

Stantec

**CLYDESDALE RIDGE WIND FARM FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
REGISTRATION**

Appendix C

Public Consultation Materials

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET
CLYDESDALE RIDGE WIND FARM
Near Mount Thom, NS**

The Proponent and Project Overview

RMSenergy Dalhousie Mountain Lp currently owns and operates the 51 MW Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm in Mount Thom, Nova Scotia. A new company, Dalhousie Mountain Wind Inc. has been created to expand the operation by adding up to 30 new turbines (approximately 50 MW) on lands west of the existing wind farm. This project will be known as Clydesdale Ridge Wind Farm. Dalhousie Mountain Wind Inc. has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) for environmental management services to support regulatory approval for the project, as well as some local support (e.g., bird surveys).

Work Conducted to Date

Studies conducted to date in 2011 include a preliminary site layout, ACCDC data search, bird surveys, early vegetation surveys, and high level wetland reconnaissance. Additional studies include the following:

- Aquatic surveys;
- Additional vegetation (late season) and wetland delineation/evaluation (as required);
- Bat study (review of existing studies, hibernaculae study);
- Mainland moose study (desktop evaluation of existing studies, with field work as required);
- Groundwater resources (desktop evaluation);
- Archaeological and heritage resources (desktop evaluation of existing studies, with field work if required);
- Noise and visual assessment;
- Community and land use studies; and
- Mi'kmaq Ecological Knowledge Study

Public, Stakeholder Consultation/Aboriginal Engagement Approach

The Proponent has been conducting ongoing meetings with community landowners. The Proponent will also undertake a public consultation program that will include at least one open house, letters and/or meetings with aboriginal and other stakeholder groups and ongoing community relations.



The Truro Oasis Bearcats recently won gold in the peeewe A division of the Bluenose Hockey Tournament in Amherst and Springhill. The Bearcats downed the Sackville Rangers 3-1 in the final. Members of the team are, first row, from left, Bret Hazelton and Jason Munro. Second row, Connor MacKay, Henry Chisholm, Chance Sylliboy, Weston Porter, Thomas Terfry and Jake Hiscock. Third row, Kenzie MacKinnon, Kyle Stuart, Tyler Dunlevy, Drew Rafuse, Brendon Clark, Sam Roy, Connor Miller, Daniel Fagioli and Alex Clark. Fourth row, assistant coach Rene Doucet, assistant coach Peter MacKinnon, head coach Luciano Fagioli and assistant coach Kevin Dunlevy. Missing is manager Janet MacKinnon. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bearcats find Oasis at Bluenose tournament

TRURO DAILY NEWS

TRURO – The Truro Oasis Bearcats recently won gold in the peeewe A division of the Bluenose Hockey Tournament in Amherst and Springhill.

The Bearcats downed the Sackville Rangers 3-1 in the final after posting a 2-0-1 record in the round-robin. Jason Munro was named the tournament's top netminder while Weston Porter was named top defenceman.

Sam Roy, Connor Miller and Connor MacKay scored for Truro in the final and Munro backstopped his team to be named player of the game.

Truro battled to a 2-2 draw against Sackville in its final round-robin contest with goals coming from Brendon Clark and player of the game Chance Sylliboy.

The Bearcats blanked the Cumberland Ramblers 5-0 in their second game of the event. Clark, Porter, Sylliboy, Miller and Henry

Chisholm. Munro was player of the game.

Truro opened the tournament with an 8-0 thrashing of the Cap-Pele Stars. Bret Hazelton posted the shutout while Sylliboy and Roy each scored a pair of goals. Others came from Daniel Fagioli, Thomas Terfry, Miller and Clark. Chisholm and Kyle Stuart each added a pair of assists. Sylliboy was named player of the game.

In other recent action, the Bearcats downed the Pictou County Crushers 7-4 and 2-0.

Terfry and Sylliboy each scored twice in the 7-4 victory while Miller, MacKay and Tyler Dunlevy netted single tallies. Roy and Sylliboy had two assists each and Hazelton was the winning goaltender.

In Game 1, Sylliboy scored both Truro tallies while Kenzie MacKinnon and Miller each added two helpers. Munro was credited with the win.

IN BRIEF

PGA Tour competitors select Donald as golfer of the year

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Already No. 1 in the world, Luke Donald now is tops in the eyes of the PGA Tour.

Players voted Donald the PGA Tour player of the year Tuesday, making him the first British competitor to win the award since its inception in 1990. The vote follows a season in which Donald won twice and captured the money title by shooting 30 on the back nine to win the last tournament of the year.



Luke Donald

The tour does not disclose the votes or who was second.

Along with his PGA Tour performance, the 34-year-old Donald last week became the first player to win the money title on the PGA Tour and European Tour in the same year.

Lions promote defensive co-ordinator to head coach

VANCOUVER – Wally Buono didn't have to look far for his successor as head coach of the B.C. Lions.

The Lions promoted defensive co-ordinator Mike Benevides to the head job Tuesday.

Benevides takes over the coaching duties from Buono, who stepped down from the post following B.C.'s Grey Cup win over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers to concentrate on being the CFL club's general manager.

Buono also has the added title of vice-president of football operations.

The move was hardly a surprise. Benevides has been long considered Buono's successor after turning down a chance to become the Toronto Argonauts head coach three seasons ago to remain with the Lions.

Benevides joined the Lions in 2003 after working under Buono the previous four seasons with the Calgary Stampeders.

He spent five seasons as B.C.'s special-teams co-ordinator and linebackers coach before being promoted to defensive co-ordinator in 2008.

NFL investigating Browns' handling of McCoy's concussion

CLEVELAND – An investigation by the NFL and Players Association into the Cleveland Browns' handling of Colt McCoy's concussion could lead to changes in the league's medical procedures and protocol on head injuries.

McCoy sustained a concussion when he was hit last week by Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison. Harrison was suspended

for one game for the helmet-to-helmet blow, his fifth illegal contact on a quarterback in the past three seasons.

League and NFLPA representatives met with the Browns on Tuesday to discuss McCoy's injury, which may have exposed some previously unaddressed issues tied to the concussion policies.

In an email response, league spokesman Greg Aiello said any changes in policy or procedure would be made by Goodell and in conjunction with the league's medical committee and the union.

The Browns said McCoy, whose head snapped back after he was struck on the face mask, did not show symptoms of a concussion until after the game.

Pistons centre gets probation for drunk driving, gun possession

PONTIAC, Mich. – Detroit Pistons centre Ben Wallace was sentenced Tuesday to a year of probation but avoided jail time on drunk-driving and gun possession charges that stemmed from a September traffic stop in suburban Detroit.

Judge Shalina Kumar also sentenced Wallace to 30 hours of community service.

