

Memo

Project No. 1559

To: Tom Bird
From: Andrew Ryckman
Date: June 29, 2015
Re: Corunna Solar Project
Critical Issues Analysis and Site Investigation Summary

Project Description

Corunna Limited Partnership, a partnership between BluEarth Renewables Inc. (“BluEarth”) and Pembina Pipeline Corporation (“Pembina”), is proposing to develop, construct, and operate the Corunna Solar Project (“the Project”). BluEarth is leading the development activities for the Project on behalf of Corunna Limited Partnership. The Project, as currently proposed, would provide up to 13 megawatts (“MW”) of solar photovoltaic energy generation in the Township of St. Clair, County of Lambton.

The Project Site area is approximately 477ha in size and is located on available lands at Pembina’s Corunna Terminal on both sides of Highway 40 just south of the intersection with La Salle Line. The Connection Line is proposed to be located along La Salle Line and Scott Rd. The Connection Line is proposed to connect to the existing electrical distribution line that runs along Scott Rd.

Records Review

NRSI completed the initial stages of a records review based on the general project boundaries. The purpose of this exercise was to collect available information on natural and/or protected areas, watercourses, Species at Risk (SAR), and any other information pertaining to the natural environment within the Corunna Solar Project area.

As part of this preliminary records review, NRSI biologists have consulted a variety of published and online resources, databases, and mapping tools to assist with a comprehensive review of existing information relating to the proposed project area. These resources included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Lambton County Official Plan (Lambton County 1997)
- Land Information Ontario (LIO) (MNRF 2014b)
- Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC): Biodiversity Explorer (OMNRF 2014a)
- Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (OBBA) (Cadman et al. 2007)
- Important Bird Areas of Canada (BSC 2004)
- Christmas Bird Count (National Audubon Society 2012; 2013)
- Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn 1994)
- Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (Ontario Nature 2014)
- Ontario Butterfly Atlas (TEA 2014)

The results of the detailed records review has been summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Summary of Critical Issues Analysis for the Corunna Solar Project

Criteria	Source	Date Accessed	Results
Provincial Park or Conservation Reserve	LIO (MNRF 2014b)	October 10, 2014	There are no Provincial Parks or Conservation Reserves located within the project area.
Provincially Significant ANSI-Earth Science (ES)	LIO (MNRF 2014b)	October 10, 2014	There are no Provincially Significant ANSI-ES located within the project area.
Provincially Significant ANSI-Life Science (LS)	LIO (MNRF 2014b)	October 10, 2014	There are no Provincially Significant ANSI-LS located within the project area.
Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)	LIO (MNRF 2014b)	October 10, 2014	There are no PSWs located within the project area. However, there is 1 wetland (The DOW Wetlands) that is directly adjacent to, but not overlapping, the project area on the southwest corner of the intersection of La Salle Line and Highway 40.
Significant Woodland	LIO (MNRF 2014b)	October 10, 2014	Wooded habitat is present within the project area. Field visits will be required to confirm significance and delineate the extent of any significant woodlands.
Water Body	LIO (MNRF 2014b)	February 17, 2012	There are 2 known watercourses located within the project area. Field surveys will be required to confirm if these features meets the criteria of a water body, and whether any other water bodies are present.
Species at Risk Habitat	NHIC (MNRF 2014a) OBBA (Cadman et al. 2007) Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn 1994) Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (Ontario Nature 2014) Ontario Butterfly Atlas (TEA 2014)	September 24, 2014	Several Species at Risk (SAR) have been documented within the project area.

References

- Bird Studies Canada. 2004. Important Bird Areas of Canada. Available at:
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- Cadman, M.D., D.A. Sutherland, G.G. Beck, D. Lepage, and A.R. Couturier (eds.). 2007. Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario, 2001-2005. Bird Studies Canada, Environment Canada, Ontario Field Ornithologists, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Ontario Nature, Toronto, xxii + 706 pp.
- Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). 2014. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Available at:
http://www.cosewic.gc.ca/eng/sct5/index_e.cfm
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<http://www.lambtononline.ca/home/residents/planninganddevelopment/Documents/Official%20Plan%20County%20of%20Lambton.pdf>
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http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Species/2ColumnSubPage/MNR_SAR_CSSR_SARO_LST_EN.html
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). 2000. Significant Wildlife Habitat: Technical Guide.
- Ontario Nature. 2014. Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas. Available at:
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- Toronto Entomologists' Association. 2014. Ontario Butterfly Atlas. Available at:
http://www.ontarioinsects.org/atlas_online.htm