



6. AGENCY CONSULTATION

6.1 Ministry of the Environment

Throughout the project development and REA approval process, DWP has had on-going discussions with MOE regarding the project. Key contact points have included:

- Obtaining the MOE Director's List of aboriginal communities to consult with on October 5, 2010
- Follow-up in response to a re-issued notice of proposal on clarification of project proponent change (from 401 Energy to DWP) in August 2011, and advising on the re-do of PIC 1
- In August 2011, confirming that the Director's list of aboriginal communities does not change with the addition of the transmission line
- Discussions in November 2011, regarding challenges with land access to complete archaeological surveys and the need to conduct a PIC 1 for the 230 kV transmission route
- Meeting with MOE representatives on November 18, 2011 to review the addition of the 230 kV transmission line
- Contact in February 2012, regarding noise data from surrounding wind farms
- Consultations regarding MTCS sign-off on the cultural assessments completed for the project
- Meeting with MOE representatives on April 20 to review the status of the project with MOE
- Ongoing discussions with MOE Noise unit regarding the approach to sound modelling for the project
- Issuance of the Notice of Site Plan to the MOE on May 10, 2012
- Update meeting with MOE on July 12, 2012
- Correspondence on August 1, 2012 regarding landowner notifications in the Town of Mono.

6.2 Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

Consultation with the MNR with the intent to prepare the Natural Heritage Assessment (NHA) Reports began in November 2011, and continued until a confirmation letter was issued on May 9, 2012. In December 2011, draft NHA reports were submitted to MNR and were reviewed by Whitney Moore (Midhurst, Renewable Energy Planning Ecologist) and Graham Findlay



(Midhurst, Biologist). Dillon then worked with the MNR to complete the reports, however issues arose with the installation of the 230 kV Line and the amount of leeway which could be granted for where the main project area could be connected to the 230 kV Line. This resulted in further consultation with the MNR and how to deal with uncertainty and data gaps in the natural heritage features in these areas.

In April 2012, a meeting was held to transition MNR leadership on the project from outgoing Renewable Ms. Moore to Amy Cameron (Renewable Energy Operations Team Coordinator, Pembroke). Dillon communicated frequently between April and May 2012, with Ms. Cameron and Emily Gryck (Renewable Energy Planning Ecologist, Pembroke). These communications occurred via email and teleconference and were undertaken to discuss aspects of the NHA reports and to clarify MNR requested edits/changes to the reports. The main issues discussed were:

- The addition of several wildlife habitats
- Changes to wildlife composition and evaluation
- The creation of a project easement area to account for the uncertainty around where the 230 kV line would be connected to the main project location
- Alternative Option Package to outline how wildlife features would be treated, should associated wetlands be deemed to be provincially significant.

Once the confirmation letter was issued, Dillon continued to consult with MNR when changes to the project location and additional information were collected to support the NHA reports.

6.3 Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS)

Cultural Resources Management (CRM) Group and Scarlett Janusas Archaeology and Cultural Heritage and Education (SJACHE) undertook the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage work for the Dufferin Wind Power Project. After consultations between MTCS and the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Teams, the Archaeological Reports for the Dufferin Wind Power Project were accepted by MTSC on April 25. The Cultural Heritage sign-off on the Dufferin Wind Power Project was provided by MTSC on May 18, 2012. Please see Appendix A and Appendix B of the Construction Plan Report for the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage acceptance letters, respectively.



6.4 Conservation Authorities

The project falls within the jurisdiction of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) and the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA).

DWP received a letter from NVCA on April 17, 2012, in follow-up to the notice of public meeting. NVCA requested additional information to assist in their determination of permitting requirements for the project. Subsequent follow-up was made with NVCA and GRCA to schedule an introduction meeting. Meetings were held on May 31, 2012 with NVCA and on June 12, 2012 with GRCA. At each meeting an overview of the DWF was provided and the permitting requirements of the project were discussed. Each CA noted that the first step is to determine which project components are located within the CA regulated areas. The CAs also noted that they will have specific interest in the mitigation commitments of the project particularly with respect to storm water, erosion control, water crossings, and works within and in proximity to wetlands. In follow-up to the meetings, DWP provided the CAs with a copy of the MNR confirmation letter and made available to them draft REA project documentation. On July 20, 2012, DWP provided each CA a letter and mapping that outlines a proposal for the permitting of the applicable project components (those within the regulated areas). DWP expects to continue discussions with the CAs over the coming months as part of their project permit process requirements.

Appendix G contains copies of correspondence with the CAs to date.

6.5 Niagara Escarpment Commission

In February 2012 DWP initiated contact with the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC). Information provided confirmed that the project is outside of the NEC Development Control Area. Despite the project not being within the NEC Development Control Area, additional contact was made with NEC to determine if they would have any interest in the project. Ms. Linda Laflamme of the NEC was contacted. Based on discussions, it was determined that the NEC would be interested in having a visual impact assessment conducted from select locations within the Niagara Escarpment. A meeting was held with NEC staff on April 20, 2012. The scope of the visual impact assessment was reviewed at the meeting including the confirmation of the locations from which visual simulations would be prepared. The draft results of the visual impact assessment, including visual simulations were provided to the NEC in May 2012.



Comments and requests for mitigation were then submitted by the NEC. The final visual impact assessment report is in the process of being completed and will be submitted to the NEC.

6.6 Regional Health Unit

Dr. Loren Knopper, a public health consultant for DWP contacted the Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health unit to discuss electric and magnetic fields. This has consistently arisen as a main issue for the Town of Shelburne and DWP wanted to determine if the Health Unit had any standards or fact sheets on this issue. The Health Unit does not have any official documentation on EMF and public health.

7. MEDIA

Dufferin Wind is committed to educating and informing the public about the proposed project. **Appendix H** displays the additional newspaper advertisements that have been placed in local newspapers to outline the REA public consultation process. DWWP is committed to ongoing advertising to ensure the public is informed about the status of the project.

8. COMMUNICATION TOWER CONSULTATION

As per *Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC) Communication Tower Consultation Guidelines* (2007) and as part of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (Ontario Regulation 116/01), Comsearch was retained by DWP in February 2012, to undertake an assessment of potential obstruction issues with the current turbine layout.

Comsearch analyzed 53 turbine locations (at the time there were four extra wind turbine sites under consideration). It was found that only two wind turbines site (T37 and T38) were within the consultation zones of five Rogers wireless microwave paths that end at a common tower location. These potential obstruction cases were further analyzed using actual Fresnel zones and antenna near-field regions to determine if there would be any impact to the existing microwave communications. Based on the analysis undertaken by Comsearch, the turbines meet all distance setback requirements and do not pose any obstruction to the licensed microwave paths in the area. The Comsearch Report can be found in Appendix G of the Design and Operations Report.