

IESO Engagement

From: Heather Stauble
Sent: October 20, 2022 1:22 AM
To: IESO Engagement
Subject: Long Term RFP and Expedited Projects
Attachments: 2018-10-08 Response to [REDACTED].pdf; Letter from Doris Dumais March 25, 2013.pdf

I am writing to express my opposition to any further wind projects being approved in the south end of Kawartha Lakes and the area protected under the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.

There are currently three large scale wind projects operating in the area; Sumac Ridge/wpd, Snowy Ridge/Capstone and Settlers Landing/Capstone. Capstone now owns all three of the projects. <https://nawindpower.com/capstone-adds-ontario-wind-projects-to-portfolio>

As Councillor for the years 2010 -2018, I dealt with four wind project proposals which changed ownership several times. Three were eventually approved despite massive opposition. Each of these projects was appealed at great cost to the community on the basis of their proximity to homes, schools, daycare and their location on the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Noise

Despite the close proximity of these projects to each other, and personal written assurances from Doris Dumais, of the Ministry of the Environment:

"I understand that the Sumac Ridge, Settlers Landing and Snowy Ridge wind farms are proposed in proximity to one another and would like to assure that the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) will consider the cumulative noise impact of the three wind farms as part of the REA approval process." Doris Dumais, March 25, 2013

the noise setbacks for the cumulative number of turbines were not applied; the setbacks were reduced to several homes; and the setbacks based on the proximity between the two Capstone projects, were not applied. The setbacks for these projects are already under the 550 m setback in some cases and well below the MOE setbacks for the cumulative number of turbines despite their proximity to each other.

There have been noise complaints reported to the Ministry of Environment. The process for reporting places unrealistic demands on those who are affected. Despite persistent reports, there was little to no action to address the complaints by the Ministry of Environment. Once reported to the MOE, the wind company would review and provide a series of statements such as:

" Based on the wind speed and output, the emission level would be... "

These were calculated measurements - not actual noise levels. They were not actual readings. Receiving reports like these, which are not verified, undermines public confidence. A copy of a Capstone noise response is attached.

Safety

Despite many concerns about the possibility of turbine failure and the proximity to nearby roads, turbines were located close to Ballyduff Rd and Wild Turkey Rd. One of the turbines located in the Sumac Ridge project failed with debris flying as far as the surrounding hedgerows along Wild Turkey Road. <https://globalnews.ca/news/5189971/wind-turbine-heavily-damaged-in-city-of-kawartha-lakes>

Environment

All of these projects were located on or near the Oak Ridges Moraine and in high aquifer vulnerability areas. These projects should never have been approved. Any infrastructure development on the Oak Ridges Moraine should only be approved ***if there is no alternative***. By its very nature, every wind project has an alternative, back-up power generation located at another site. <https://files.ontario.ca/oak-ridges-moraine-conservation-plan-2017.pdf>

The Oak Ridges Moraine was protected by the Ontario Conservatives and supported by all other parties for a reason, not the least of which is to protect source water and safe guard the environmental features. These very features protect both water and against climate change and provide resiliency in a much-needed location.

While there is pressure to increase renewable energy, there is no room for additional projects in this area.

It is critical that noise setbacks are increased; human health is protected; that legislation designed to provide needed protection to important environmental features be enforced and those environmental values not be traded off against each other.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Heather Stauble
Councillor, City of Kawartha Lakes (2010-2018)

**Ministry of
the Environment**

Environmental Approvals
Access and Service
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ENV1283MC-2013-829

March 25, 2013

Mr. Ron Taylor
Director of Development Services
City of Kawartha Lakes
Development Services – Planning Division
180 Kent Street West, P.O. Box 630
Lindsay, ONK9V 1V6



Dear Mr. Taylor:

Thank you for your March 11, 2013 letter and Council Resolution regarding the Sumac Ridge Wind Project proposed by wpd Canada in the City of Kawartha Lakes. I am pleased to reply on behalf of Minister Bradley.

At a Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 5 February, 2013 in which the City of Kawartha Lakes passed a resolution that:

- Council recommends that the Sumac Ridge Wind Farm Project as generally outlined in Appendix "B" to Report PLAN2013-003 be refused by the Province; and
- That Council's recommendations, together with Report Plan 2013-003 and the Part B Municipal Consultation Form as generally completed in Appendix 'C' be forwarded to the Province.

