



MINUTES

Subject:	Golden South Wind (GSW) Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting #5
Date and Time:	Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:30pm
Location:	Zoom Webinar (Virtual Meeting)
Facilitator:	Chris Downie, Dillon Consulting Limited
Attendees:	Chris Downie, Dillon Consulting Limited – CLC Facilitator Cathy Zhao (GSW/Potentia Renewables Inc.) – CLC Coordinator James Marzotto (GSW/Potentia Renewables Inc.) – Project Manager Juergen Kraus (GSW/Potentia Renewables Inc.) – Wind Construction Coordinator Rory Fletcher (Millennium Land Ltd.) – GSW Land Agent Steven Harris (GSW/Potentia Renewables Inc.) – Facility Manager Larry Foster – CLC Community Member Trevor Karst – CLC Community Member Ken Bahuaud – CLC Community Member Three Unidentified Members of the Public
Regrets:	Maxime Cantin (Borea Construction) – GSW Construction Contractor

Meeting Minutes

1. **Introductions**
2. **COVID-19 Protocols and Updates**
 - Potentia Renewables Inc. (PRI) continues to work with Borea Construction (Borea) to implement site-specific safety measures that observe and adhere to local, provincial and federal health orders and guidelines.
 - Site-specific safety measures currently implemented on-site include:
 - Verifying the body temperature of every worker, visitor and delivery driver before entering the construction site.
 - A full-time medic remains on site.
 - Mandatory face masks and social distancing when appropriate.
 - Completion of the Preventative Measures Questionnaire at the end of each shift.
 - Completion of the COVID-19 Orientation Questionnaire by all workers and delivery drivers upon arrival to site.
 - Instant COVID-19 testing procedures continue to be implemented for any new personnel, prior to entering the site.
 - Potentia will continue to monitor the evolution of COVID-19 in Canada, and work with Borea and the local community to implement changes as the need arises.
3. **Construction Update**
 - At the time of the meeting, 48 of 50 turbines have been erected, of which 17 turbines have been commissioned and are operational.
 - The remaining 2 turbines are expected to be erected by mid-May.
 - Some delays in delivery of the project components have occurred as a result of escalating COVID-19 situation overseas.

- All turbines are anticipated to be commissioned by mid-July or early August.

4. **Environmental Update**

Reclamation

- Reclamation activities will begin in late spring 2021, once soil conditions are suitable.
- Borea will complete reclamation activities, including, but not limited to:
 - Removal of construction debris and other waste from the Project site;
 - Recontouring disturbed lands to restore drainage to pre-construction conditions, to the extent possible;
 - Replacing, leveling, and de-compacting subsoils and topsoil to prepare for seeding; and
 - Seeding disturbed soils within municipal rights-of-way and government road allowances (landowners have indicated a preference to seed their own lands).
- Reclamation activities will be completed per the commitments made in the Technical Proposal that was prepared for the Project and approved by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (SKMOE), as well as the Site Rehabilitation Plan agreed to by the landowners.
- The Environmental Monitor (EM) from PESCA Environment will be on-site during reclamation and will complete monthly site visits during the growing season for two years following initial reclamation. The EM will monitor vegetation establishment, identify noxious or nuisance weeds that may have encroached or spread into the Project site, and assess the effectiveness of erosion and sediment control measures.
- The initial reclamation activities are anticipated to be completed before fall of 2021.

Post-Construction Bird and Bat Mortality Monitoring Program

- A Post Construction Bird and Bat Mortality Monitoring (PCMM) program will be completed for the Project, per SKMOE requirements, commencing in spring 2022 when all turbines will be operational.
- The PCMM program has been developed in accordance with the *Adaptive Management Guidelines for Saskatchewan Wind Energy Projects* (SKMOE 2018), and through consultation with the SKMOE.
- The PCMM program will assess bird and bat mortality associated with the Project during operation and compare the collected data against “management triggers” established in the *Adaptive Management Guidelines* (SKMOE 2018). If mortality exceeds certain level, then mitigation will be required.
- The PCMM program will be administered by a third-party consultant, Natural Resources Solutions Inc. (NRSI) and will be conducted for two years at a minimum. Depending on the results from the PCMM program and how many mortalities were observed, the SKMOE may require additional years of monitoring beyond the second year.
- In total, 15 turbines will be included in the PCMM program. These turbines were selected based on geography, nearby habitats, and rotor diameters; this selection has been approved by the SKMOE. Following each year of the PCMM program, an annual report of the monitoring and surveying results will be submitted to the SKMOE.

5. **Operations Update**

- The operations team is on-site on a full-time basis and managing the operational turbines.
- As of the meeting date, the operational turbines have collectively generated a total of 21,000 megawatts.
- Activities to be undertaken by the operations team include, but are not limited to:
 - Routine equipment checks and inspections;
 - Supervising the general maintenance contractor (Goldwind);
 - Ensuring the facility is meeting its operational availability targets; and
 - Complying with the required safety standards and environmental commitments.
- The operations team consists of eight full-time personnel (3 PRI employees and 5 Goldwind site technicians), who will be on-site regularly during operations. Goldwind personnel will perform turbine maintenance and troubleshooting duties.
- Semi-annual maintenance on the substation will be performed by Rising Edge, a high voltage electrical contractor.
- PRI is discussing internally the possibility of a Project tour for the CLC members following completion of construction, which would be led by the operations team. This tour could be arranged to occur in August/September 2021, depending on the severity of the COVID-19 situation.