Assistant Prosecutor Robert Novey didn't ask for jail time and told Kumar prosecutors wanted to treat Wallace "as if his name was Ben Smith."

Wallace, 37, declined to address the court during the short hearing. He pleaded guilty last month and could have been sentenced to up to 93 days in jail, but his co-operation with prosecutors and decision not to fight the charges worked in his favour.

Wallace was arrested Sept. 24 in the Detroit suburb of Bloomfield Township after officers spotted him driving a Cadillac Escalade erratically. An unloaded pistol was in a back-pack.

A breath test put Wallace's blood-alcohol content at 0.14 per cent, which is well above Michigan's legal limit of 0.08 per cent.

Djokovic, Kvitova named ITF world champions

LONDON – Novak Djokovic capped his incredible season by being named ITF world champion Tuesday, becoming the first player other than Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal to win the men's award since 2003.

The 24-year-old Serb won the Australian Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open in a stellar year in which he took over as the top-ranked player, finishing with 10 titles and a 70-6 overall record.

Petra Kvitova won the women's award after winning Wimbledon and leading the Czech Republic to victory in the Fed Cup, ending a breakthrough year as the second-ranked player in the world.

The Canadian Press/The Associated Press

Wild winning by keeping it simple

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WINNIPEG – Mike Yeo cracks a big grin when asked how he feels about his first season as an NHL coach.

"Every day is the best day of my life," said the rookie coach of the league-leading Minnesota Wild.

The team's third coach in four seasons, Yeo is getting plenty of attention for turning around a Wild team that finished 20th last season.

Minnesota's 20-7-3 record going into Tuesday's game against Winnipeg represents the best start in the franchise's 11-year history, thanks to three separate winning streaks of five games or more.

But Yeo deflects personal praise, pointing to his team for the turnaround.

"I think the key to our success was, right from the start, right from Day 1, the attitude the guys brought to camp, the commitment that they had, the determination that they had, to set things right," he said. "We've pushed them hard, there's no question, but they've responded and they've pushed each other and they've pushed themselves and it's a group that cares very much about each other and is trying to build something."

The 37-year-old native of North Bay, Ont., looks younger than half of his players, but commands respect.

"There's accountability. There's an exception here that we want to build a winning team and a winning culture and we just can't accept bad games," second-line centre Matt Cullen said. "You're going to lose from time to time, but it's not going to be because of a lack of effort."

Yeo took the Wild's AHL affiliate, the Houston Aeros, to a 46-28-1-5 record and the Calder Cup final in his first season as head coach in 2010-11. So he has worked with players like Jared Spurgeon and Marco Scandella, who learned Yeo's system with the Aeros in the AHL last season.

The Wild have created some clear synergy between their team and their farm club, putting the call-ups in better position to play well when they're summoned.

The entire Minnesota system is as stocked with legitimate prospects as it has been in years, too, the product of several trades and signings general manager Chuck Fletcher has pushed through to supplement the three drafts he has supervised since taking over for the fired Doug Risebrough.

Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm Inc.

is holding a

Public Information Session on Thursday, December 15, 2011

for the Proposed Clydesdale Ridge Wind Farm

1383 Mount Thom Rd (Operations Building)

From 4 to 7 pm

Dalhousie is proposing an expansion for up to 30 turbines to the North and West of the existing 51 MW Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm. Dalhousie intends to bid the proposed project expansion (referred to as the proposed Clydesdale Ridge Wind Farm) into the upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) to generate enough clean, renewable electricity to power another 20,000 Nova Scotian homes.

The purpose of the open house is to provide information on the project design and location, the environmental assessment process, and the studies that are underway as part of the environmental assessment. Upon registration of the final environmental assessment (March 2012), there will be a formal public review period of the details of the proposed expansion, in accordance with Part IV of the Environment Act.

Representatives of Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm Inc. and their consultants will be available to receive information and respond to questions.

If you require further information about the study or this open house, please contact:

Reuben Burge, Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm Inc., (reubenburge@eastlink.ca), 902-771-0322
Kelley Fraser, Stantec Consulting Ltd., (kelley.fraser@stantec.com), 902-468-7777

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IN BRIEF

**Carolina's Skinner and Pitkanen;
Ottawa's Michalek concussed**

The NHL's concussion list keeps getting longer.

Jeff Skinner and Joni Pitkanen of the Carolina Hurricanes and Milan Michalek of the Ottawa Senators are the latest to be diagnosed with concussions.

Skinner leads the Hurricanes in scoring while Pitkanen is the team's top-scoring defenceman.

The Hurricanes confirmed Wednesday both players suffered concussions and are out indefinitely.

Michalek, who leads the league with 19 goals, suffered his concussion in Tuesday night's 3-2 overtime win at Buffalo. Michalek collided with teammate Erik Karlsson late in the second period.

"At this point in time, we suspect it will be day to day. It's disappointing, but it's not devastating," Senators head coach Paul MacLean said.

Skinner, who has already missed two games, leads the 'Canes with 12 goals and 24 points. Pitkanen, who leads Carolina defencemen with 12 points, was hurt Dec. 6 in a game against Calgary.

**UFC champion St-Pierre says knee
surgery in Los Angeles went well**

TORONTO — Georges St-Pierre says his knee surgery was a success and he has started physiotherapy.

The UFC welterweight champion tweeted: "Dr. ElAttrache says my surgery (ACL patellar tendon autograft) was huge success! Ligament very strong. Tks for support!"

The surgery was done Tuesday in Los Angeles by Dr. Neal ElAttrache at the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopedic Clinic. ElAttrache is head physician for the Los Angeles Dodgers and is an orthopedic consultant with the Anaheim Ducks, Los Angeles Lakers and Kings, St. Louis Rams and PGA Tour.

St-Pierre also tweeted a picture of him, in a recovery room, shaking hands with his doctor. He then tweeted a photo of him sitting down, next to a pair of crutches.

The 30-year-old mixed martial arts star from Montreal suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament and a small tear to his internal meniscus during a wrestling training session.

He is expected to be out for about 10 months.

**Sabres' Leino out for 'weeks'
with lower body injury**

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Buffalo Sabres forward Ville Leino is out indefinitely after sustaining what the team is calling a lower body injury.

Coach Lindy Ruff said Leino will be out "for weeks" after the player was absent from practice Wednesday, a day after being hurt in a 3-2 overtime loss to Ottawa.

It's the latest blow to an injury-riddled team that hasn't had a healthy lineup all season. The Sabres were missing six regulars against the Senators. The injuries have contributed in Buffalo going 3-5-3 in its past 11.

**Steelers' Harrison
has hearing on suspension**

PITTSBURGH — Steelers linebacker James Harrison had his appeal hearing on his one-game suspension via video conference call Wednesday. No decision is expected until Thursday at the earliest.

