

Environment and Climate Change Office of the Minister

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File number: 40100-30-345 PNS-44681-G6J3R1

July 25, 2024

Matthew Tinari Chief Financial Officer and Chief Strategy Officer Windy Ridge Wind (4560536 Nova Scotia Limited) **c/o EverWind Fuels** 2101-1969 Upper Water Street Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3R7

Dear Matthew Tinari:

RE: Class I EA Registration – Windy Ridge Wind Power Project, Colchester and Cumberland Counties

The environmental assessment of the proposed Windy Ridge Wind Power Project in Colchester and Cumberland Counties, Nova Scotia has been completed.

This letter is to advise that I have approved the above project in accordance with Section 40 of the Nova Scotia *Environment Act*, S.N.S., 1994-95 and subsection 13(1)(b) of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, N.S. Reg. 348/2022, made under the Act. Following a review of the information provided by Windy Ridge Wind (4560536 Nova Scotia Limited), and the information provided by the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, and the public during consultation on the environmental assessment, I am satisfied that any adverse effects or significant environmental effects of the undertaking can be adequately mitigated through compliance with the attached terms and conditions.

Please be advised that prior to the alteration of applicable wetlands identified in the Study Area, you will be required to apply for and receive the required Wetland Alteration Approval(s) from the Department. To determine the application requirements for this project and support efficient work processes, please work with the Compliance, Inspection and Enforcement Division's regional office. Decisions regarding such approvals will be made based on the information provided at the time of application while applying the *Environment Act*, and relevant regulations. For questions related to any wetland alterations, please contact Lynda Weatherby, Business Relationship Manager, at (902)-717-3170 or via email at lynda.weatherby@novascotia.ca.

In your Environmental Assessment Registration Document, you identified Species at Risk and/or their habitat within the Study Area. It is important that you work with the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables to address or mitigate impacts such that your project meets requirements under provincial and federal legislation related to Species at Risk. This includes working to avoid impacts to Black Ash, and completing the additional Eastern Waterfan surveys prior to wetland and/or watercourse alteration applications as outlined in your EA documents.

It will also be important that you work with the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables to address and mitigate any impacts that may arise from your project given the naturally occurring uranium and arsenic identified in the alf you have any questions regarding the approval of this project, please contact Bridget Tutty, Manager, Environmental Assessment Branch, at (902) 452-7891 or via email at Bridget.Tutty@novascotia.ca.

Sincerely,

T. Halm

Honourable Timothy Halman, MLA Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Encl.

c: Bridget Tutty, Environment and Climate Change