

Bow Lake Wind Farm

Newsletter No. 3



Project Update

This week the Bow Lake Wind project achieved a major milestone receiving its **Renewable Energy Approval** (REA) from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. "The REA involved rigorous environmental studies and public consultation and we are pleased that we will be moving forward in the process," explained Project Manager Bryan Tripp.

Nodin Kitagan submitted the REA application in January 2013 and the approval is the culmination of over six years of studies including design, environmental, and cultural heritage, to name a few. The application also detailed how Nodin Kitagan proposes to construct, operate and decommission the Project.

The Renewable Energy Approval document, Notice of Environmental Registry Posting and application can be viewed on at blueearthrenewables.com/bowlakewind.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Submission of REA application to MOE	January 2013
REA Approval	December 2013
Notice to Proceed	December 2013
Construction (clearing, access roads, electrical work, wind turbine installation)	January – November 2014
Commercial Operation	November/December 2014

The Bow Lake Wind Project

is a 60 megawatt wind energy project proposed approximately 80 km north of Sault Ste. Marie. The Batchewana First Nation is a full commercial partner with BluEarth Renewables on the Project, representing one of the largest economic partnerships between a First Nation and a wind energy developer in Canada.

Did you know...

During construction, about 80 people will be working to construct the Bow Lake wind Farm? In addition about six to seven people will be required to operate the facility.

Your Questions Answered!

Q: What are the net economic benefits of this project to the Algoma Region?

A: The Bow Lake Wind Farm provides several economic benefits to the region including:

- Job creation during construction, operations, and decommissioning;
- Local investment including the procurement of supplies and specialized services;
- Upgrades and maintenance of public multi-use roads for recreational users; and,
- Local ownership by BFN.

The Bow Lake Wind Project has the potential to produce enough power for approximately 15,000 homes. Wind power also contributes to the stabilization of long-term electricity costs because there are no potential fluctuations in fuel source cost.

"Replacing coal with cleaner generation, renewables and conservation will help ease strain on the health care system by eliminating up to 30 megatonnes of emissions that contribute to illness and premature death."

– Ontario Ministry of Energy



Q: Will the wind turbines be lit at night?

A: Federal regulations set by Transport Canada require that all wind projects have navigation lighting to ensure the safety of aircraft in the area. It has been determined that 18 of the 36 turbines for this Project will require navigation lighting and we will continue to work with Transport Canada to minimize the lighting requirements while still meeting aircraft safety requirements.

Q: Will there be recreational access to the area?

A: Existing public roads and new/upgraded Forest Management Plan (FMP) roads will not be gated and will remain open for public use following construction. Project-specific roads such as to the spur roads that lead to each wind turbine site will likely be equipped with locked access gates.

Some localized, infrequent and temporary closures of roads on Crown Lands in the project area will be required for the purposes of ensuring public safety during construction and major maintenance activities. The public will be notified in advance of road closures through the use of site signage and notices in local newspaper in accordance with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources requirements.

Q: Are there impacts to birds and bats?

A: As with all structures, collisions with birds and bats can happen. The Ontario Ministry of Environment mandates setbacks from significant bird and bat habitats to minimize the risk of collisions. Also, all wind farms in the Province are required to complete a minimum of three years post-construction monitoring to study impacts to birds and bats. If an impact is observed beyond thresholds established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, operational changes such as turbine shut-downs may be implemented to reduce collisions.

