

# **Bluestone Wind Project Emergency Action Plan for Tree Clearing**

**Bluestone Wind, LLC**

**2021**

# Bluestone Wind Project

## Emergency Action Plan for Tree Clearing

2020

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## 1. Introduction

Bluestone Wind, LLC (“Bluestone Wind”), is constructing an up to 124-megawatt (MW) wind energy generating facility in the Towns of Windsor and Sanford in Broome County, New York (the “Project”). Bluestone Wind has developed this Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to provide direction on emergency response during Project associated tree clearing. This plan contains guidance in determining the appropriate actions to be undertaken to prevent or minimize health and safety hazards. This EAP begins with a basic discussion of emergency notification and then describes the actions to be taken to respond to specific types of emergencies.

The purpose of this EAP is to assist employees, sub-contractors, contractors, suppliers, management, and first responders in making quality decisions during times of crisis. This document acts as a guideline in the event of an emergency. Every possible version of every imaginable scenario can never be captured in a usable document. The steps described may not occur in the same order at every site, every time, but this EAP provides baseline directions on the most common steps necessary to address each situation listed. Copies of this plan will be provided to the Towns, DPS Staff, the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, and local emergency responders that serve the Facility.

A copy of this document (and all public documents filed in this proceeding) may be accessed electronically at the Department of Public Service website:

(<http://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=16-F-0559>).

## 2. Emergency Contact List

CONTACT	NUMBER	NOTES
<b>General Emergency Contacts</b>		
General Emergency	911	
Deposit Fire Department	(607) 467-2894	<b>Shaun Rynearson, Fire Chief</b>
Eastern Broome Emergency Services	(607) 655-1426	
West Windsor Fire Co. Inc.	(607) 775-4430	<b>John McNulty, Fire Chief</b>
New York State Police, Troop C; Zone 2, Deposit Station	(607) 467-3215	
Broome County Sheriff	(607) 778-1911	<b>David Harder, Sheriff</b>
<b>Hospitals and Other Medical</b>		
Bassett Healthcare Network A.O. Fox Tri-Town Campus	(607) 563-7080	Sidney, NY.
Barnes-Kasson County Hospital	1-800-323-2051	Susquehanna, PA.
Poison Center	(800) 222-1222	

CONTACT	NUMBER	NOTES
<b>Spill/Release Reporting; General Environmental:</b> NOTE: All spill reports and other environment-related outreach will be made by the Plant Manager or their designee		
National Response Center	(800) 424-8802	Federally reportable spills/releases
New York State Spill Hotline	(800) 457-7362	State-reportable spills/releases
U.S. EPA Region 2	(877) 251-4575	Non-spill-related environmental emergencies
NYSDEC Region 7	(315) 426-7400	Non-spill-related environmental emergencies
<b>General Municipal Outreach:</b> NOTE: All outreach to the towns regarding emergency incidents will be made by the Director of Communications or their designee		
Town of Sanford Supervisor, Dewey Decker	(607) 467-3214	Emergency incidents of community interest
Town of Windsor Supervisor, Tom Odell	(607) 655-2026	Emergency incidents of community interest
<b>Bluestone Wind Contacts</b>		
Director of Construction, Jeff Puterbaugh (Northland Power)	(312) 288-1623	
Owner's Representative, Michael Bogensberger (Bradley Construction)	(231) 373-3074	
Construction Manager, Kate Reydgoudt (Wesson Group)	(607) 266-0031	

### 3. Emergency Notification Procedures

#### 2.1. Communication Equipment

Communication is essential during an emergency. The following communication resources will be available:

- Each employee or contractor who is working at the Project will be required to carry a two-way radio<sup>1</sup>. The two-way radios will be capable of notifying workers of an emergency and providing immediate emergency instruction to personnel.
- Also, it is anticipated that all personnel working at the Project will be carrying a personal cell phone.

#### 2.2. Notification

If an emergency is occurring that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of Project personnel or the surrounding community, the following notifications will occur:

- Call 911. The following information will be provided to the 911 operator:
  - Name of personnel
  - Northland Project: Bluestone Wind
  - Location of emergency
  - Available call back phone number
  - Nature of the emergency

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<sup>1</sup> NOTE: The two-way radios are not capable of dialing 911 directly. In the event of an emergency, personnel can dial 911 on their cell phones, or, in the event they are in a part of the project area without cell coverage, they will radio the Contractor's Site Manager, who will be responsible for calling 911.

- Contact the Contractor's Site Manager<sup>2</sup> The Contractor's Site Manager will provide instructions to on-site personnel and make the necessary communications. Contractor's Site Manager must inform the Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after the start of an emergency.

