



**APPENDIX O. 2022 ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**WEDGEPORT WIND FARM PROJECT  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
SCREENING & RECONNAISSANCE 2022  
YARMOUTH COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA**

**FINAL REPORT**

Submitted to:  
**McCallum Environmental Ltd**  
and the  
**Special Places Program of the  
Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage**

Prepared by:  
**Cultural Resource Management Group Limited**  
Ten Mile House  
1519 Bedford Highway  
Bedford, Nova Scotia  
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Heritage Research Permit Holder: Kyle Cigolotti  
Author: Kyle Cigolotti

Heritage Research Permit Number: A2022NS180  
CRM Group Project Number: 22-0051-01

NOVEMBER 2022



*The following report may contain sensitive archaeological site data.  
Consequently, the report must not be published or made public without  
the written consent of Nova Scotia's Coordinator of Special Places,  
Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

McCallum Environmental Limited (MEL) is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) of a potential wind energy site in Wedgeport, Yarmouth County. As part of the EA, Cultural Resource Management Group Limited (CRM Group) was retained by MEL to undertake the Screening and Reconnaissance phase of an Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment (ARIA) of impact footprints for 13 turbines and related infrastructure, including access road improvements, collector circuits, a substation, and laydown areas. Involving background research, Mi'kmaw engagement, and field reconnaissance, this project was designed to identify, document, interpret, and make management recommendations for potential cultural resources within the proposed impact areas.

The ARIA was directed and undertaken by CRM Group Archaeologist, Kyle Cigolotti, according to the terms of HRP A2022NS180 (Category 'C') issued by the Special Places Program of the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage (Special Places). This report describes the 2022 ARIA, presents its results, and offers cultural resource management recommendations.

The proposed Wedgeport Wind Farm Project was purposefully situated to lie apart from current areas of settlement. This positioning also placed it away from traditional areas of settlement, which would have been concentrated along the shorelines. The Study Area for the proposed wind farm lies more than a kilometre west of the waters of the Tusket River – a prime focus of early Mi'kmaw activity, or the saltmarshes near Wedgeport – which would have attracted Acadian and Planter activity in the broader area. Research suggests there would be no historic sites located directly within or within proximity of the Study Area. The Study Area is primarily comprised of exposed bedrock, dense black spruce and aspen forests, shallow and wet soils, and sloped, undulating terrain. These factors would have been a deterrent to both animals and humans in the area.

Based on the results of 2022 engagement, background research, and archaeological reconnaissance, the entire Study Area, as depicted in this report, is ascribed low archaeological resource potential. Consequently, it is recommended that the entire Study Area be cleared of requirement for further archaeological investigation.



Communities, Culture and Heritage  
Culture and Heritage Development

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January 6, 2023

Kyle Cigolotti  
Cultural Resource Management Group Limited  
Ten Mile House  
1519 Bedford Highway  
Bedford, Nova Scotia  
B4A 1E3

Dear Kyle Cigolotti,

**RE: Heritage Research Permit Report  
A2022NS180 – Wedgeport Wind Farm Project**

We have received and reviewed the revised final report on work conducted under the terms of Heritage Research Permit A2022NS180 for archaeological resource impact assessment of the Wedgeport Wind Farm project in Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia.

The proposed development area is located in Wedgeport, within the Municipality of Argyle, Yarmouth County, Kespukwitk Territory. MEL plans to construct 13 Wind Turbines, 13 turbines and related infrastructure, including access road improvements, collector circuits, a substation, and laydown areas. The Study Area extends south from Upper Wedgeport, near Black Pond Road, along the west side of Goose Bay, south along Comeaus Hill Road, past Little River Harbour, and toward Comeaus Hill. The Proposed development will encompass approximately 36.4 ha for infrastructure development, and approximately 11 kilometres of roads & collector lines. The collection system will follow the proposed access roads, except where the collector line will extend west to Comeaus Hill Road, for Turbine 12m which will also require approximately 12 m of clearing. For the remainder, total width of land clearing will be approximately 30 metres wide, including the roadway and ditching. The proposed road widths will vary from 6-12 metres. The proposed disturbance area for the access road north from Black Pond Road to Turbine 1 will be 20 metres wide. The collector line north from Black Pond Road to Turbine 1 will be 12 metres wide. This ARIA involved Mi'kmaq engagement, background study, and field reconnaissance.

Background study show area around the proposed development to have been occupied by the Mi'kmaq for many thousands of years prior to the arrival of Europeans. Evidenced by Mi'kmaq oral tradition, the presence of existing Mi'kmaq archaeological sites in the general area, historic documentation, and Mi'kmaq placenames. First Nation Land, Yarmouth #33, Acadia First Nation, is situated approximately 11 km to the northwest of the study area. European occupation of the area is not officially recorded until 1748, though French Settlers have likely been in the area since the early-mid 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Field reconnaissance showed the area to be gently to steeply sloping undulating terrain with occasional wetland areas found between higher points of elevation. Many piles of stones from erosion were encountered, as well as frequent examples of glacial erratics and exposed bedrock. Soil layers were predominately thin and poorly drained. The area was ascribed low potential for encountering archaeological resources.

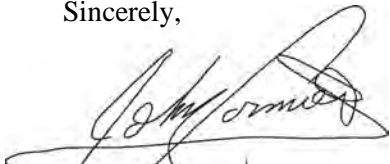
K. Cigolotti  
January 6, 2023  
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Based on the above, CRM Group offered the following recommendations:

1. It is recommended that the Study Area as described and depicted in this report (Figure 2) be cleared of further requirement for archaeological investigation.
2. It is recommended that any adjustment of the proposed Wedgeport Wind Farm Project be addressed by an Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment.
3. If archaeological deposits or human remains are encountered during construction activity within the Study Area, all work in the associated area(s) should be halted and immediate contact made with the Special Places Program (John Cormier: 902-229-3159).

CCH Staff have reviewed the report and find it acceptable as submitted. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



John Cormier  
Coordinator, Special Places