

## **White Pines Project - Community Liaison Committee (CLC)**

### Meeting Minutes

---

**Date:** May 15, 2018  
**Location:** Wellington District Community Centre, Rotary Room  
**Attendees:** Leah (Stantec): Meeting Facilitator  
CLC members (Public): Mark Stones, Michael Platt  
CLC Members (wpd) – Jon Clifford, Paul Deol, Diego Cufino, K. Todoroff

**Regrets:**

**Reference:** White Pines Wind Project Development

**Agenda:**

- WELCOME AND PROJECT OVERVIEW
- PURPOSE OF THE CLC AND INTRODUCTIONS
- PROJECT TIMELINE
- PROJECT UPDATE: DEVELOPMENT STATUS
- NATURAL HERITAGE CONCERNS
- CLC MEMBER DISCUSSION
- COMMENTS, CONCERNS, QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS
- ADJOURNMENT

### **Introduction and Welcome:**

Jon Clifford: Introduced wpd staff and CLC members

### **Presentation**

Jon Clifford: CLC Overview, Project Update (See presentation attached).

- Presentation started with a description and purpose of the CLC. wpd emphasised that membership was still open to interested individuals.
- While there is a formal agenda for the meeting, there will be plenty of time for attendees to ask questions.
- Provided a quick history of the Project from the period prior to it being awarded a FIT contract to the start of construction in 2017.
- The focus turned to recent construction activities, including foundation installation and electrical infrastructure installation.
- Described future construction activities (turbine erection) electrical installation etc.
- Construction and environmental mitigation measures were also discussed including: Turtle monitoring, turtle training, dust suppression, noise management, vibration monitoring and erosion and sediment control.

## **Questions and Answers:**

The following are a list of questions posed by members of the community and answered by the committee. While time was officially set aside at the end of the presentation for questions, in reality, questions were asked and answered throughout the presentation.

**Q:** Are the (non wpd) members of the CLC committee part of wpd or have any involvement with the project?

**A:** Mark and Mike both explained to the audience that they responded to the notice published in the paper and expressed their interest in the project and were supporting of the initiative. They were not otherwise employed by wpd or involved in development of the project.

**Q:** Is the map from the presentations available on the website?

**A:** Jon - We can make it available. There are also several maps on the website already

**Q:** Can we ask questions about the layout of the interconnect line?

**A:** Jon - Yes, that subject will be brought up later on the presentation

**Q:** Residents expressed concerns about the location of the interconnect line on Mowbray and why it switched from one side of the road to the other. Residents also expressed health concerns about proximity of line to humans and livestock

**A:** Paul - Number of factors that come into play, environmental features, location of existing electrical infrastructure, ditches, size of the shoulder, legal location of the right-of-way. All the installations are done as per the specifications on the electrical safety code. Lines will be buried 1m into the ground.

**Q:** Survey stakes are in some cases are located well onto private property whereas other are not?

**A:** Paul - We can't speak on the reason why surveyors put the stakes on specific locations. Stakes might have been installed at a different locations with offset markers because of terrain. You can tell if something is offset by markings on the stake. Surveyors have a legal right to be on private property

**Q:** Questions were asked again on the transmission line section on Miller and Mowbray. Why were they on one side of the road where there are multiple houses? Commenter noted the line changed sides several times and inquired whether it would be cheaper to keep it on one side of the road.

**A:** Reiterated that there are several reasons for the design choices. Agreed that it was cheaper to run the line in a straight line. In all likelihood there were logistical reasons for changing sides of the road. wpd would have to look into the specific locations to determine reasons.

**Q:** Are you allowed to install cable on private property without permission?.

**A:** No we can't, project is sited within the public right-of-way

**Q:** Are you going to rebuild the areas as they were before construction including trees in private property.

**A:** Yes, we are required to restore the construction areas and replant trees as per agreement with municipality . If the trees are on private property we are not touching them.

**Q:** Do you have a notice to proceed from IESO and are you allowed to construct without it?

**A:** We are fully permitted to proceed with the construction activities we have conducted to date. We are not sure about the IESO permits but believe it is not needed for construction, we will follow up after the meeting with an answer.