### 2.3. Other Immediate Notification Requirements

Certain incidents do not require notification of traditional emergency responders (e.g., fire departments and emergency medical services), but nevertheless require immediate outreach.

- Spills/ releases of petroleum or hazardous substances.

The Certificate Holder has prepared a comprehensive Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan to be implemented during tree clearing activities (see Appendix I of the Tree Clearing Plan). Contractor's Site Manager must inform the Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager of any spills or accidental releases as soon as possible but later than 24 hours.

- Community/ media outreach during and following a major event.

If an incident involves a significant emergency response or is otherwise the focus of community or media attention, the Contractor's Site Manager will make the necessary internal notifications and notify the Certificate Holder's EHS Specialist. All decisions regarding community or media outreach are made by Northland's director of communications in consultation with the company's EHS Specialist.

## 4. Training

To ensure the instructions contained within this EAP are properly followed during project associated tree clearing emergencies, all staff should receive adequate and appropriate training. Training will enable personnel to carry out any duties which might be allocated to them in an emergency situation. It is the responsibility of the Contractor's Site Manager to ensure this is undertaken. The training program will be provided to all employees upon hiring. Compliance with this requirement will be audited by the Certificate's Holder's EHS Specialist.

## 5. Emergency Procedures

The sections below provide further details on the emergency procedures that will be employed for each of the applicable tree clearing contingencies. Project-affiliated workers will call 911, as necessary; local emergency responders and

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<sup>2</sup> NOTE: If there is a question about whether an outside emergency response is necessary, the Contractor's Site Manager will be contacted first for guidance.

other relevant individuals or groups in the community will be notified through this established system or as otherwise detailed in the sections below.

#### 4.1. Medical Emergency

In the event of an injury/illness requiring medical treatment to personnel, the following steps should be followed:

1. **Survey the Scene** to confirm whether it is safe to enter.
  - Ensure circuit is de-energized before touching victim in the case of electric shock.
2. **Do Not Move Victim** unless it is unsafe for the victim to remain in a particular location.
3. **Briefly Examine the Victim** to determine the severity of the injury/illness.
4. **Dial 911 DIRECTLY if Victim requires immediate attention** and relay the necessary information to the 911 operator (see Emergency Notification Procedures above).
  - If personnel dial 911 directly using their cell phones, **contact Contractor's Site Manager** and inform them of the injury/illness.
5. **Administer First Aid** as appropriate.
  - If the victim is conscious, ensure you have permission to help.
  - If victim has stopped breathing, perform CPR and use the AED, if available, and can be done safely.
  - Stop bleeding by applying pressure directly to wound.
  - Keep victim warm to help reduce the potential of shock until medical assistance arrives.
6. **Send Available Individual** to meet the rescue unit and direct them to accident scene. A Bluestone Wind-affiliated worker will accompany the victim to the hospital.

If the victim does not require urgent medical attention, contact the Contractor's Site Manager and inform them of the injury/illness. If the injury can be addressed with first aid only (e.g., minor cuts and bruises), administer first aid. If further attention is required, Contractor's Site Manager will arrange to take the injured person to the nearest hospital or urgent care center. Contractor's Site Manager must report all injuries to the Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager as soon as possible but no later than within 24 hours of the injury.

#### 4.2. Fire

In the event of a fire, the following steps should be followed:

1. **REPORT** the fire to Contractor's Site Manager.
2. **EXTINGUISH** if the fire is small enough so as not to endanger personnel. Determine the appropriate fire extinguisher and attempt to extinguish the fire.
  - If the fire is successfully extinguished, report the outcome to Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager.
  - Monitor the site to ensure the fire does not reignite.
3. **ASSESS** the size and type of the continuing fire and notify all personnel of the problem.

4. **CALL 911**
5. **EVACUATE** all unnecessary personnel from the immediate area of fire.

#### 4.3. Physical Security Threat

It is the responsibility of all employees, contractors, and visitors to immediately notify Contractor's Site Manager of sabotage, potential sabotage, or suspicious activity.

##### **Active Shooter or Other Violent Situations**

1. **NOTIFICATION** Call 911
2. **EVACUATE**
  - Have an escape route and plan in mind
  - Leave belongings behind
  - Keep your hands visible
3. **HIDE OUT** If evacuation not possible
  - Hide in an area out of the shooter's view
  - Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors, if possible
  - Silence your cell phone and/or pager
4. **TAKE ACTION** As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
  - Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
  - Act with physical aggression and throw items at the active shooter.

##### **Suspicious Person or Activity**

1. **NOTIFICATION**
  - Bluestone Wind-affiliated workers who observe a suspicious person or activity must immediately report the incident to Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager.
  - Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager will decide whether to contact the police.

