



To the community,

The Summerhaven Wind Energy Centre Project has been in development since 2007. Since that time, we have consulted with a variety of experts across numerous disciplines to help us study the project area to ensure we create a wind energy project for Ontario that minimizes environmental impacts. Those studies include three years of comprehensive bird surveys.

During our bird surveys, some eagles were sighted in the area, but no eagle nests were found within the general project area at the time. However, after our formal bird surveys and design layout for the project were completed, a new eagle's nest was discovered during project construction close to where a turbine is to be located. We estimate that the nest was built sometime in late 2012, and examination of the nest shows that it has not yet been used for rearing chicks.

Since the discovery of the nest, we consulted both our avian experts and experts on the staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources. These discussions have led us to the conclusion that it was in the best interest of the eagles to remove the current nest. Bird experts advised us that this action would allow the eagles time to relocate and/or construct another nest before the breeding season. On January 5, 2013, we successfully removed the nest and the tree. Numerous eagle experts were consulted before embarking upon the removal, and biologists from AECOM and Summerhaven Wind, LP were present to ensure that the nest was preserved during removal and storage.

Summerhaven Wind, LP is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. NextEra Energy has a long history of eagle conservation activities in the United States. NextEra Energy has coordinated with state wildlife agencies in Maine in order to protect nesting eagles by removing nests from hazardous locations. William Hanson, NextEra Energy's eagle expert in Maine, has many years of experience working with nesting eagles, and has banded over 500 eagle chicks in conjunction with Maine wildlife agency research. Mr. Hanson confirmed that removing the nest at this time was in the best interest of the birds, because it allows ample time for them to build a new nest in a safer location. In his experience, birds in climates such as Maine are accustomed to nests and trees being destroyed by winter storms, and are easily able to rebuild in the late winter and early spring, resulting in successful summer breeding. Discussions with biologists at the Ministry of Natural Resources confirmed that removing the nest in early January would be the most beneficial course of action to allow the eagles to rebuild.

The removed nest is now being safely stored. The Summerhaven team will be consulting with the local First Nations, governmental authorities and other stakeholders to arrive at the best relocation site for the nest.

We understand some may be concerned about the removal of the nest and we share that concern. However, after discussions with the experts, we believe that the action taken was absolutely in the best interest of the eagles, and would significantly reduce the risk of any harm coming to them.

Our commitment to the community is to be open and honest, and the removal of the eagles nest was something we felt should be communicated to the public.

Best regards,

Summerhaven Wind, LP