of the required repair would be NextEra's responsibility. They would notify us as soon as a report was received.

If Hydro One responds, can they touch the line?

Yes, they can make it safe and then NextEra is responsible to repair the line.

Can the line be shutdown via phone or remotely?

Yes, they can be turned off remotely.

How many CLC meetings are being held?

There are four. Avril outlined the CLC meetings process. We are holding the meetings to align with project activities to ensure the meetings are productive.

How many members are local and not NextEra members?

Avril outlined the committee selection process for the members of the public, and indicated that no members were denied to join the committee.

NextEra will provide emergency response plan for Meeting # 3.



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Committee members identify themselves and affirmed that they are from the area.

Has a shutdown of specific turbines which intersect bird migrations routes ever been considered?

For this project, no. At this point in time, our avian and bat studies within the Natural Heritage Assessment do not anticipate an impact on avian and bat migration. Our three years of post-construction monitoring data will be reported to the MNR for their review. There are thresholds set out in the REA. If any of these were passed, NextEra and MNR would discuss appropriate resolution including the option of turbines needing to curtail during migration.

Would the committee be part of the conversation?

No they would not as this is an agency discussion. With that being said, a summary of our results can be communicated to the committee members even after the committee is no longer operational.

NextEra provided an update on the Tree Planting Program (slide 20).

It is standard within the turbine siting process to minimize any required tree or vegetation removal. NextEra typically commits that for any unavoidable tree removal, trees will be replaced at a 2:1 ratio. The Bluewater project has a higher standard for this project (specifically in Huron East for the transmission line.)

The transmission line is linear and therefore there is limited flexibility to avoid trees once the route is determined. The larger the tree the higher the replacement ratio for this project. Development of the tree re-planting plan is just underway. If the landowner does not want the replacement trees or does not have a place for them, we work with the conservation authorities and the municipalities to find an area that is suitable for replanting.

For this project we have removed approximately 600 trees and as a result we will be planting over 2000 trees.

Comment (Les F.): It would be appreciated if there was better communication for the re-planting process than when the trees were cut down, as the municipality was being contacted directly by local landowners about the trees which were being removed.

Please if you have any suggestions how to improve our approach we are listening. We knocked on doors, sent letters to community members and we attempted to provide adequate notice to the affected landowners.

Comment (Paul S.): I find that fall planting is better than any other time to maximize the amount of trees that are successful. Can we plant as many as we can in the fall? This would be the best time for planting. We want to make sure a tree planted is a tree that grows.

We have a commitment to monitor the tree planting. At this point I am unsure on the



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<p>timeline for tree planting, but if a tree doesn't survive then we need to replace it. Fall certainly seems feasible to begin the replanting program. We will continue to work with the municipalities, the ABCA and the affected landowners.</p> <p>If you have any questions or suggestions for better approaches to communications please contact Derek Dudek (bluewater.wind@nexteraenergy.com) about this.</p> <p>Avril inquires if there are any other questions.</p> <p>What kinds of aviation lights are used? Are these synchronized with the other wind farms? They are synchronized within the project. I am not sure about Adelaide / Jericho projects as they are further in distance. NextEra follows Transport Canada standards.</p> <p>Comment (member of the public): Audio assistance for the next meeting, it was tough to hear all the discussion.</p> <p>The temporary lights will last for how long? They will last until operations are permanent and on-going.</p>	<p>Audio assistance to be provided.</p>
<p>6. Depositions, if any requests received</p> <p>No depositions were received.</p>	
<p>7. Meeting Wrap Up</p> <p>Regarding a date for the next meeting, we are thinking mid-November and will send out an email to ensure that as many members can attend as possible.</p>	
<p>8. Tentative Items for Discussion at Future CLC Meetings</p> <p>Avril reviewed potential topics for the next meeting. (Slide 21), and asked the committee if they have any suggestions for the next meeting to please get in touch with Avril or Adam.</p> <p>Avril reviewed the parking lot topics to ensure all issues are considered and noted that any committee member can email or call if anything comes to mind.</p> <p>Comment (Paul S.): Circumstances of the day will most likely give us the most to discuss. We can talk from the experience gathered at that point.</p> <p>Avril noted that AECOM / NextEra can reach out to the Committee about a month before the meeting to request if there are any questions or topics for discussion.</p> <p><i>Meeting Adjourned</i></p>	



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PARKING LOT

Parking Lot Concern	Response to Concern
Update on success of Bobolink habitat plan	To be provided as it becomes available.
Update on Summerhaven project regarding Bobolink	Update will be provided for Meeting No.3.
Provide indirect economic benefits development study to the committee for the next meeting	To be provided once it becomes available.
If I call NextEra, what is the process for timelines and what happens if there are no amicable results?	Information will be provided for Meeting No.3.
NextEra to provide protocol regarding fire and emergency procedures for Meeting Summary.	NextEra will provide emergency response plan for Meeting # 3.
On site tour CLC member enquired about the potential for NextEra to fund community projects.	NextEra to discuss potential with CLC member.