##### **Vandalism, Equipment Tampering, Sabotage, Trespassers**

1. **NOTIFICATION** If evidence of vandalism, equipment tampering, sabotage, or trespass is discovered
  - Contact the Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager.
  - Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager will decide whether to contact the police.
2. **FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS** Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager will:
  - Investigate the incident.
  - Decide whether to implement security upgrades.

#### 4.4. Severe Weather

Warnings of electrical storms, tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, and snowstorms that have the potential to impact the safety of Bluestone Wind-affiliated workers and the community are typically distributed by the local government

emergency organization via radio and television stations. In the event any employee becomes aware of a severe weather warning, Contractor's Site Manager must be notified. If conditions in the field indicate the weather poses an immediate risk, Bluestone Wind-affiliated workers may take appropriate measures to protect themselves (depending on the particular weather emergency) and then contact Contractor's Site Manager.

Morning safety meetings will cover forecasted weather conditions for the day. In addition, weather forecasts will be reviewed throughout the day. Potentially significant changes in weather conditions during the day will be communicated by Contractor's Site Manager to personnel in the field.

Below are procedures to follow if facing specific weather conditions.

#### 4.4.1. Electrical Storms (i.e., Thunder/Lightning)

If advance notification occurs, the following steps should be followed:

- **Initial warning** to field work personnel using available communications devices (two-way radios, cell phones) will be issued when lightning is detected within thirty (30) and fifty (50) miles of the work site.
- **Immediate work stand down** will be called when lightning is detected within thirty (30) miles of the work site. Field work personnel will be ordered to immediately stop work and head to their vehicles until the storm passes.
- **Contractor's Site Manager will confirm that all employees are accounted for.**
- **Field work personnel will be directed to stay in their vehicles** until the lightning passes.
- **All clear will be issued** when lightning is thirty (30) miles or more from the work site.

If no advance notification occurs, the following steps should be followed:

- **Thunder heard** indicating thunderstorm is likely to be within ten (10) miles of the site.
- **Take shelter** in a vehicle immediately.
- **Contact the Contractor's Site Manager and report circumstances.**

APPLY 30/30 RULE IF UNABLE TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM Contractor's Site Manager ON LOCATION/DIRECTION OF STORM

- **If you see lightning strike** count out 30 seconds. If you hear thunder within 30 seconds, storm is close enough to stop job for 30 minutes.
- **Seek shelter** in vehicle.

General Lightning Safety Guidance:

- **Be alert before and after storms**
  - If you can see lightning and/or hear thunder, you are already potentially at risk and should seek shelter.
  - Many lightning casualties occur as the storm approaches and after the perceived threat has passed.
- **Avoid being in or near**
  - Communication towers, isolated trees, light poles, metal fences
  - Open fields
  - Open water
- **If taking shelter in vehicle**
  - Avoid touching any metal objects with inside-to-outside connection
- **If driving**



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- Pull off to side of road in safe manner (low area, not on a hill)
- Turn on emergency blinkers, turn off engine, and wait out storm with hands in lap
- **If operating heavy equipment which employ rollover system canopy**
  - Shut down equipment, close doors, and wait out storm with hands in lap
  - If operating boom truck or crane, retract boom and place in the boom rack

#### 4.4.2. TORNADOS

Although tornados are not common in upstate New York, they have occurred. To prepare for a possible tornado, it is important to know the difference between a tornado watch and a tornado warning.

- **Tornado Watch:** Conditions are favorable for tornados to develop.
- **Tornado Warning:** Either official spotters have sighted a tornado or Doppler radar has reported a developing tornado. A tornado warning is typically issued for a small area (possible one or two counties) for less than an hour.

#### **Tornado Notification/Safety**

As noted at the outset, weather issues are discussed in the morning briefing and monitored throughout the day.

If a tornado watch is issued in the area, the following steps should be taken:

- Designate a person to monitor a radio or other information source.
- Notify all affected site personnel of the tornado watch and ensure they are in immediate contact if an emergency arises.
- If conditions warrant, remove personnel from the field.

