# **Meeting Notes**

# **Bow Lake Wind Project Community Liaison Committee Meeting #2**

Date/Time: November 26, 2014 / 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Place: Obadjiwan Conference and Convention Centre

Hwy 563 & Hwy 17, Batchawana Bay

Next Meeting: May 27,2015 (tentative)

Attendees: George Browne (CLC Member), Karen Bird (BFN), Bryan Tripp (Nodin

Kitagan)

Absentees: David Euler (CLC Member), Ruth Fletcher (CLC Member), Justus Veldman

(CLC Member), Dominique Eckhardt (CLC Member)

Facilitator: Michael DiAngelo

### Item:

# **Greetings**

 Michael DiAngelo welcomed Committee members, quests and public to the meeting and Elder Margaret gave a blessing for the opening of the meeting.

#### **Welcome Remarks**

- Michael DiAngelo presented the Agenda and approach for the meeting. Everyone was encouraged to contribute and ask questions.
- The item on community investment was raised at the first meeting. Some ideas for possible
  community investment will be presented tonight with discussion on each deferred to next
  meeting when other CLC members are available to provide input. Programs will be considered
  once project becomes operational in 2015 and throughout its life.
- No delegation approached the CLC with a presentation for the meeting. This item will form part
  of the next meeting agenda.

## **Project Update**

- Bryan Tripp, Project Development Lead (BluEarth Renewables Inc.) recognized the value of our meeting as important to ongoing consultation and engagement during construction and as operations begin.
- A project update was provided including information about construction, schedule, contractors on site, environmental work, any restrictions and traffic safety.
- The project is on schedule: first steps included site preparation, tree clearing and site-layout.
- Bryan confirmed Dump Road as main access for construction site and future operations.
- Components for the wind turbines have started to arrive and are being installed.
- Phase One, which involves the 12 turbines located furthest west on the project site will be up and operational by end of January 2015 unless weather creates delays.
- Phase Two, which involves 24 turbines to the east portion of project site, is planned to be fully installed and operational by September 2015.
- Ruth Fletcher, a CLC member, provided some pictures of construction site (shown in the presentation material).
- Shane Corbett, site contractor with Mastech was present and described some of the equipment
  on site, including a 700-ton track crane, which is one of 3 in North America and will remain on
  site until both phases are complete.
- MTO road entrance off Highway 17 to Dump Road, installed
- A parallel laneway for trucks accessing / leaving the site was installed on Dump Road as part of additional traffic controls for Dump Road. It includes automatic activation of warning lights to indicate trucks are approaching.
- In terms of access to the surrounding area, Dump Road will not be open to public until construction is complete.
- The majority of components for Phase One have been delivered to the site (including tower sections, most base sections and blades).
- Work continues on the main transformer station located on McKay Road. The two main power transformers have arrived, with installation targeted for completion in January.
- Safety is always a primary concern. There will be temporary road closures and minor delays for public when large components and equipment are in transit. Back areas will also be restricted

during blasting. Hunting restrictions remain in effect for this year.

• A number of excellent ideas relating to area tourism and development were raised at the July CLC meeting. Those ideas have been considered and are in various stages of discussion with key stakeholders. Lake Superior Provincial Park is evaluating how we could support their programs. There has been discussion about creating a rest stop in the area, with parking, interpretive boards and possibly a restroom. We are also exploring opportunities to work with local ATV and snow mobile clubs on promoting access to the area. This may involve developing trail maps or self-guided tours. There is also the possibility of working with the Algoma Tour Train on a 'Group of Seven' tourism project.

#### **Feedback from CLC Members**

George Browne brought forward a concern about people being stopped on public roads by
persons claiming to be security for the project. He also questioned whether anyone with
responsibility for security could stop someone on a public road. Bryan explained that security for
the project has identification e.g., sticker on the hard hat, with marked vehicles. Further, security
would only stop traffic if the road was closed temporarily or to advise people of roadwork and
precautions for safety. He will also follow-up with Mastech about ensuring security is identifiable
and aware of public vs. private roads.

George will relay this information to those who notified him of concerns.

George also mentioned a concern about garbage and sanitation that might be due to camping by
workers and guests. Bryan advised that any campers are part of the Batchawana First Nations
Crew who require permits to camp and must follow rules and safety measures as well as clean
sites after use. Mastech also inspects the sites.

# **Questions from Public Gallery**

- Question regarding security on site once construction is finished.
  - There will not be security on site once construction is complete, although there will be operational personnel on site each day. All security vehicles will be marked.
- Question regarding the hours that security may stop people on site.
  - Security is 24 / 7.
- Question regarding whether or not the CLC will continue to meet after two years.
  - This CLC will dissolve at the end of two years. The local operations manager will serve as the point of contact with BluEarth.
- Question regarding clarification of storage area shown in purple on the presentation slide.

- Bryan explained that area in question is the lay down area for the construction compound. He also noted that only a small section of the area was cleared with no plans for any additional clearing.
- Question regarding fencing around the windmills.
  - There will be road gates at the site entrance but area immediately around turbines will not be fenced. Signs will be posted to warn public about potential hazards.
- Question regarding placement of certain transmission lines (on poles or underground).
  - Transmission lines will be underground from turbines to main roads, and then on poles to main transformer
- Question regarding possible impact of transmission lines on area where lakes join.
  - Tree clearing will involve a 20 meter wide corridor to the east of the campsite, although the line itself will be aboveground on poles and the ground area will not be disturbed.
- Question regarding the possibility of culverts in the area and any clearing to facilitate placement of poles.
  - There is not going to be a road crossing and the corridor will be cleared to the edge of the roadway.
- Question regarding possible renaming of Dump Road.
  - o The road may be renamed. Suggestions included Northgate Road or Grenier Road.
- Question regarding the regular working hours when trucks are driving and hauling out equipment.
  - Peak hours are daylight hours start by 6:30 a.m., but snow removal works all night.

- Question regarding the volume of traffic, frequency of use and post-project repairs to Road 67.
  - Any damage to the road that is construction-related will be repaired. The Memorandum
    of Understanding for that section of road assigns responsibility to the loggers.
- Question regarding the use of Rebecca Road or Dump Road if 67 is not passable.
  - The culvert on 67 has been repaired. Bryan will explore options to provide access in an emergency or situation where the road is not passable. A solution may involve providing site management with a list of property owners who access their property during the winter months. George Browne will provide Bryan with a list of area property owners.

#### **Next Steps**

- Members of the public were encouraged to contact any CLC member directly or via the email address (<u>BowLakeCLC@gmail.com</u>) with any questions or concerns that may arise between meetings.
- Meetings will twice a year, every six months, for two years. Any need for an additional meeting will be determined after 2 years.
- Meeting Notes will be prepared and posted at: http://www.bluearthrenewables.com/bowlakewind/CLC

## Adjourn:

• The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.