



PROPOSED WESTCHESTER WIND PROJECT INFORMATION SESSION MATERIALS

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Project Overview

The proposed Westchester Wind Project is being developed by Natural Forces and Wskijnu'k Mtmot'atquuow Agency Ltd (WMA) and consists of between 10-12 wind turbine generators. The Project could generate up to approximately 50 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 privately-owned lands along highway 104 in Cumberland County, approximately 25 km southeast of Oxford. The site lands are a mixture of forested and blueberry fields with various existing access 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 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 Cumberland County.

Environmental Studies

The proposed Westchester Wind Project 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