If a tornado warning is issued in the area, the following steps should be taken:

1. **If in the field**
  - If possible, get inside a building.
  - If shelter is not available, lie in a ditch or low-lying area or crouch near a strong building.
  - Use arms to protect head and neck.
2. **If in a car**
  - Get out of the car immediately and follow the above field procedures. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO OUTDRIVE A TORNADO**

#### **After Tornado**

5. **CALL 911** if any personnel require immediate medical attention.
6. **Notification** Notify Contractor's Site Manager of your status, location and circumstances (property damage, fire, injuries, etc.).
7. **Turn on radio or television** to get latest emergency information.
8. **Be Aware of Your Surroundings.**
  - Watch for downed power and telephone lines, falling debris and chemical/petroleum spills
  - **Administer First Aid** to any injured persons if qualified to do so
  - **Stay Out of Damaged Buildings/STRUCTURES**  
Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager and/or State local authorities will inspect buildings to ensure they are safe. **RETURN ONLY WHEN AUTHORITIES SAY IT IS SAFE.**

#### 4.4.3. High Winds

High winds may occur independent of a storm event. If weather forecasts predict high wind conditions, the following steps will be taken to protect field crews.

If advance notification occurs, the following steps should be followed:

1. **Initial warning** to field work personnel using available communications devices (two-way radios, cell phones) will be issued when winds are detected that could potentially pose a safety risk.
2. **Immediate work stand down** will be called when wind speeds exceed dangerous levels.
  - Field work personnel will be ordered to immediately stop work and head to their vehicles until the conditions abate.
3. **Contractor's Site Manager will confirm that all employees are accounted for.**
4. **Field work personnel will be directed to stay in their vehicles** until the conditions abate.
5. **All clear will be issued** when wind speeds fall to safe levels.

After High Wind Event Over: Follow post tornado procedures above.

#### 4.4.4. Hurricanes

Although hurricanes are not common in upstate New York, they have occurred. However, unlike tornados, warnings for hurricanes are typically issued several days in advance, allowing time to prepare.

##### **Hurricane Notification, Preparation, and Safety:**

As noted at the beginning of this section, weather issues are discussed in the morning briefing and monitored throughout the day. Certain basic measures should be taken at all Project-related sites.

- **Beginning 48 Hours Prior to Expected Hurricane Arrival (Construction Site and Project)**
  1. Dispose of any loose debris off-site
  2. Relocate outdoor equipment or other items that may become "missiles"
  3. If possible, secure any heavy outdoor equipment that cannot be moved indoors or relocate it off-site
  4. Cover critical stock and equipment that cannot be moved with waterproof tarpaulins
  5. Relocate containers of all petroleum and chemicals (other than that in heavy equipment) indoors or off-site
- **24 Hours Before Expected Arrival:** End all work at the Project Site and evacuate.

##### **Post-Hurricane Activities:**

Bluestone Wind Construction Site Manager will conduct safety assessment of Project site. This will include the identification of potential hazards and expedite necessary repairs/ cleanup. If the site is deemed safe to return, an ALL CLEAR will be communicated to personnel, authorizing their return to the Project.

#### 4.4.5. Floods and Significant Rain Events

The Project is located outside floodplains and so is unlikely to be affected by floods. The primary risk of flooding is related to transportation to/from the Project. If a flooding is occurring while driving:

- **DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH STANDING WATER.** Areas of standing water may be deeper than they appear. If you come across standing water, take an alternate route.

- **IF YOU ARE FORCED TO DRIVE THROUGH STANDING WATER** take the following precautions:
  - Do your best to estimate the depth of the water (watch other cars driving through and note how deep the water seems to be)
  - Drive slowly and steadily through the water
  - Avoid driving through water that downed electrical lines have fallen in
  - Watch for items traveling downstream
  - If you become trapped in rising water, immediately abandon the vehicle for higher ground. Try to open the door or roll down the window to get out of the vehicle. If you are unable to get to safety, call 911

#### 4.4.6. Snowstorms

Broome County receives more than 80 inches of snow annually and is the site of major snow and ice storms. The following steps will be followed to protect employees from sudden snow and ice events.

- **NOTIFICATION** If a major snow/ice storm is predicted, Contractor's Site Manager will inform on-site personnel and implement the appropriate procedures.

#### 4.4.7. Earthquakes

##### **During Earthquake:**

1. Go to a clear area away from buildings, trees, power lines and poles
2. Get low to the ground and balance yourself.
3. If there is no open area, seek available shelter (such as a vehicle) to avoid falling objects.

##### **After Earthquake:**

1. **Be Prepared for Aftershocks** which may continue for several minutes
2. **CALL 911** if any personnel require immediate medical attention
3. **EVACUATE** to your assembly point if you feel safe in doing so
4. Do not leave the location until accounted for by Contractor's Site Manager
5. **Notification** Notify Contractor's Site Manager of your status, location, and circumstances (damage, fire, injuries, etc.)
  - **ADMINISTER FIRST AID** to any injured persons
  - **INSPECT AREA** Contractor's Site Manager or designee will inspect building/area for fires, downed power lines, and other damage, including evaluating potential for future damage caused by aftershocks