Your letter included Council Report dated February 5, 2013 and the Municipal Consultation Form for the Sumac Ridge Wind Project. This form, as well as Council's resolution and report, will be considered during our technical review of the project for Sumac Ridge Wind Farm Renewable Energy Approval (REA) application. Thank you for participating in the project study process.

You also indicated that the City of Kawartha Lakes Council has particular concerns with the hydrogeological impact of the proposed wind farm as a portion of the project is located on the Oak Ridges Moraine within a high aquifer vulnerability area. You note that wpd Canada did not provide the City of Kawartha with a hydrogeological report as requested. Should this project be accepted for technical review by the MOE, our technical review team will assess and determine if any additional hydrogeological impacts studies will be required.

This letter also acknowledges that we received a box of documents regarding the Sumac Ridge Wind Project, as well as the Settlers Landing and Snowy Ridge projects. The box included submissions from the community outlining their opposition to and concerns about the proposed projects as well as reports, petitions and newspaper articles.

In your letter, you request that the ministry consider the Sumac Ridge Wind Project together with the Settlers Landing and Snowy Ridge projects proposed by Zero Emission People (zep) and Energy Farming Ontario due to their close proximity to one another.

As you may be aware, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is the province's planning authority for electricity supply, which is responsible for providing proponents of renewable energy projects with Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) contracts. The Sumac Ridge, Settlers Landing and Snowy Ridge wind projects have separate FIT contractual obligations with the OPA, and the ministry does not have the authority to combine these project activities.

It should also be noted that the REA applications for the abovementioned projects are in different stages of planning and development: The MOE has not yet received REA applications for either the Settlers Landing or Snowy Ridge wind projects; however, we have received a REA application for the Sumac Ridge Wind Project, which is currently under review for completeness.

The documents submitted to the ministry concerning the Snowy Ridge and Settlers Landing wind projects, including the petition with approximately 1,200 signatures, will be kept in a public record file. These will be considered if and when applications for REA are submitted for these projects and accepted for review. The petitions and letters concerning more than one project will be copied into the corresponding project files.

The studies submitted to the ministry concerning energy policy as well as the impact of wind turbines on health, the natural environment and property values will be forwarded to our Standards Development Branch for their consideration.

I understand that the Sumac Ridge, Settlers Landing and Snowy Ridge wind farms are proposed in proximity to one another and would like to assure you that the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) will consider the cumulative noise impact of the three wind farms as part of the REA approval process. Proponents are advised to consider the noise impacts of adjacent wind farms well in advance of submission of an application for a REA to the ministry. It is in the mutual best interest of proponents to consult with one another to ensure that wind farms are planned so as to ensure that combined noise impacts are below the noise limits. MOE recognizes that a proponent's ability to assess combined impacts may be affected by the availability of information on the adjacent wind farm. Accordingly, it is recommended that when a proponent is preparing a detailed noise impact assessment for submission to the Ministry, that the assessment addresses the combined impact of the proposed and adjacent wind farms where information on turbine locations and models at the adjacent wind farm is publicly available.

As mentioned above, the Sumac Ridge Wind Project application for REA is currently being reviewed for completeness. It should be noted that the completeness check simply reviews the submitted reports to determine if all the required content as specified in the REA Regulation (O. Reg. 359/09) has been included.

If the REA application for the Sumac Ridge Wind Project is determined to be complete, wpd Canada will be notified and the detailed technical review phase will commence, including a

review of the Municipal Consultation Form which you have provided and the additional documents that were submitted concerning this project.

It is also at this time that an Instrument Proposal for the application will be posted on the Environmental Registry (www.ebr.gov.on.ca) for a minimum 30 day period for public review and comment. This is an opportunity where the municipality and the public can continue to participate by submitting comments on the proposal directly to the MOE. These comments will also be considered by the MOE in making a decision.

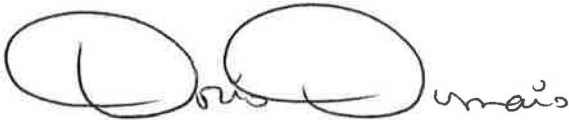
If the application is determined to be incomplete, wpdCanada will be notified and the deficiencies that led to the not-complete determination will be identified. The applicant must address all deficiencies identified prior to resubmitting a complete application.

