

# Bull Creek Wind Project

## Newsletter No. 1



## Project Update

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) hearing for the Bull Creek Wind Project wrapped up on November 22, 2013 - a major milestone in the development of the Bull Creek Wind Project! BluEarth's hearing team worked diligently to respond to all concerns and queries as part of the 10-day hearing process.

We expect a decision to be issued in February 2014. Once issued, the decision report will be made available to all hearing participants and to the public on the AUC website at [auc.ab.ca](http://auc.ab.ca).

Over the coming months we will continue our dialogue with community members and the local Municipal Districts. Should the project receive approval from the AUC, we'll proceed with applying for municipal development permits, undertaking final detailed engineering, and once Power Purchase Agreements are secured, ordering equipment.

## CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY AT THE LITTLE CREEK SOLAR FACILITY IN ONTARIO



Little Creek is one of four utility-scale solar projects purchased by BluEarth last year. These four projects have the potential to generate enough emission-free power for approximately 6,500 homes.

### At BluEarth Renewables

we believe in keeping our neighbours and landowners informed about our projects.

Whether it is face-to-face meetings, on our website or here, in our first Bull Creek Project newsletter, we understand the importance of communicating with our stakeholders. In this newsletter you will find an update on the Bull Creek Wind Project, including on the recent hearing and our next steps.

### Did you know...

Alberta was the first province to develop commercial wind energy and there are 760 operating wind turbines in Alberta today!

### Christmas in Provost

Thanks to landowners who attended our Christmas get-together on December 4th. Over 50 people braved some pretty cold weather to attend.



BluEarth's Kelly Matheson-King presenting a donation to the **Provost Public School**.

## SUPPORTING SCIENCE AND INNOVATION IN PROVOST AND CHAUVIN

In December BluEarth Renewables made donations to the Provost Public School, St. Thomas Aquinas School and Dr. Folkins Community School to support their science programs. BluEarth supports non-profit activities and events by providing financial assistance, product or in-kind contributions throughout our project areas in Canada. For more information on our BluGiving program, visit [bluearth.ca](http://bluearth.ca).

## BULL CREEK POWERING ALBERTA SCHOOLS BOARDS

Once operational, a portion of power generated from the Bull Creek Wind Farm will be sold to the Alberta Schools Commodities Purchasing Consortium (CPC) and used to power many of Alberta's schools and educational facilities through a long-term power purchase contract. Investing in wind power allows the CPC to capitalize on the long-term predictability of wind energy costs to limit exposure to price volatility, and to keep dollars in the classrooms where they belong.

### Your Questions Answered!

#### Q: How much electricity will be produced?

**A:** Each of the wind turbines proposed for the Bull Creek Wind Project have the potential to produce 2.5 megawatts of electricity. Which means, over the course of the year, each turbine on average will produce enough energy to meet the power needs of about 1,000 Alberta homes.

#### Q: Are wind turbines noisy?

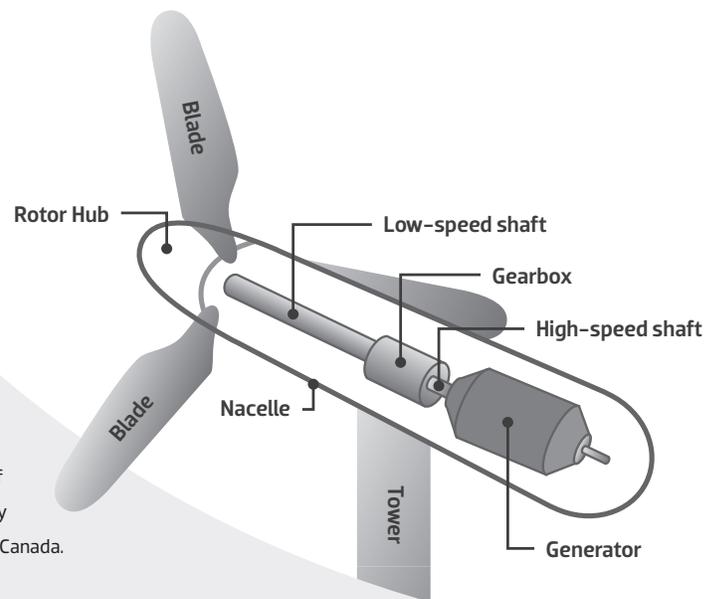
**A:** Wind turbines produce noise both from the mechanical equipment inside the nacelle (gearboxes and generators), as well as from the blades passing in front of the tower. Noise from all electricity generation in Alberta is rigorously regulated by the Alberta Utilities Commission, based on some of the strictest requirements in Canada.

#### Q: How will property values be affected?

**A:** A number of studies have been undertaken in response to this concern. Five studies covering 45,600 property transactions by different respected and independent organizations in different countries spread over 15 years have found no correlation between operating wind turbines and reductions to property values. One study demonstrated a temporary dip in pricing before a wind farm is installed (due to fear of something new or unknown). According to the same study, any valuation reduction quickly rebounds once the wind farm is operational.

#### Q: Are there impacts to birds and bats?

**A:** As with all structures, collisions with birds and bats can happen. On average, wind farms contribute to two bird mortalities per turbine per year. Wind developers continue to work on design and operational changes to reduce this number. It is important to keep in mind that wind energy has the least impact on wildlife of any form of electricity generation (with the possible exception of solar).



### About BluEarth



Headquartered in Calgary, BluEarth Renewables Inc. is a private independent renewable power producer, focused on the acquisition, development, construction and operation of wind, water, and solar projects in North America, with a primary focus in Canada. With the most experienced renewable energy development team in Canada, BluEarth's mission is to be the Canadian renewable energy leader by developing, building, and operating a portfolio that optimizes people, planet, and profit. BluEarth believes it has the power to change the future by demonstrating how to be sustainable and profitable, leaving the world a better place. The Bull Creek Wind Project is being proposed by 1646658 Alberta Ltd., a subsidiary of BluEarth.

For more information, visit [bluearth.ca](http://bluearth.ca).