



MINUTES

Subject: Golden South Wind (GSW) Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting #1

Date and Time: Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 6:30pm –8:00pm

Location: Knight's Hall
St George's Roman Catholic Parish Hall
325 6th Avenue East
Assiniboia, SK

Facilitator: Kathryn Palmer, Dillon Consulting

Attendees: Kathryn Palmer, Dillon Consulting – CLC Facilitator
Cathy Zhao (GSW/ Potentia Renewables Inc.) – CLC Coordinator
Andrea Garcia (GSW/ Potentia Renewables Inc.) – GSW Project Manager
John Wong (GSW/ Potentia Renewables Inc.) – GSW Construction Manager
David Berube (Borea Construction) – GSW Construction Contractor
Larry Foster – CLC Community Member
Trevor Karst – CLC Community Member
Eleven (11) public observers

Regrets: Kenneth Bahuaud – CLC Community Member

Meeting Minutes

0. **Greetings and Instructions for the Public**
1. **Introductions**
 - CLC Facilitator
 - Kathryn Palmer – Dillon Consulting
 - Golden South Wind LP (GSW LP) / Potentia Renewables Inc.
 - Cathy Zhao – CLC Coordinator
 - Andrea Garcia – GSW Project Manager
 - John Wong – GSW Construction Manager
 - Borea Construction
 - David Berube – GSW Construction Contractor
 - CLC Community Members
 - Larry Foster
 - Trevor Karst
2. **Project Background and Construction Update**
 - Project Background (provided by Andrea Garcia)
 - Project planning began with a company called Sequoia Energy in 2008
 - Potentia Renewables Inc. purchased Sequoia Energy which now operates as a subsidiary of Potentia Renewables Inc.
 - Potentia Renewables Inc. was the successful proponent in a SaskPower competitive tender for large scale wind energy development (200 MW)
 - The project was formerly called Assiniboia Wind, but is now called Golden South Wind (GSW)
 - Most permits, approvals, and other regulatory requirements are in place

- Construction Update (provided by David Berube)
 - Construction began and “broke ground” in late August 2019
 - Current construction activities (September 2019):
 - Commenced roads construction and clearing of work areas for at least 10 turbine locations
 - Preparation of laydown area is complete
 - Trailers and office equipment are arriving
 - Personnel arriving daily and taking safety and orientation courses
 - Upcoming construction activities (September – December 2019):
 - Continued road construction and laydown area clearance for approximately 15 to 25 additional turbines
 - Aiming to complete a minimum of 15 turbine foundations (excavation and concrete pouring) by the end of 2019
 - Construction will continue until snowfall
 - Long-term planned construction activities (May – December 2020)
 - Construction will break over winter and will resume around May 2020
 - Collector lines, turbine foundations, turbine erections, operations and maintenance building, and substation construction
 - Estimated construction completion is December 2020

3. **Role of CLC and CLC Terms of Reference (TOR)**

- Review of the CLC TOR

4. **TOR Discussion**

- Clarification that urgent project-related concerns/issues will be addressed as required, and will not necessarily be held until the next scheduled CLC Meeting
- CLC Members present provided signed agreement with the CLC TOR

5. **Review of Submitted Questions**

- Concern about a farmyard air strip running from north and south at NE 32-06-30W2 with a proposed turbine site at SW10-07-30W2
 - The GSW turbine layout was approved by Transport Canada and NAV Canada
 - The farmyard air strip in question is not registered
 - **ACTION:** GSW to follow-up with landowner regarding potential mitigation options for the airstrip
 - **ACTION:** Layout maps to be provided to members of the public who email a request to assiniboiawind@potentiarenewables.com and will also be sent to the Town of Assiniboia office for public distribution
- Lights on the turbines
 - Turbine lighting design is regulated/determined by Transport Canada
 - Map provided by GSW which presents a layout of turbines with lighting and turbines without lighting

- As per Transport Canada requirements, lit turbines will have one light (with a backup) at the top/nacelle, and three lights at the intermediate mid-point which will be configured to flash at the same rate
- GSW currently investigating technology which allows for dimmable turbine lights that brighten when air traffic is detected, however this is subject to technical feasibility constraints and regulatory approval
- **ACTION:** GSW to provide a video or other portrayal of the turbine light flashing pattern to CLC members

6. **CLC Members Open Discussion and New Questions**

- Timing of the installation of underground electrical lines and roads between turbines
 - Planned for June-October of 2020 which coincides with agricultural growing season
 - Farmers may choose to seed the 20 meter project right-of-way knowing it will be removed for construction or not to seed those portions of land at all

7. **Opportunities for the Public to Speak**

- Proximity of roads/turbines to acreages south of Assiniboia and expected levels of noise
 - **ACTION:** GSW to follow-up with landowner to provide exact distances from roads/turbines to the acreage(s) in question
 - There is no regulated noise level limit in Saskatchewan so the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment has required that the Project follow the Alberta noise regulations, which limits noise level to approximately 40dB (similar to the sound of a whisper) and the turbine layout has been deemed noise compliant
- Lack of public knowledge about the project and advertising on local radio station suggested to remedy the potential communication disconnect
 - CLC Meeting #1 was advertised in two local newspapers, on the Assiniboia Community Events Calendar, and at the RM and Town offices
 - GSW is a member of the Assiniboia Chamber of Commerce and advertising for future CLC meetings could also be conducted through the Chamber of Commerce
 - **ACTION:** GSW to consider additional/alternate means of advertising for future CLC meetings
- Potential impacts to waterfowl
 - Bird studies were a part of the initial environmental approvals process
 - Bird studies determined that there were no unique environmental features that would lead to greater than normal impacts to bird mortality for a wind energy development project
 - Ongoing monitoring of bird mortality rates is required post-construction as a part of the project's Adaptive Management Plan and includes a threshold rate of bird mortalities which would require mitigation actions if exceeded (e.g. turbine(s) shutdown)

8. **Timing of Next CLC Meeting**

- CLC Meeting #2 - Projected for early December 2019
 - Coincides with the approximate timing of construction wrap-up for winter

- Once the exact date has been determined, it will be advertised in local media and communicated with CLC members directly

9. **Review of Action Items**

- GSW LP to follow-up with landowner regarding potential mitigation options for the airstrip discussed in Agenda Item #5
- Turbine layout maps to be provided to members of the public who email a request to assiniboiawind@potentiarenewables.com
- Layout maps to be provided the Town of Assiniboia office for public distribution
- GSW LP to provide a video or other portrayal of the turbine light flashing pattern to CLC members
- GSW LP to follow-up with landowner to provide exact distances from roads/turbines to the acreage(s) discussed in Agenda Item #7
- GSW LP to consider additional/alternate means of advertising for future CLC meetings

10. **Adjournment**

Project Contacts

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