



**Community Liaison Committee for
Higgins Mountain II Wind Farm Project**

AGENDA

Date: Thursday, August 26th, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM ADT

Location: Video Conference Call (details below)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/96939263593?pwd=VzFuTzlrZ2c5eTFsV1RkcGxrMFZ2dz09>

Meeting ID: 969 3926 3593

Password: 545652

Attendees – by invite only

CLC Chair: Garfield Moffatt

CLC Members: Mary Beth Bowie, Adrian Dobson, Mike Eddy, Rene LeClerc, Councillor Kathy Redmond, Councillor Tom Taggart (late), Gregor Wilson

Guest Speakers: Shawn Duncan (Strum Consulting)

Guest: David Stevenson (CCWF)

Higgins Partnership: Maryam Baksh (Elemental Energy), Dan Eaton (Elemental Energy), Graham Findlay (3G Energy)

Regrets: Mary Beth Bowie, Paul Pynn (Stevens Wind)

Agenda

6:00 PM Welcome and introductions

- David Stevenson from CCWF

6:10 PM Approval of Agenda

- Garfield Moffatt conducted a visual impact analysis that he would like to share if time.

6:20 PM Approval of notes from previous meeting on July 7th and update on Action Items

6:30 PM Project Update (Higgins Partnership)

- RFP Update (Dan Eaton)
 - Dan gave an update on timing of RFP release, feedback period, potential further delays, and bid submission deadline of the end of this year. RFP release may be in October, but possible further delays.
 - Draft RFP feedback
 - Timing and requirement of feasibility study for interconnection
 - Wind measurement requirement atypical
 - Garfield Moffatt commented on size requirement. Dan Eaton said this was originally 80 MW and now went up to 100 MW.
 - EA submission
 - Targeting late spring to early summer. There will be a 30-day public consultation window in this time frame.
 - Graham Findlay shared the RFP timeline.
- Open House Plans (Maryam Baksh)
 - Maryam Baksh gave an update on open house plans for early October at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. Another in person open house will be held sometime in January.
 - Garfield Moffatt and Gregor Wilson endorsed a two-day Friday and Saturday open house. Shawn Duncan noted that in his experience of hosting hundreds of open houses, a weekend date doesn't tend to work well for the community.

6:45 PM Presentation from Shawn Duncan (Strum Consulting) on the environmental studies completed to date and the environmental assessment process.
Interactive Q&A for Shawn Duncan and the Higgins Partnership from the CLC.

- Bat studies, acoustic monitoring, and radar technology. Location of bat studies. Methodology of bat studies.
- Avifauna radar surveys were clarified to have the ability to detect birds around waterbodies and will be supplemented with surveys.
- Wetland and watercourses surveys ongoing. Turtles have been

surveyed for.

- To Tom Taggart, Shawn Duncan noted that federal and provincial regulations work together additively.
- Discussion of cumulative effects. To Gregor Wilson, Shawn Duncan noted that the EA carefully considers cumulative effects and has been standard practice for the past 20 years.
- The developers noted that the proposed turbine layouts are not final.
- Garfield Moffatt asked if there has there ever been a project that didn't proceed because of the sighting of mainland moose in the area. Shawn Duncan said that hasn't happened. Noted that wind farms don't have a big footprint on moose habitat. Gregor Wilson expressed concern over fragmentation effects from roads. Shawn Duncan noted that roads also aren't the impact for fragmentation, and moose are adaptable to roads.
- Talus slopes. Strum worked on accurately mapping these and this data has become part of the constraint configuration for the wind farm. Wind turbines are not normally placed where soils are weak and unstable as are talus slopes, for cost and wind resource reasons.
- Studies planned for fall: archaeological studies, electromagnetic interference studies, visual impact studies, noise studies, MEKS.
- Shawn Duncan provided examples of sound and visual modelling studies done for another wind farm. Shawn Duncan requested that the CLC provide locations of concern to conduct visual impact assessments from. Gregor Wilson offered to provide locations.

7:45 PM Next CLC meeting date and proposed agenda

- Gregor Wilson will put the developers in touch with his contacts at TIANS and biodiversity connectivity expert.
- Requested to see open house materials ahead of the open house.
- Garfield Moffatt commented on results from his visual impact assessment and noted that Londonderry will be impacted.

8:10 PM Adjournment

Adjourn at 8:15 PM