6. **Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting**

- No action items were raised during the CLC Meeting #4

7. **Review of Submitted Questions**

- Request for sponsorship from the Moose Jaw Minor Girls Fastball – Bantam ICE 'B' Fastball Team
 - James Marzotto responded via email that PRI has worked with the Rural Municipalities (RMs) of Stonehenge and Lake of the Rivers to establish an annual community benefit fund to facilitate to community projects and groups. As such, all sponsorships and funding initiatives will be organized through the RMs. The funding will be established later this year and he has advised the community member to inquire directly with the RMs for funding. No follow up was required.
- Request for information on the manufacturer of the Project wind turbines and turbine parts from a community member.
 - James Marzotto responded via email that the turbine supplier is Goldwind and provided the turbine specifications. He has also replied that the general contractor for construction of the Project is Borea Construction. No follow up was required.
- Request for information on the Project and the CLC from the new marketing team at the Town of Assiniboia.
 - Cathy Zhao responded via email, introducing the Project and the CLC. She also offered to provide additional information and invited the team to attend the next CLC meeting. No follow up was required.

- Concerns regarding the turbine lights from a community member.
 - A community member has previously reached out to the RM regarding this concern. PRI confirmed at the time that the turbine lights meet the requirements of the Transport Canada regulations.
 - Recently, this concern was brought up again with the RM and it was also communicated to the CLC members. PRI has also received an email regarding this concern.
 - As advised by one of the CLC members, PRI provided the RM with a map showing which towers have a light installed (this map was also presented during this CLC meeting). Furthermore, in response to this concern, “light diffusers” (i.e., metal disks that block of the light) have been installed on the MET Tower Mast 136D, making the light appear less harsh.
 - This question is still open for discussion and resolution.

8.

CLC Members Open Discussion and New Questions

- Further discussion regarding the turbine lights issue from the concerned community member:
 - A presentation was made to the RM council by a representative from a company that manufactures Lighting Intensity Dimming Solutions (LIDS), which could be installed on the turbines to dim the intensity of the lights. The council agreed that the LIDS could be a solution for mitigating the lighting concerns; however, the RM did not reach out to PRI to discuss the possibility of employing this technology.
 - PRI acknowledged the community member’s concern, and their teams have looked into diming solutions. Currently, installation of LIDS is outside of the Project budget, as the Project has experienced unanticipated overages due to delays associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - PRI indicated that the community fund being allocated to the RMs could potentially be used to fund the installation of LIDS, if the RMs agree to do so.
 - The concerned community member attended the CLC meeting and was invited to speak to the CLC and the PRI team about her concerns. She indicated that, while she initially found the turbines overwhelming on the landscape, she understands the benefit the Project has on the local economy. However, as the turbines were commissioned, she found the lights bothersome to look at and she was concerned that as more turbines are commissioned, the lighting issue will be worse. She also expressed that she was not aware of lights being installed on the turbines and wished information on the lights were made available prior to turbine construction. Furthermore, she raised concern that land values may be affected by the presence of turbines on the landscape.
 - One of the CLC members (Trevor Karst) pointed out that, during a previous CLC meeting, PRI was asked to provide a video portraying the flashing pattern and brightness of the turbine lights. PRI indicated that they searched extensively for a video but, unfortunately, was unable to find any

video that was professionally done and representative. PRI also responded that the information about lights being installed on turbines was communicated to the public in previous CLC meetings.

- PRI will take this feedback regarding the lightning concerns for further internal discussion and will follow up with more information.
- Is there potential to expand the Project west towards Limerick?
 - PRI staff indicated that lands have been secured for the development of the Golden South II Project, which has been submitted to SaskPower in response to their Request for Proposals for selection of the next wind project to be developed in Saskatchewan. A newsletter was sent out in October 2020 and future updates will be made available on the Golden South Project website.

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

- Where is the power being sent to? Would power be sent out of Saskatchewan or into the U.S.?
 - **Response from PRI:** Power generated by the Project will be directed to SaskPower's grid. From that point, SaskPower will direct the power to locations as needed, which may include locations outside of Saskatchewan or Canada.
- Would PRI provide compensation to landowners or residents in the vicinity of the Project, who find the turbines and/or their lighting bothersome on the visual landscape?
 - **Response from PRI:** Typically, landowners receive compensation for Project components that are developed on their lands. Potential impacts of the Project on the visual landscape were assessed in the Technical Proposal and presented to the public at open houses during the Project development phase. The Project has been constructed in accordance with the conditions provided in the Ministerial approvals and the lighting has been installed in compliance of Transport Canada's regulations. PRI will discuss this matter internally and provide further communication on this concern.

10. **Timing of Next CLC Meeting**

- CLC Meeting #6 - Projected to be held in the fall of 2021, once all components of the Project reach commercial operation.
 - This is anticipated to be the final planned CLC meeting, as the Project will have completed construction and fully transitioned into the operations phase.
 - It is anticipated that this meeting will be held online as well, given restrictions on public gatherings. However, the exact details and format of the next meeting will be confirmed at a later date.
- Once the exact date for the next CLC meeting has been determined, it will be advertised in local media and communicated with CLC members directly. Please visit the Project website www.goldensouthwind.com for future updates.

11. **Review of Action Items**

- PRI will continue to internally discuss and explore options to resolve the concerns raised with regard to the turbine lighting.
- PRI will internally discuss the request for information pertaining to the provision of compensation for landowners or residents who may be bothered by the turbines or their lighting, and will provide additional information in a response.

12. **Adjournment**

Project Contacts

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