



# PROPOSED BENJAMINS MILL WIND PROJECT INFORMATION SESSION MATERIALS

19.07.21

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## **Contact:**

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## Project Overview

The proposed Benjamins Mill Wind Project is being developed by Natural Forces and Wskijnu'k Mtmot'atquow Agency Ltd (WMA) and consists of up to 28 wind turbine generators. The Project could generate 50-150 MW of electricity to be distributed through the Nova Scotia Power electrical grid. The proposed turbines have an individual capacity of 4.2-5.5 MW with tower heights of approximately 120 m and blade lengths of approximately 75 m. The Project is proposed on a mix of privately-owned and provincial Crown lands along highway 14 in Hants County, approximately 13 km southwest of Windsor. The site lands have largely been used for forestry activities and have a network of existing forestry roads. This location was chosen due to its elevation, optimal windspeeds, distance from residences, and minimal environmental constraints.

## Project Benefits

- Generate enough electricity to power up to 20,000 to 60,000 homes.
- Increase employment and revenue for local businesses due to activities associated with the development, construction, and operation phases of the Project.
- Produce emission-free energy that will displace energy produced from fossil fuels in Nova Scotia and therefore reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Assist Nova Scotia in meeting renewable energy regulations and targets.
- Stabilize energy costs for Nova Scotia Power customers.
- Increase property tax revenues for Windsor-West Hants Regional Municipality.

## Environmental Studies

The proposed Benjamins Mill will have an installed capacity greater than 2MW and will require a Provincial Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Desktop and field studies are currently being completed as part of the EIA. These studies will help Natural Forces develop the project responsibly and mitigate environmental impacts. Members of the local community will have an opportunity to review and comment on the EIA document.

### Topics of Study

- Wetlands and watercourses
- Breeding birds
- Migratory birds
- Common nighthawks
- Bats
- Archaeology
- Vegetation
- Wildlife and habitat
- Wind resource
- Noise
- Shadow flicker

# Project Timeline

## Work Completed to Date – 2020-21

- Site verification
- Initial discussions with regulators
- Initial engagement with Mi'kmaq bands

## Ongoing Work – 2021-22

- Wind monitoring campaign
- Preliminary wind resource assessment
- Land security
- Field surveys
- Public consultation
- Nova Scotia Power feasibility study

## Anticipated Future Work

### 2021-2022

- Work on this Project
- Green Choice Program Request for Proposals
- Municipal permitting
- Micro-siting turbine locations
- Environmental impact assessment submission
- Nova Scotia Power advanced interconnection studies
- Negotiation of Power Purchase Agreement

### 2022-23

- Pre-construction activities
- Turbine procurement
- Civil works
- Electrical works and interconnection
- Turbine erection
- Project commissioning

### 2024-54

- Operation of turbines
- Monitoring and site management
- Decommissioning and site reclamation