**Follow up Answer:** Response provided by email after the meeting: A Notice to Proceed is required to commence operations and achieve a license to generate with IESO, it is not required for construction. IESO has provided a direct response to this back in the summer of 2017 in response to questions from the County and residents.

**Q:** As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, you were only allowed to work in one area because of the Blanding's turtle?.

**A:** That was reported incorrectly, we were allowed to work in multiple areas under certain conditions. Turbine 9 is the only location where road/foundation construction was subject to a blackout after April 30<sup>th</sup> subject to some conditions and exceptions such as turbine erection.

**Q:** Are all the bases (foundations) finished and is tower erection not part of construction?

**A:** Yes we finished the last pour today. Turbine 9 foundation was complete well before May 1<sup>st</sup>. We are allowed construction activities at other turbines. We have permission from MOECC to proceed with these activities including installation at Turbine 9.

**Q:** We own a bed and breakfast, I've been sending emails about when they will be installing the cables in front of our property?.

**A:** Ken - We received your emails and we had a discussion earlier today. We will keep you posted.

**Q:** Regarding T9, what was the issue about the Blanding's turtle that restricted the works during the summer months?

**A:** We (staff present) were not part of that discussions with the Ministry per say. It is our understanding that the area has been identified as being within turtle habitat, but other areas are not in the same area.

**Q:** What roads were used by the concrete trucks to pour the last foundation?

**A:** Ken - 4 roads, Old Milford, CR-17, CR-10 and Royal Rd.

**Q:** Do you have the permits?

**A:** Ken - Yes we do

**Q:** Are there any road upgrades or construction activities that need to be done in preparation for the delivery of the components?

**A:** Ken - Intersection of Lighthall and Royal, Telecom and CR-5

**Q:** Will you provide construction updates on intersection upgrades.

**A:** We will provide updates

**Q:** Updates on the website are great but what about people with no computer or Internet access?

**A:** We will talk discuss with staff and see if we can post something in the local paper or send updates by mail.

**Q:** When are you going to start the installation of the interconnection line?

**A:** It's hard to predict but it should go between June and August.

Concerns about access to driveways were then expressed by several attendees,

wpd- we will notify them when we are going to be there. wpd made commitments to call some residents specifically when we would be near their homes. Explained that much of the design was done in 2011 and new houses have been built after that.

**Q:** How are you going through the rock?.

**A:** Ken - Hoe ramming or rock trencher

**Q:** What's PPV?.

**A:** Peak particle velocity. wpd provided an explanation on what the monitoring consist on and also the process pre, during and post construction

**Q:** What about the PPV on new houses?

**A:** We haven't got close to the threshold value on the heritage buildings. It is not required on new properties or properties not identified as having heritage values.

**Q:** How long will my driveway will be closed during construction?

**A:** Not more than a couple hours usually.

**Q:** Do trees also fall under some sort of mitigation or turtles only? Concerns about why we have to remove trees by the intersection of Royal Rd and Maypul Layne.

**A:** Ken - There are several reason for the location of the line, the construction machine has to fit in, the County pushed us back as close as possible to the property line. wpd indicated that we may be able to avoid removing the last tree

**Q:** What about the stumps that have been left?

**A:** they will be removed as we trench

**Q:** Has the cable installation taking into account any expansions of the road?

**A:** That's why the county pushed us back to the property line

**Q:** What about condition of the road, it's been pretty beat up?

**A:** We are maintaining some spots however, later this year Bond Rd and Royal Rd are being rebuilt by the County

**Q:** When will the mitigation measures mentioned in the NRSI documents presented at remedy hearing be incorporated?

**A:** Jon - Postconstruction, the measures are applicable for the operational phase of the project.

Resident: Why weren't they implemented now given that roads are built

Jon: There are construction mitigation measures that are currently in place as the project is in construction. The mitigation you are referring to is for operations and will be implemented once the project is operational.