You can monitor the status of the ministry's review of the Sumac Ridge Wind Project at: http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/subject/renewable_energy/projects/index.htm

This online portal will let you know if the application is deemed complete or returned due to deficiencies.

Thank you again for your submission.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doris Dumais". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, rounded loops for the first few letters.

Doris Dumais
Director
Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch

Dear [REDACTED]

As always, thank you for logging the time and details regarding the ambient conditions. We have cross-referenced the times and dates of your complaints against output data from the nearest turbine (T2) which are logged on a 10-minute interval. Please find below a table with your email comments alongside notes from our operations log, and expected noise levels based on the wind speed measured at turbine hub height.

| [REDACTED] comments (October 8, 2018) | Capstone notes |
|--|---|
| May 3, 2018 – 6:10am to 6:30am Noise from the turbines southeast from us was excessive, aware of them before my 06:45 alarm went off. | Wind directions logged show south south-west (SSW) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 8.0 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be approximately 102.0 dBA at the time of the complaint. This is below the maximum sound power level (103.2dBA) of the turbine. |
| May 18, 2018 – 9:00pm onward Noise from turbines SE of us. | Wind directions logged show predominant east (E) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 12.4 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, it was determined that the turbine was operating at its maximum predicted sound power level of 103.2 dBA. |
| May 21, 2018 – 7:00am to 8:00am Noise from turbines SE of us. | Wind directions logged show predominant north north-west (NNW) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 4.3 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be approximately 98.7 dBA at the time of the complaint which is well below the maximum sound power level. |
| May 22, 2018 – 3:45am Noise above ambient. (My bedroom windows are open most nights now). | Wind directions logged show east south-east (ESE) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 8.3 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be 102.3 dBA at the time of the complaint which is well below the maximum sound power level. |
| June 24, 2018 – 9:30pm Blade slashing sound. | Wind directions logged show north (N) winds, during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 6.0 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be |

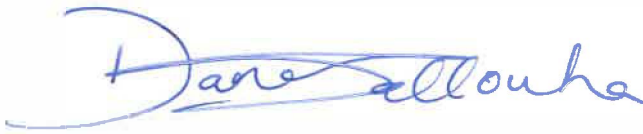
| [REDACTED] comments (October 8, 2018) | Capstone notes |
|--|--|
| | approximately 96.0 dBA at the time of the complaint which is below the maximum sound power level. |
| July 20, 2018 – all day Every time I was outside I heard blade slashing well above the sounds of anything else. | Wind directions logged show south south-east (SSE) winds, shifting to east south-east (ESE) during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 7.0 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be approximately 100.1 dBA at the time of the complaint. This is below the maximum sound power level. |
| July 21, 2018 – all day From my first time out before 8 am through the day I again heard blades lash above ambient noise. | Wind directions logged show south south-east (SSE) winds, shifting to east south-east (ESE) during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 8.6 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be approximately 102.3 dBA at the time of the complaint. This is below the maximum sound power level. |
| Sept 9, 2018 – Late evening Loud slashing sound from the eastern-most turbines. | Wind directions logged show predominant east (E) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 8.8 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be approximately 101.3 dBA at the time of the complaint. This is below the maximum sound power level. |
| Sept 12, 2018 – Late evening Loud slashing sound from the eastern-most turbines. | Wind directions logged show south south-east (SSE) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 5.4 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be approximately 98.1 dBA at the time of the complaint. This is below the maximum sound power level. |
| Sept 13, 2018 – Late evening Loud slashing sound from the eastern-most turbines. | Wind directions logged show east south-east (ESE) winds during the time of the complaint. The wind speed was approximately 6.5 m/s. Based on the wind speed and output of the turbine, the emission level would be 101.4 dBA at the time of the complaint which is well below the maximum sound power level. |

We are committed to ensuring that the project is operating in compliance – this means that the turbines are operating as expected, and that noise immission levels at all receptor locations (your residence included) are not subject to exceeded noise levels. We are also committed to ensuring that your complaints are heard, and considered.

As mentioned previously, if you would like, I can set up a time for you, our Site Manager, Steve Rankin, and myself to meet and to discuss any issues you may be encountering.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any follow-up questions or comments.

Thank you,
Dana Sallouha



Dana Sallouha
Health, Safety, and Environmental Coordinator

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