Harrison was suspended Tuesday for Pittsburgh's game next Monday night at San Francisco because of his helmet-to-helmet hit on Cleveland quarterback Colt McCoy, who suffered a concussion. That hit came in Pittsburgh's 14-3 win on Dec. 8.

The NFL cited Harrison's history of flagrant hits — this was his fifth on a quarterback — in making him the first player suspended under stricter guidelines for player safety that were invoked midway through last season.

The Canadian Press/The Associated Press

WORLD JUNIOR HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP



Canada's team for the 2012 IIHF world junior hockey championship poses for the team picture at the ice complex at Canada Olympic Park after the final roster was announced in Calgary yesterday. POSTMEDIA NEWS

Canada's team begins quest for gold

By DONNA SPENCER
THE CANADIAN PRESS

The 22 players tasked with re-claiming the gold medal for Canada at the world junior hockey championships were unveiled Wednesday.

Named to the team were goaltenders Mark Visentin and Scott Wedgewood, with Nathan Beaulieu, Brandon Gormley, Jamie Oleksiak, Dougie Hamilton, Scott Harrington, Ryan Murray and Mark Pysyk all on defence.

Up front, Freddie Hamilton, Quinton Howden, Jonathan Huberdeau, Tanner Pearson, Mark Scheifele, Devante Smith-Pelly, Mark Stone, Ryan Strome, Michael Bournival, Brett Connolly, Brendan Gallagher, Boone Jenner and Jaden Schwartz will play for Canada.

Thirteen players were released from the team Wednesday morning.

Edmonton and Calgary will host this year's world event. Canada opens the tournament Dec. 26 in Edmonton. After a run of five straight gold, Canada has taken silver the last two years.

Canada will play exhibition games in Calgary, Red Deer, Alta., and Edmonton next week.

Freddie and Dougie Hamilton will be the first brothers to play for the Canadian team

since Randy and Mike Moller 30 years ago. Freddie is 19 and Dougie is 18.

The Hamilton brothers play for the Ontario Hockey League's Niagara IceDogs, who are well-represented on the team. In addition to the siblings, Strome and Visentin were the other IceDogs selected.

Canada boasts two NHL forwards in Smith-Pelly of the Anaheim Mighty Ducks and Connolly of the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Saint John Sea Dogs winger Huberdeau and Howden of the Moose Jaw Warriors also made the team despite questionable health. Huberdeau has yet to skate since breaking a bone in his right foot Nov. 7.

Howden took a hard check from Connolly in the second intra-squad game of camp and has an "upper-body injury."

Both are expected to be important players for Canada. Huberdeau was the Memorial Cup MVP. Howden is one of four returning players from the team that won silver in Buffalo, N.Y., last January. Connolly, Schwartz and Visentin are the other three.

Hockey Canada can recall a released player in the event of an injury, but it's against policy to keep extra players after the team is named. The selected players and staff are heading to Banff, Alta., later this week for practices and team building.

The players released were goaltenders Louis Domingue and Tyler Bunz, defencemen Cody Ceci, Alex Petrovic, Ryan Murphy and Joe Morrow as well as forwards Brett Bulmer, Phil Di Giuseppe, Tyler Tofoli, Christian Thomas, Ty Rattie, Brad Ross and Phillip Danault.

Danault of the Victoriaville Tigres was the most surprising as he'd scored twice in an exhibition game against university players the previous night.

"I'm cut but I respect their decision," said Danault, who at 18 will have another chance next year. "If they win the gold medal, I'll respect it more for sure."

The defence was particularly deep at camp with half of the 14 blue-liners invited first-round draft picks of NHL teams.

Murphy of the Kitchener Rangers was drafted 12th overall by Carolina this year, but the 18-year-old was released by Canada. He's an offensive defenceman and tried to show he could play defence too.

"I kind of look back at it and wish that I was playing like myself," Murphy said. "Maybe I didn't have to change my game, maybe I just have to be aware of other aspects of my game."

"It's pretty difficult," Murphy said. "Getting woken up at 6 a.m., is not the easiest thing and knowing it's you and not your roommate is also not an easy thing."

CORRECTION NOTICE

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Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm. Dalhousie intends to bid the proposed project

expansion (referred to as the proposed Clydesdale Ridge Wind Farm) into the upcoming

Request for Proposals (RFP) to generate enough clean, renewable electricity

to power another 20,000 Nova Scotian homes.

The purpose of the open house is to provide information on the project design and location,

the environmental assessment process, and the studies that are underway as part of

the environmental assessment. Upon registration of the final environmental assessment

(March 2012), there will be a formal public review period of the details of the proposed

expansion, in accordance with Part IV of the Environment Act.

Representatives of Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm Inc. and their consultants will

be available to receive information and respond to questions.

If you require further information about the study or this open house, please contact:

Reuben Burge, Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm Inc., (reubenburge@eastlink.ca), 902-771-0322

Kelley Fraser, Stantec Consulting Ltd, (kelley.fraser@stantec.com), 902-468-7777

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Due to a booking error this ad did not run . . . The News apologizes for any inconvenience.

RMS WIND

Clean, renewable electricity

HOME

WIND ISSUES

WHAT WE DO

GALLERIES

Dalhousie Mountain
Wind Farm, Operating
Limited Partnership
— RMSenergy

Project
Development
— Clydesdale Ridge

Community
Partnerships
— Affinity Renewables

Maintenance
& Operations
— Rotor Mechanical

PARTNERS
IN
ANIMAL
WELFARE

RMS
ENERGY

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1383 Mt. Thom Rd., Salt Springs, NS B0K 1P0 Ph: 902-925-9463 (wind) info@rmsenergy.ca

Maintenance & Operations

Rotor Mechanical

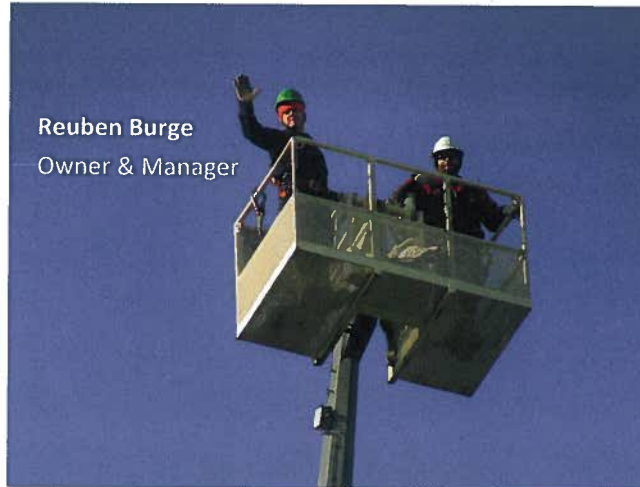
Meeting & exceeding industry standards

Rotor Mechanical Services (RMS) is a maintenance, construction and operations company that ensures projects are built to meet and exceed industry standards.