Resident: Indicated that this will be brought up to the MOECC

**Q:** Started out with 29, then 27, now 9? How is wpd making any money?

**A:** We're not here to discuss that. We're not here to talk about business decisions

Attendee: Why can't we share the reasons why we are building this project? Commented about wpd not responding to emails, phone calls, etc. Resident alluded to an agenda beyond financial reasons for building the project.

wpd: reiterated that business and financial decisions were beyond the scope of the meeting.

Mark (CLC): We as the county have a great opportunity to show initiative on renewables for multiple reasons: Extreme weather, (noted there had been flooding or draught the last three years, investment the project brings noting the loss of young people and opportunities in the County. Felt that project's such as White Pines were necessary.

**Q:** Comment about the website not being updated. How often is going to be updated?

**A:** We'll follow up on that, it was supposed to get updated. Plan is to update it every Monday

**Q:** What's your concern about political elections impacting the wind farms.

**A:** We can't comment on hypotheticals

**Q:** Is there an email where we can communicate any questions?.

**A:** [whitepinesprojects@wpd-canada.ca](mailto:whitepinesprojects@wpd-canada.ca)

**Q:** Resident had questions about water problems around T6.

**A:** We had problems due to heavy winter rains but we are not digging there anymore. Foundations have been backfilled.

Resident: Provided additional comments about potential contamination in water for wells in areas where we are drilling.

wpd: Noted the foundations don't go much deeper than 6-7 feet, around the same depths as many basements. Contamination is unlikely.

**Q:** Inquiry about sinkhole near Royal Road and possible Impacts.

**A:** Ken - It was not a sinkhole, it's was a crack (fissure). Landowner in the area confirmed that it has been there for decades

**Q:** What happens when you block culverts?.

**A:** We are not going to block culverts. There might be

**Q:** Is there any horizontal directional drilling?.

**A:** Yes

**Q:** Are there any overhead lines?.

**A:** No, there are not

**Q:** Comment about the component deliveries. It would be ideal to let people know about the logistics and how the traffic will be affected

**A:** Each turbine will have 9 trucks. They won't be there first thing in the morning. It will be around mid morning and loads will be spaced out several hours apart.

**Q:** What is the delivery schedule for components.

**A:** Some components may arrive as early as June 18<sup>th</sup>, most components starting around June 25<sup>th</sup>. It will be about 2 ½ weeks (3 business weeks) for all the deliveries.

**Q:** Do you have a crane on each site?

**A:** No, two cranes will move from site to site. Explanation on the type of cranes that will be on site

**Q:** Concern about wineries, disruption to their business. Is wpd going to let people know of these deliveries?

**A:** Not sure how the wineries out of the project area would specifically be impacted. Noted that while the trucks are large, they are not stopping or staging on public roads. Loads will be spaced out so they will not be all arriving at the same time. Wineries in the project area will be notified the same way other residents close to the project will be notified.

**Q:** Comment about disconnect between wpd as a company and the community/media. People are not informed of what's going on and that brings up more issues and concerns. There has to be a communication person, if wpd is going to improve communications. A comment was added about the website not being current. e.g. video referencing the 29 turbines

**Q:** Comment from resident suggesting that wpd create a twitter account to provide live updates on project news.

**A:** There were several suggestions made on how to improve communications and wpd would take each into consideration. wpd had already committed to updating the website and contacting some residents directly once construction activities reach their area. We'll look at all the suggestions and make improvements where possible.

#### **Summary of Key Comments and Questions:**

- Desire to have access to more information (website updates, additional mailouts, posting on community boards, phone calls, twitter)
- Desire to get additional information on why the interconnection line designs were chosen the way they were (Mowbray and Miller specifically were specifically mentioned)
- CLC community members offered to assist with communications.
- Concern about people not getting responses when emailing their concerns.

#### **Next Meeting:**

Jon: Suggested that a date within the first couple weeks of September after the Labour Day long weekend would be ideal. There was general agreement from CLC members and other attendees.

Jon: wpd would look at booking the next meeting at the Milford Townhall as per requests from the community.

MEETING ADJOURNED