



**Meeting to discuss the formation of a Community Liaison Committee for
Higgins Mountain II Wind Farm Project**

MEETING NOTES

March 13th, 2019 - 6.00pm - 8.30pm
Wentworth Learning Centre, Wentworth

In attendance:

Interim CLC Chair: Helen Browne (Verterra)

Attendees and Potential CLC Members: Gregor Wilson, Garfield Moffatt, Bob MacClean, Diane Powell, Karen Henderson, Mike Eddy, Councillor Barbara Palmer, Dave Johnson and Adrian Dobson

Higgins Partnership: Graham Findlay (3G Energy), Paul Pynn (Katalyst Energy)

Action items:

- **Helen:** Find out whether Cumberland and Colchester Counties have a policy set around wind turbines not operating and decommissioning fund.
 - **All:** Work to identify and recruit a CLC member to represent Sutherlands Lake
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1. Review of Agenda

- Agenda was reviewed, no comments or requests for change

2. Introductions

- The group introduced themselves stating their name, place of residence and, in the case of the proponent and consultant, their professional experience

3. Objective of Meeting

- Helen Browne emphasised that this meeting was not a CLC meeting but a meeting with interested parties to discuss the formation of the CLC.
- The Proponents would provide a presentation on the history and current status of the project and
- Meeting participants would review the CLC membership in terms of a representation of the community as a whole, as well as, the draft Terms of Reference.

4. Presentation of project history and current status

- Paul Pynn (PP) and Graham Findlay (GF) from Higgins Mountain Wind Partnership presented to the group on project history, the proponents experience and project status

5. Presentation of project history and current status – questions and answers

Many questions were asked throughout the presentation, there was also the opportunity to ask questions in a separate agenda item. All questions and ensuing discussion topics are summarised below:

- **Price of power sold and developer profit** - In the presentation, PP/GF discussed how the price that they are likely to sell the power for has significantly reduced in the last 10 years. A question asking what profit the developers make from the project was asked. PP/GF stated that profit is usually expressed as 'return on investment' and varies from project to project. As the Higgins Mountain project is in early phases of development it is not possible to say what this would be at this stage.
- **Lifetime of wind turbines** – A question asking how long a turbine should last for was asked. PP/GF stated that the wind turbines are designed for 30 years and that the power purchase contract is usually for 20 years in Nova Scotia.
- **Next Procurement Opportunity** – In the past the project has been selected as part of a portfolio of power projects to send power to New England. A question was asked whether the power would be used locally or exported. PP/GF stated that at this point they do not know.
- **Turbine locations** – A question was asked whether it is possible to see a map of turbine locations. PP/GF said that there was not a layout available at this time but they did share a map showing the land available for wind turbines.
- **Landowners** – the group pointed out that the project would have a greater

benefit to the local community if more landowners were involved. PP/GF said that they would be happy to consider additional landowners in the project. A question was asked whether the current landowner, Northern Pulp should be a CLC member. They will not be a member but could be invited as a guest in future meetings.

- **Community Benefit** – A question was asked whether there will be the opportunity for community members to invest in the project. PP/GF agreed that this would be considered. They also stated that there is usually a community benefit fund established as part of the project.
- **Clear Cut** – A question was asked regarding the recent clear cut on the land and whether the land was cleared in preparation for the wind farm. PP/GF confirmed that the clear cut was in no way associated with the project. They went on to say that should the project proceed and be given approval, then an area of approximately 1 acre would be cleared for each wind turbine.
- An extensive list of questions, specifically about the project but not about the CLC, was prepared and presented by Bob MacClean (attached). This material was deemed to be the subject of a future meeting of the CLC

6. Formation of CLC and review of Terms of Reference

- There was a discussion on the CLC membership and whether all communities surrounding the proposed project were represented.
- It was decided that Sutherlands Lake was not represented and so the group committed to find a suitable member.
- The group reviewed and commented on the Terms of Reference. A marked-up version including changes and comments is attached.
- The group agreed that the overall membership, including the Proponent, should not be more than 12 in number.

7. Suggestions for future meetings – guest speakers, additional members

- It was decided that this agenda item should be moved to the first formal CLC meeting.

8. Next meeting

- It was decided that the next meeting be held in late April/early May. Suggested dates are April 23rd, 2019 or May 6th, 2019.
- The CLC should be formed at the next meeting and the Terms of Reference be formally adopted.

- Additional potential member representing Sutherlands Lake should be in attendance.
- It was agreed that 6.00pm to 8.30pm was an appropriate time. However, the group would hope that the next meeting be shorter in length

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8.30pm