Rotor Mechanical has an extensive aircraft engineering background and applies technical methods to wind turbine maintenance and operations.

The company employs a team of local workers who have received training from a wind turbine manufacturer, community college or technical school in the following trades: machinist, millwright, electro-mechanical technician and heavy-duty mechanic. Other employees have environmental health and safety training.

Our team monitors, maintains and improves the wind park 24/7 to keep the turbines operating safely and reliably year after year.



Reuben Burge
Owner & Manager



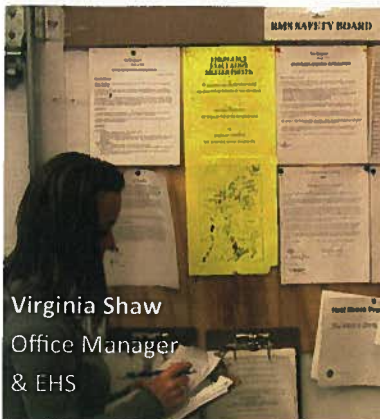
Kevin MacNeil
Wind Tech
& Maintenance Manager



Jim Roycroft
Wind Tech
& QA Lead



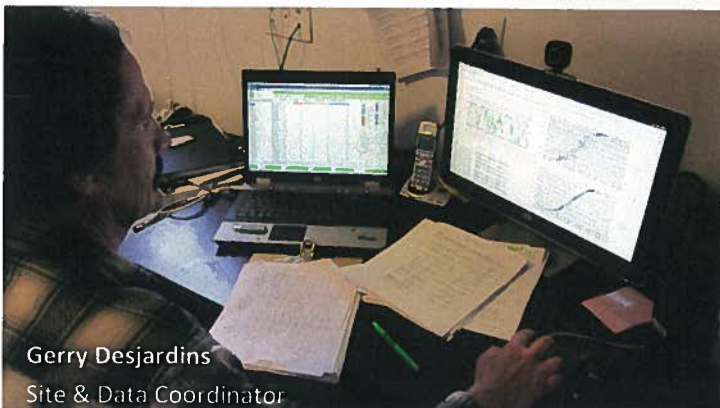
Owen MacKinnon
Wind Tech



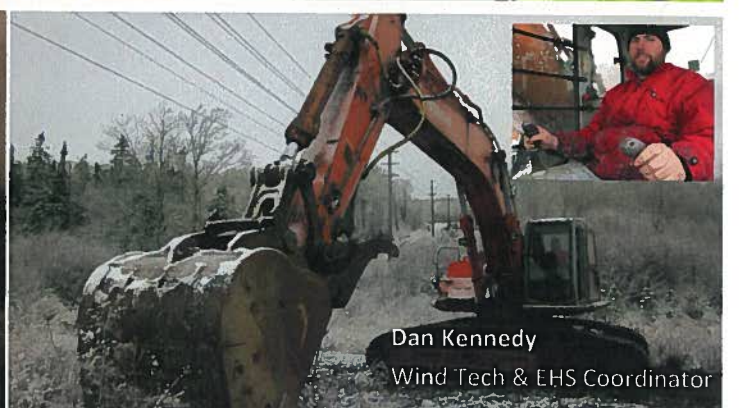
Virginia Shaw
Office Manager
& EHS



Al Stevens
Wind Tech
& Site Supervisor



Gerry Desjardins
Site & Data Coordinator



Dan Kennedy
Wind Tech & EHS Coordinator



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1383 Mt. Thom Rd., Salt Springs, NS B0K 1P0 Ph: 902-925-9463 (wind) info@rmsenergy.ca

Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm, Operating Limited Partnership

RMSenergy

Built on time, under budget and exceeding contract commitments

December 31, 2009 was a historic day for wind energy in Nova Scotia. On that date, the 51-megawatt Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm achieved commercial operation and became the largest wind farm in the province.

Its 34 turbines generate over 175,000 gigawatt hours of clean, renewable energy, enough to power 20,000 residences. That's more electricity than is needed to provide light, heat and hot water to all the homes in Pictou County, where the wind farm is located.

RMS completed the \$130-million project on time and under budget to become the only company in the 2007 Request for Proposals to meet the 2009 target completion date.

On the Dalhousie project, RMS partnered with Firelight Infrastructure Partners L.P., a Canadian company that invests in North American renewable energy projects. Firelight provided a significant amount of capital after RMS won a power purchase agreement that included a 25-year contract to provide electricity to the Nova Scotia power grid.

The RMSenergy Dalhousie Mountain Limited Partnership wind farm has been operating for two years, exceeding the energy commitment of its contract.

RMSenergy Ltd. is a Nova Scotia company that handled all the pre-development work and currently oversees the project.

The wind farm provides local employment and also contributes to improved local air quality and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Carbon dioxide is one of the main greenhouse gases. The annual reductions in carbon dioxide from wind energy, compared with coal-generated electricity, would be the equivalent of removing the emissions from an estimated 150,000 car tank fillings of gas.

Among the benefits of wind energy are that it is clean, local, and renewable.



Community Partnerships

Affinity Renewables



Dear Reuben:

This letter is to confirm the Nova Scotia SPCA's support for your representation on behalf of the Society as a Director of the Society's committee tasked to the pursuit of sustainable fund development solutions for the Society.

The Nova Scotia SPCA supports your proposal to make applications to the COMFIT program, which would develop 25 mw's of wind projects in Pictou, Colchester and East and West Hants municipalities. We look forward to working together and assisting in expanding this project's benefit to these communities.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Williams".

Kristin Williams
Executive Director
Nova Scotia SPCA

We are landowners who agreed to commit, a few years ago, to turbine site leases for a proposed wind farm on Dalhousie Mountain, spearheaded by Reuben Burge.

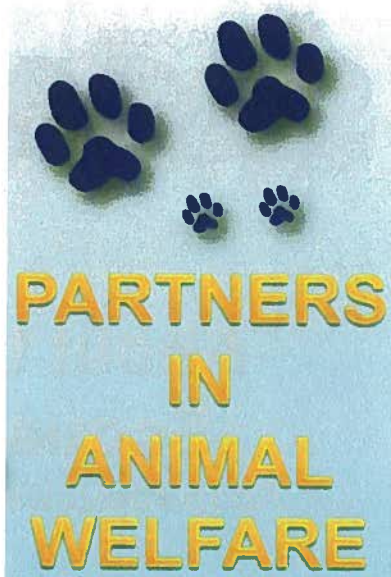
During the development process we were both impressed with Reuben's vision, his approach and follow through with all of the many aspects of the project.

The Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm is now a reality and he deserves high praise for a job well done.

We have recently signed site leases for a proposed new wind farm ... and would have no hesitation in recommending Reuben Burge to develop and implement projects of this scope and magnitude.

Sincerely,

Ardith MacKay
Watson Inglis



Partnering on wind projects to help community groups (and some animals in need)

The Nova Scotia Department of Energy has identified a unique ownership opportunity for a "community" entity to own qualified renewable energy projects.

The Community Feed-in Tariff (COMFIT) program is based on a set price per kilowatt hour, defined financing structure and company ownership rules for entities to provide renewable power to the local electrical system.

Affinity Renewables Inc. is a limited liability company formed by the Nova Scotia Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (SPCA). Reuben Burge's role is to work with the SPCA to develop a sustainable wind energy business to provide a reliable annual income to the charity.

The SPCA currently donates a percentage of its earnings to other charities. The intention is that this practice will continue under *Affinity* and that other local charities in need may qualify for a share of the annual income generated.





**Project
Development**

Clydesdale Ridge

Clydesdale Ridge

Work undertaken on the Clydesdale Ridge wind resource includes the installation and monitoring of a meteorological tower (see photo) and the hiring of biologists, botanists and birders to study the area.

Mapping and planning are also being carried out in the early stages of developing a project that could be the same size as the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm. Dalhousie annually generates 175 gigawatt hours of clean, renewable electricity, enough to supply power to over 20,000 Nova Scotia homes.

Work on Clydesdale is in response to an upcoming Request for Proposals for over 300 GWh annually to satisfy Nova Scotia's 2015 renewable energy targets.

The purpose of a meteorological tower is to gather information on wind speed, direction and other key data needed to help determine the viability of a new wind development

Wind Issues

RMS WIND

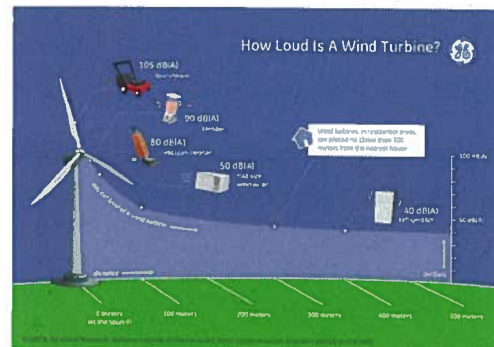
Responding to people's concerns with 'what we believe in'

The wind issues section is based on our experiences over the last two or three years about people's concerns and what we have found. These issues information articles are our opinion, supported by our experiences, those of other wind farms and independent research and studies. The information in these handouts is what we believe in. Making the articles available to the public gives us a way to start a conversation and exchange views on these important issues.

— Reuben Burge of RMS WIND

Study: Turbine noise not health risk

As for health concerns, "an international panel of doctors, scientists and acoustics experts have concluded that the noise and vibrations from wind farms do not pose a risk to human health." [Learn more](#) about **Noise & Health** issues.



No significant negative net effects to wildlife anticipated

"Overall, no significant negative net effects are anticipated to Species at Risk, wildlife, and their habitats given that the Project is generally sited in areas already cleared for forestry use and away from any sensitive environmental areas such as wetlands." [Learn more](#) about **Species of Concern** issues.



Wind power, horse power and rural communities

Wind power represents a return to the type of energy used in Europe before fossil fuels. "So to me what it really means is going back to clean, local energy. Maybe the need for logging with horses will come back too." And strengthen rural communities. [Learn more](#) about **Land & Community** issues.



Balancing public access and safety

"Our concept of land use is that we don't necessarily want to restrict community use. But we do have an operating facility. We want to make it safe for our own people and safe for other people to visit."

People who have traditionally used the lands on Dalhousie Mountain . . . need to abide by certain conditions (see sign at right). [Learn more](#) about **Public Access & Safety** issues.

Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm

51,000 KILOWATT
Renewable Power Generation
Providing Electricity for
Over 17,000 Nova Scotia Homes

NOTICE
You Are Entering Privately Owned Lands
Use of Trails Requires
RMS ENERGY SITE PASS
OR
Valid Membership in
• SANS • ATVMS • PCTA

24 Hour Site Monitoring and
Video Surveillance

Maximum
Vehicle Speed **50**
km/h

CAUTION
Danger of Ice Throw or Falling Objects
Do Not Stop Within 150M from Towers
SAFETY HELMETS, FOOTWEAR & EYE PROTECTION
REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES

Wind Issues

Noise & Health

Though some people are more sensitive to certain sounds than others, in general the noise impact from wind turbines is lessened the farther away they are from residences (see graphic below and excerpts on right).

Study: Turbine noise not health risk

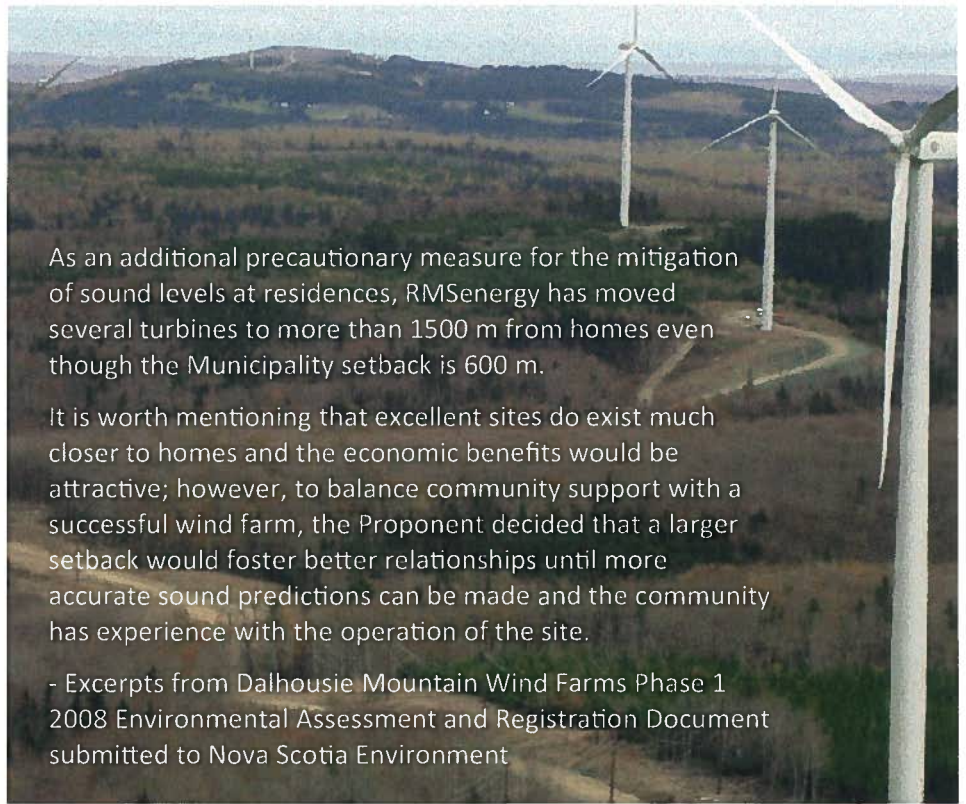
As for health concerns, "an international panel of doctors, scientists and acoustics experts have concluded that the noise and vibrations from wind farms do not pose a risk to human health."

