

# Bow Lake Wind Farm

## Newsletter No. 1



### New Partnership, New Name

Bow Lake Phase 1 Wind Farm Ltd. and Bow Lake Phase 2 Wind Farm Ltd. (collectively "BLWF") have been working closely with the Batchewana First Nation ("BFN") over the last several years, and are pleased to confirm that they are in the final stages of completing partnership agreements that will see the BFN become economic partners in the Bow Lake Wind Farm ("Project"). As a result of this partnership, going forward the project proponents will be Nodin Kitagan Limited Partnership (for Phase 1) and Nodin Kitagan 2 Limited Partnership (for Phase 2), by their respective general partners Shongwish Nodin Kitagan GP Corp. and Shongwish Nodin Kitagan 2 GP Corp. BLWF and BFN will own these corporate partnerships. BluEarth Renewables, a shareholder in BLWF, will continue to lead the development of the Project on behalf of all Project partners.

The English name of the Project will continue to be *Bow Lake Wind Farm*, however the BFN know and refer to the Project as *Chinodin Chigumi Nodin Kitagan*.

BluEarth Renewables is also a partner in the Nodin Kitagan companies, and is leading the development of the Project on behalf of the partnerships.

### Update & Timeline

The Nodin Kitagan Partnerships have undertaken rigorous design and study work to prepare a complete Renewable Energy Approval ("REA") application. Draft REA documents, including Natural and Cultural Heritage Assessment documents, are available for review on the project website ([www.blueearthrenewables.com/bowlakewind](http://www.blueearthrenewables.com/bowlakewind)), and hard copies are available at the Sault North Planning Board Office (669 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste. Marie).

We welcome your questions or feedback at any time. Contact information is available on the Project website and on the back side of this newsletter.

The Final Public Meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2012, 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the Aweres School – details are available on the Project website. Subsequent to that meeting, the proponent will work to update and finalize its REA application documents based on feedback received leading up to and at that final meeting, and to submit an REA application to the Ministry of Environment early in 2013. Should the Project be successful in receiving environmental approvals, construction could start in the summer of 2013.



## Regulatory Changes

On the 29th of June 2012 changes to Ontario Regulation 359/09 and Ontario Regulation 334 (regulations pertaining to the permitting and approval or renewable energy projects) came into force. In order to meet the requirements of these 2012 amendments, Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Project have been combined into one Renewable Energy Approval application. While this is a change from the former pursuit of two separate REA approvals, there have been no material changes to the Project location or design, and the Project is not being expanded beyond the original Phase 1 and Phase 2 proposals – these proposals are merely being combined into a single process.

The amalgamation of the two phases into one REA application changes the scope of the project that was initially described in the Public Notice for a Category B (Class Environmental Assessment) Evaluation issued on February 29, 2012. The works assessed in the Class EA were proposed upgrades and construction of multi-use, public roads in Phase 1. As a result of the change in scope, the Phase 1 Class EA has been terminated. Because of the June 2012 changes to O.Reg. 344, the Class EA will not be re-started, but rather the proposed multi-use road works originally described in the Phase 1 Class EA will now be evaluated under and in accordance with the REA Regulation.

The environmental and cultural assessment of the complete Project, including both Phases and multi-use roads, will allow for all potential Project effects to be considered under the rigorous REA Regulation, and make it easier for the public to access and understand comprehensive information with respect to the Project, and to understand the Project in its entirety.

Additional information on this change is available in the October 5, 2012 Notice of Change available on the Project website.

## Activities on Site

Throughout 2012 Stantec has had a number of biologists and ecologists out in the Project area, studying the flora and fauna and collecting data to complete the Natural Heritage Assessment. The results of those studies are now available in the draft Natural Heritage Assessment documents on the Project website. The BFN were also out in the Project area, conducting natural and cultural heritage studies to inform their own permitting process.

Through October and November, workers will be on site conducting investigative geotechnical studies. This work involves drilling small boreholes in order to provide information that engineers require in designing turbine foundations. This work is commonly done in early project development stages, and all necessary approvals have been obtained from the Ministry of Natural Resources to undertake this work.

## So, where does the power go?

One of the most common questions we heard at the September 6 Public Meeting was, where is the power from the Bow Lake Project going to go? The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) balances the supply and demand for electricity in Ontario and then directs its flow across the province's transmission lines. According to the IESO, the power produced by the Bow Lake Wind Farm will be consumed in and around Sault Ste. Marie. Currently, Sault Ste. Marie receives a portion of its electricity via transmission lines from southern Ontario, although other energy projects in the region, including wind, hydro and solar, can significantly contribute towards meeting the local energy demands. The energy from the Bow Lake Wind Farm will further contribute towards local energy self-sufficiency, reducing reliance on energy generated in other regions of the province, and improving the efficiency of Ontario's electrical system.

