
February 7, 2013

Jericho Wind, Inc.
390 Bay Street, Suite 1720
Toronto, ON, M5H 2Y2

RE: NHA Confirmation for Jericho Wind Energy Centre

Dear Tom Bird:

In accordance with the Ministry of the Environment's (MOE's) Renewable Energy Approvals (REA) Regulation (O.Reg.359/09), the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has reviewed the Natural Heritage Assessment and Environmental Impact Study Report for the Jericho Wind Energy Centre project located in the Municipalities of Lambton Shores and North Middlesex and the Township of Warwick, and submitted by Jericho Wind, Inc on February 7, 2013. The Natural Heritage Assessment and Environmental Impact Study Report also includes the Parkhill Interconnect Renewable Energy Approval Application – Natural Heritage Assessment and Environmental Impact Study Report (Appendix A).

In accordance with Section 28(2) and 38(2)(b) of the REA regulation, MNR provides the following confirmations following review of the natural heritage assessment:

1. The MNR confirms that the determination of the existence of natural features and the boundaries of natural features was made using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
2. The MNR confirms that the site investigation and records review were conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR, if no natural features were identified.
3. The MNR confirms that the evaluation of the significance or provincial significance of the natural features was conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
4. The MNR confirms that the project location is not in a provincial park or conservation reserve.
5. The MNR confirms that the environmental impact study report has been prepared in accordance with procedures established by the MNR.

In accordance with Section 28(3)(c) and 38(2)(c), MNR also offers the following comments in respect of the project.

Preconstruction Monitoring

In accordance with Appendix D of MNR's NHA Guide, a commitment has been made to complete pre-construction assessment(s) of habitat use for the following candidate significant wildlife habitats, the results of which will be submitted to MNR:

- Waterfowl (Tundra Swan) Stopover and Staging Areas (WSST-01, WSST-31 and WSST-37);
- Waterfowl (Aquatic) Stopover and Staging Areas (WSSA-01 and WSSA-02);
- Raptor Wintering Area (RWA-01);
- Bat Maternity Colonies (BMA-051, BMA-090A, BMA-090B, BMA-098, BMA-102B, BMA-120, BMA-145, BMA-147, BMA-179, BMA-188, BMA-214 and BMA-297);
- Turtle Wintering Areas (TWH-01, TWH-02, TWH-03, TWH-04, TWH-05, TWH-06, TWH-07 and TWH-08);
- Reptile Hibernacula (RH-01, RH-02, RH-03 and RH-04);
- Bald Eagle and Osprey Nesting, Foraging and Perching Habitat (BEN-01 Jericho and BAL-001 Parkhill Interconnect);
- Turtle Nesting Habitat (TNH-02);
- Seeps and Springs (SS-01);
- Amphibian Woodland Breeding Habitat (AWO-01, AWO-02, AWO-03, AWO-04, AWO-05, AWO-06, AWO-08, AWO-09, AWO-10, AWO-11, AWO-12, AWO-13, AWO-16, AWO-17, AWO-19 and AWO-20);
- Amphibian Wetland Breeding Habitat (AWE-01, AWE-02, AWE-03, AWE-04 and AWE-05);
- Amphibian Movement Corridors (AMC-01).

MNR has reviewed and confirmed the assessment methods and the range of mitigation options. Pending completion of the assessments and determination of significance, the appropriate mitigation is expected to be implemented, as committed to in the environmental impact study.

Turbine 9

If pre-construction assessment(s) indicate Turbine 9 is located in Significant Wildlife Habitat for Waterfowl (Tundra Swan) Stopover and Staging Areas (WSST-37), **MNR does not support the construction of this turbine.**

Post-Construction Monitoring

A commitment has been made in the Environmental Impact Study to conduct post-construction monitoring and if determined necessary, implement mitigation measures. For the Jericho Wind Energy Centre this includes the following significant natural features, the results of which will be submitted to MNR:

- Bat Maternity Colonies (BMA-143, BMA-155, BMA-168, BMA-216, BMA-217 and BMA-382);

The following candidate significant natural features will also be monitored post-construction if they are deemed significant during pre-construction surveys, the results of which will be submitted to MNR:

- Waterfowl (Tundra Swan) Stopover and Staging Areas (WSST-01, WSST-31 and WSST-37);
- Raptor Wintering Area (RWA-01);
- Bat Maternity Colonies (BMA-051, BMA-090A, BMA-090B, BMA-098, BMA-102B, BMA-120, BMA-145, BMA-147, BMA-179, BMA-188, BMA-214 and BMA-297)
- Reptile Hibernacula (RH-01, RH-03 and RH-04)
- Bald Eagle and Osprey Nesting, Foraging and Perching Habitat (BEN-01 Jericho and BAL-001 Parkhill Interconnect);
- Turtle Nesting Habitat (TNH-02);

- Amphibian Woodland Breeding Habitat (AWO-01, AWO-02, AWO-03, AWO-04, AWO-05, AWO-06, AWO-08, AWO-09, AWO-10, AWO-11, AWO-12, AWO-13, AWO-16, AWO-17, AWO-19 and AWO-20);
- Amphibian Wetland Breeding Habitat (AWE-01, AWE-02, AWE-03, AWE-04 and AWE-05);
- Amphibian Movement Corridors (AMC-01).

In addition to the NHA and EIS, an Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan (EEMP) that address post-construction mortality monitoring and mitigation for birds and bats must be prepared and implemented. Environmental Effects Monitoring Plans for birds and bats must be prepared in accordance with MNR Guidelines and should be reviewed by MNR in advance of submitting a REA application to MOE in order to minimize potential delays in determining if the application is complete. Comments provided by the MNR with respect to the EEMP must be submitted as part of the application for a REA.

This confirmation letter is valid for the project as proposed in the natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study, including those sections describing the Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan and Construction Plan Report. Should any changes be made to the proposed project that would alter the NHA, MNR may need to undertake additional review of the NHA.

Where specific commitments have been made by the applicant in the NHA/EIS with respect to project design, construction, rehabilitation, operation, mitigation, or monitoring, MNR expects that these commitments will be considered in MOE's Renewable Energy Approval decision and, if approved, be implemented by the applicant.

In accordance with S.12 (1) of the Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation, this letter must be included as part of your application submitted to the MOE for a Renewable Energy Approval.

Please be aware that your project may be subject to additional legislative approvals as outlined in the Ministry of Natural Resources' *Approvals and Permitting Requirements Document*. These approvals are required prior to the construction of your renewable energy facility.

If you wish to discuss any part of this confirmation letter, please contact Jim Beal at Jim.Beal@ontario.ca or 705-755-3203.

Sincerely,



Kazia Milian
Planning Coordinator
Southern Region MNR

cc Jim Beal, Renewable Energy Operations Team, Coordinator, MNR
Mitch Wilson, District Manager, Aylmer District, MNR
Narren Santos, Environmental Approvals Access & Service Integration Branch, MOE
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