SOURCE: A Dec. 16, 2009 article published on the Pembina Institute website (www.pembina.org)

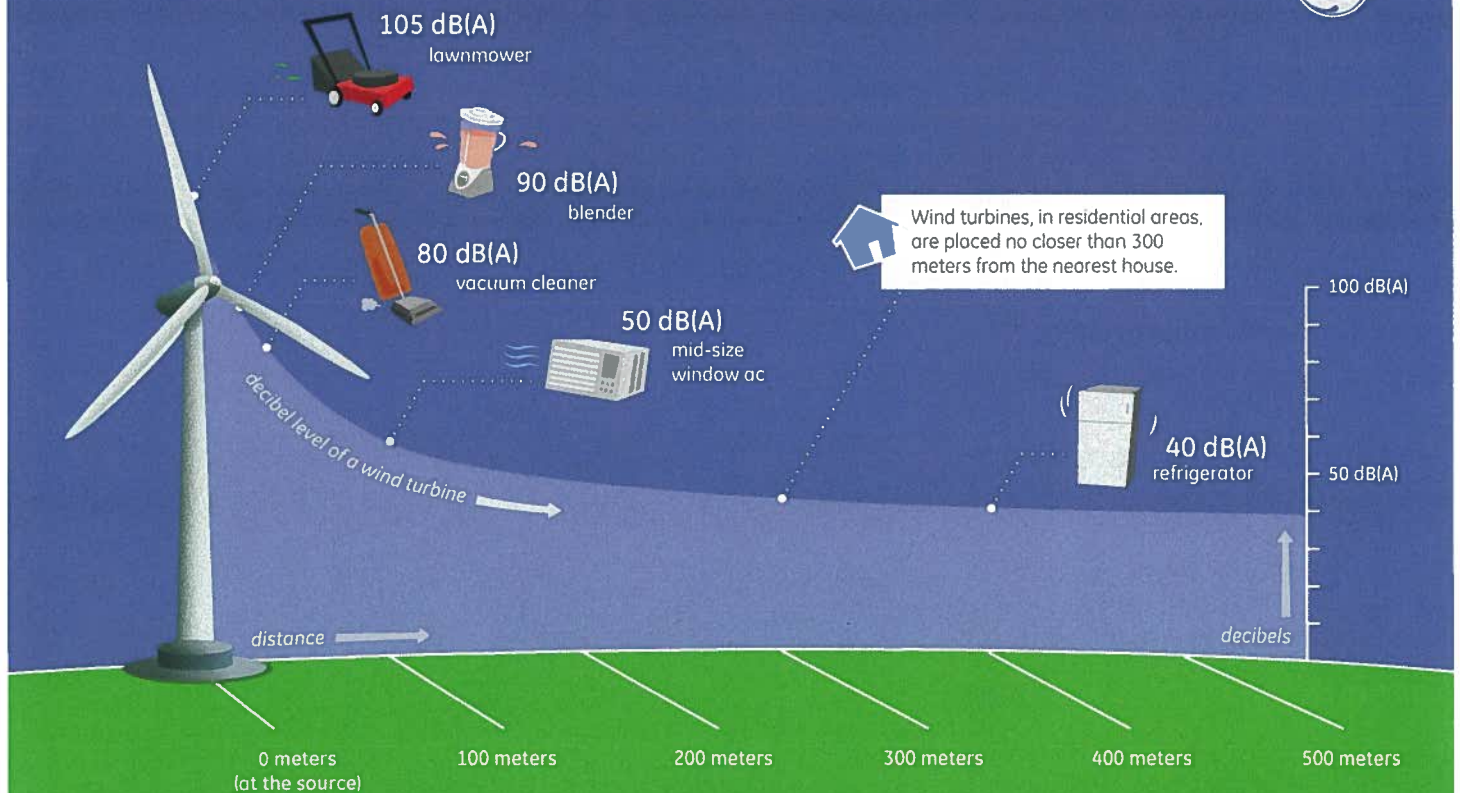
As an additional precautionary measure for the mitigation of sound levels at residences, RMSenergy has moved several turbines to more than 1500 m from homes even though the Municipality setback is 600 m.

It is worth mentioning that excellent sites do exist much closer to homes and the economic benefits would be attractive; however, to balance community support with a successful wind farm, the Proponent decided that a larger setback would foster better relationships until more accurate sound predictions can be made and the community has experience with the operation of the site.

- Excerpts from Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farms Phase 1 2008 Environmental Assessment and Registration Document submitted to Nova Scotia Environment



How Loud Is A Wind Turbine?



SOURCE: GE Global Research; National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD part of NIH)

Wind Issues

Species of Concern

To meet the requirements of a provincial environmental assessment for species of concern on the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farms project, RMSenergy hired a number of wildlife biologists and botanists.

These wildlife and plant professionals surveyed the construction area to determine if any rare or threatened species were present on the site. If any were found, they'd propose actions that would avoid their habitat or take measures to mitigate any possible disruptions. The wind farm developer, in turn, acted on the recommendations.

The shared goal of the developer, government officials and wildlife specialists was to have as little harm done as possible to any species of concern.

'No significant negative net effects are anticipated'

"Overall, no significant negative net effects are anticipated to Species at Risk, wildlife, and their habitats given that the Project is generally sited in areas already cleared for forestry use and away from any sensitive environmental areas such as wetlands."

Birds

Breeding Birds Survey Results

A total of 58 bird species were detected . . . No species listed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Species in Canada (COSEWIC) as species of conservation concern were found.

Causes of Human Related Bird Fatalities

Number per 10,000 Fatalities



Source of graphic: A Summary and Comparison of Bird Mortality from Anthropogenic Causes With an Emphasis on Collisions; Ericson, et. al. — From Pembina Institute fact sheet.

Mammals

Fishers generally avoid contact with humans. After construction, this fisher was sighted during weekly bird monitoring.

Bats

The concern: Bat populations are vulnerable to human disturbance and changes in forest vegetation. If wind turbines are erected along traditional bat migration routes, the rotating blades can kill bats during spring and fall and night-time flights to and from overwintering sites.

The findings: There were no unexpected species recorded, nor was there an indication that the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm lies along a migration route.

Mainland Moose

The Mainland moose is protected as an endangered species in Nova Scotia. No moose were found in an initial wildlife survey. A recommendation of the biologist was to "watch for and keep records of any moose activity close to the towers or on Dalhousie Mountain." The moose above was sighted on a video security camera on Oct. 13, 2011 at 4:41 am.

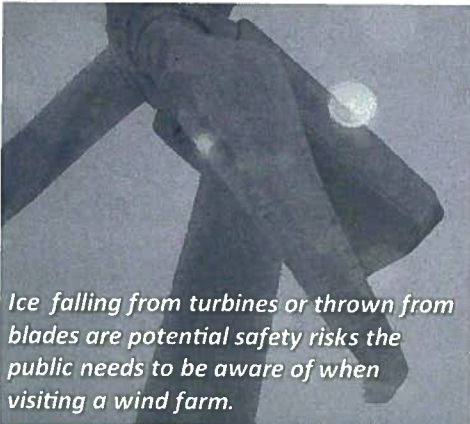
Plants

The presence of Squashberry (designated as a sensitive plant provincially) was discovered between Turbine 16 and 23. This area and a buffer zone have been flagged and the potential disturbance of the area will be avoided during road and other construction activities.

Sources: Most of the above information is, unless otherwise stated, from the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farms Phase 1 2008 Environmental Assessment and Registration Document and Appendices submitted to Nova Scotia Environment

Wind Issues

Public Access & Safety



Ice falling from turbines or thrown from blades are potential safety risks the public needs to be aware of when visiting a wind farm.

Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm

51,000 KILOWATT

Renewable Power Generation
Providing Electricity For
Over 17,000 Nova Scotia Homes

NOTICE

**You Are Entering Privately Owned Lands
Use of Trails Requires**

RMS ENERGY SITE PASS

OR

Valid Membership in

• **SANS** • **ATVANS** • **PCTA**

**24 Hour Site Monitoring and
Video Surveillance**

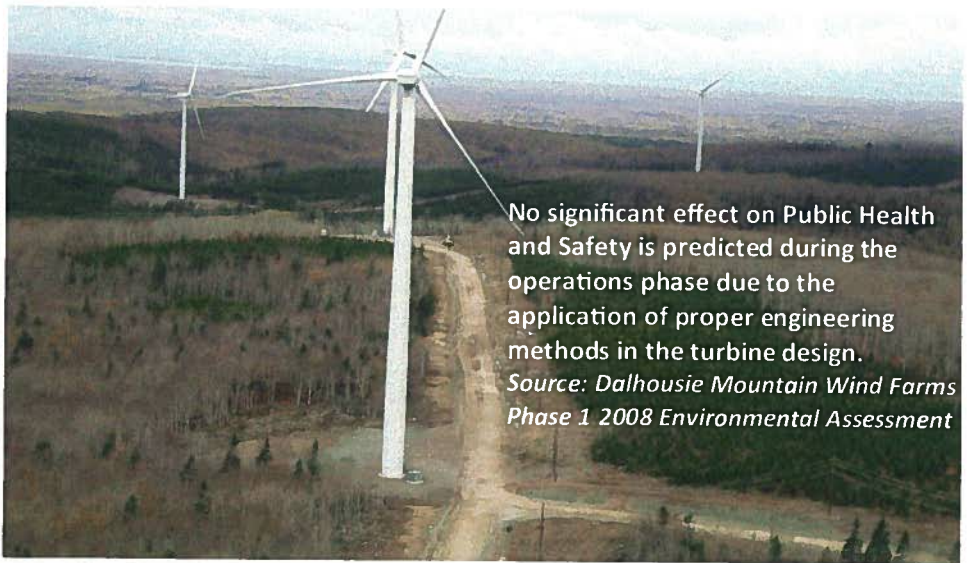
**Maximum
Vehicle Speed**

**50
KM/H**

CAUTION

**Danger of Ice Throw or Falling Objects
Do Not Stop Within 150M from Towers**

**SAFETY HELMETS, FOOTWEAR & EYE PROTECTION
REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES**



No significant effect on Public Health and Safety is predicted during the operations phase due to the application of proper engineering methods in the turbine design.

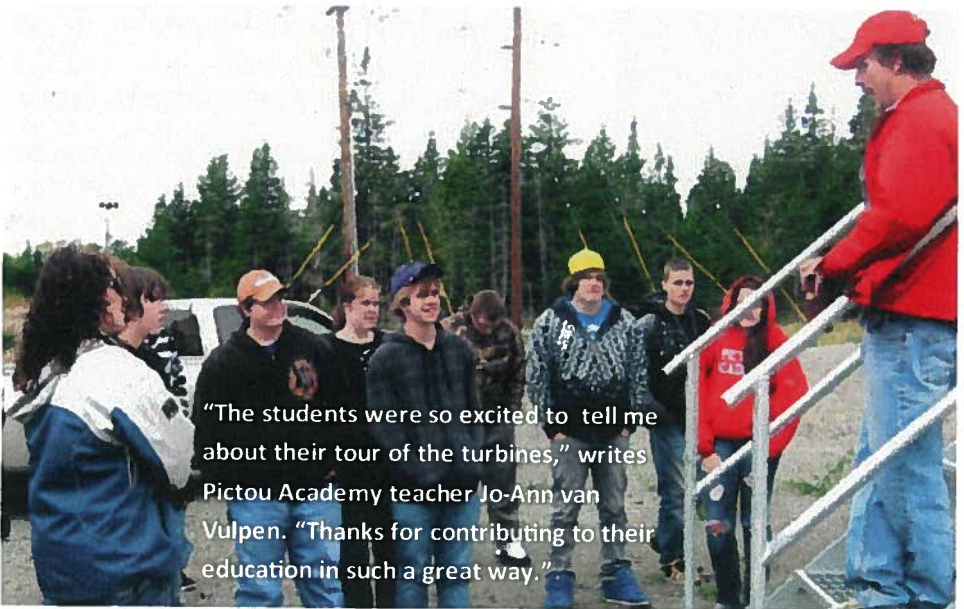
Source: Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farms
Phase 1 2008 Environmental Assessment

Balancing public access and safety

"Our concept of land use is that we don't necessarily want to restrict community use," says Reuben Burge, president of RMSenergy.

"But we do have an operating facility. We want to make it safe for our own people and safe for other people to visit."

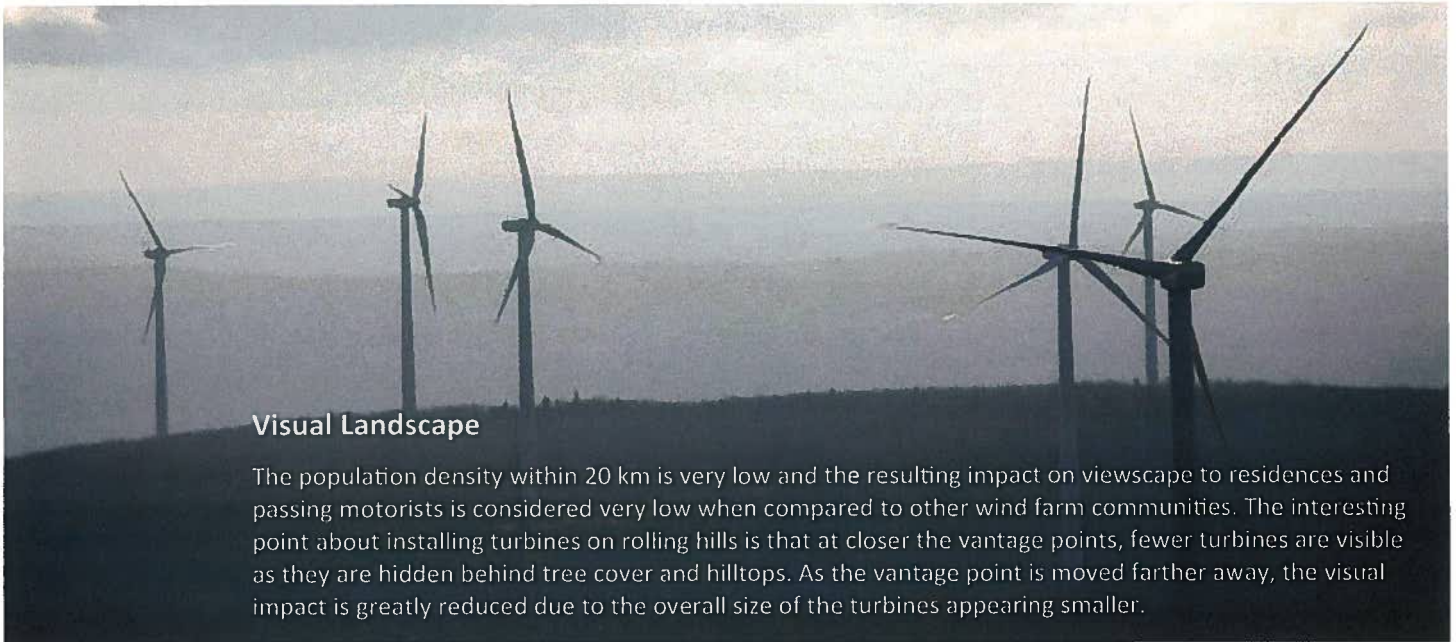
Visitors are welcome at the wind farm (see photo below), but they must participate in an orientation process and schedule a visit. People who have traditionally used the lands on Dalhousie Mountain — such as snowmobilers, ATVers and hikers — need to abide by certain conditions (see sign at left).



"The students were so excited to tell me about their tour of the turbines," writes Pictou Academy teacher Jo-Ann van Vulpen. "Thanks for contributing to their education in such a great way."

Community Benefits of Wind Project Include:

- ♦ Clean, renewable, local source of electrical energy
- ♦ Five to eight new permanent technical jobs for the life of project (30 - 40 years)
- ♦ Annual landowner royalties, providing a steady income for families
- ♦ Substantially improved municipal tax base
- ♦ Support for non-profit community groups



Visual Landscape

The population density within 20 km is very low and the resulting impact on viewscape to residences and passing motorists is considered very low when compared to other wind farm communities. The interesting point about installing turbines on rolling hills is that at closer the vantage points, fewer turbines are visible as they are hidden behind tree cover and hilltops. As the vantage point is moved farther away, the visual impact is greatly reduced due to the overall size of the turbines appearing smaller.

Wind Issues

Land & Community

From land farming to wind farming

The land on Dalhousie Mountain has returned to farming, though not the traditional kind. Instead of fields being tilled for crops, as they were in the 1800s and early 1900s, the land is prepared for the harvesting of wind.

"I could count 20 or 30 foundations up there abandoned because of the harsh environment and poor farming quality of the land," says Reuben Burge, president of RMSenergy. Yet, "it certainly is good wind farming quality land."

Wind power represents a return to the type of energy used in Europe before fossil fuels. "So to me what it really means is going back to clean, local energy. Maybe the need for logging with horses will come back too." And strengthen rural communities.

"We had two groups of horses and men up here logging while we were building the wind farm so that reminded me of horse logging (see photo below). That's what used to happen up here, the land was cleared with horses." And at the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farms, it sometimes still is.



Trenching runoff water for turbines has replaced ditching for agriculture.



Heritage & Archaeological Sites

No significant effect on Heritage Sites, Archaeological Sites and Other Cultural Resources is predicted due to proper mitigation methods based on avoidance and work controls.



Horse logger Jimmy Wood with Jenna and Justin Burge

Sources: Information on the Visual Landscape and Heritage & Archaeological Sites is from the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farms Phase 1 2008 Environmental Assessment and Registration Document and Appendices submitted to Nova Scotia Environment

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Wind energy company plans second county turbine project

Posted on January 11, 2012 Steve Goodwin



Bill Scott, left, of Mount Thom and John MacKenzie of Scotsburn compare their knowledge of western Pictou County while viewing maps for a second wind farm being proposed for the area. (Goodwin photo)

A

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A local wind power company is poised to launch its second project in western Pictou County.

Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm Inc. shared a proposal to erect 30 towers near the Gully Lake wilderness protection area along the Colchester County line during an information session recently in Mount Thom.

The company has named the project Clydesdale Ridge Farm, the name of a road that accesses Gully Lake from Colchester County.

It has mapped out 41 locations to account for tower sites that might be eliminated for residential or environmental reasons, energy research consultant Lisa Fulton says.

"We have more locations for the 30 towers we want to put up in case we have to move some of the towers once we get the studies back," she said.

RMSenergy's first big project, the Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm, became the third largest wind farm in the province when it opened in 2009. Its 34 turbines produce 51 megawatts, which translates into 175,000 gigawatt hours of renewable energy, enough to power 20,000 homes.

That's enough to provide heat, light and hot water to all the homes in Pictou County, RMSenergy president Reuben Burge said.

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The company has a 25-year agreement to provide electricity to the province's power grid. Because proximity to the grid is essential for wind farms, the project is designed to connect with a transformer where power lines cross Highway 104. Work at Clydesdale Ridge will include installing a meteorological tower to monitor wind tendencies. Monitors, biologists, botanists and birders will be brought in to study the area. "We'll examine environmental sensitivities for people, wildlife and rare plants," Fulton said. Startech Consulting will conduct the environmental assessment in the area.

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