

INFORMATION AND UPDATES ABOUT THE HIGH BRIDGE WIND FARM

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Coming Soon!

Contact Us!

CHRIS STANTON chris.stanton@northlandpower.com (512) 557-8843 The High Bridge Wind Farm, under development in Guilford, is anticipated to be an up to 100 megawatt (MW) wind energy project of up to 25 onshore wind turbines. Chenango County is blessed with great wind resources and is positioned to benefit from this incredible asset for decades to come.

High Bridge Wind is Acquired by Northland Power



On May 13, Northland Power acquired the High Bridge Wind Project from Calpine Corporation. Established in 1987, Northland Power is a Canadianbased independent power producer that develops, builds, owns and operates sustainable infrastructure assets globally.

Currently, Northland Power operates efficient natural gas, wind and solar facilities that generate 2,681 MW of electricity, with an additional 430 MW of renewable energy under construction in Mexico and New York State and 1,044 MW of offshore wind in advanced development in Taiwan. Northland Power is an experienced owner and operator of power generating assets, with particular expertise in managing wind facilities. The company looks forward to bringing the High Bridge Wind Farm online within the next two years to make a significant contribution to New York's clean energy goals.

The Northland Power High Bridge Team

The Northland Power team is composed of experienced clean energy professionals with deep industry knowledge. **Chris Stanton** is a Project Development Manager at Northland Power and is the lead project developer for High Bridge Wind. Chris is a familiar face to many, as he previously worked on the project as a developer under Calpine. Prior to rejoining Calpine and the High Bridge project in the summer of 2019, Chris served as lead developer on two gas-fired power plants in northern Pennsylvania that



Chris Stanton





Michelle Chislett

achieved commercial operation in late 2019. **Jeffrey Nemeth** is the Project Development Director for Northland Power and is responsible for the company's U.S. development efforts. Jeffrey has been developing wind projects across the U.S. for the past 11 years and is responsible for developing and constructing 1,500 MW of wind. He has spent nine years working on projects in New York State and was responsible for the development and construction of the Arkwright Summit and Jericho Rise wind farms. **Michelle Chislett** leads the Canada/US development team at Northland as Managing Director. Trained as an electrical engineer, Michelle has been involved in over 1,500 MW of wind, solar and storage projects across Canada over the past 15 years. She currently serves as Chair on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Renewable Energy Association.

Article 10 Process and Other Permitting Updates

High Bridge Wind has completed about 75% of the Article 10 permitting process. This includes applying for the main permit, also called a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, which will govern construction and operation of the project. The Town of Guilford, the state agencies and the Guilford Coalition of Non-Participating Residents (GCNR) all submitted issues statements, written testimony, and arguments in the form of briefs. In August, High Bridge Wind, the Town and multiple state agencies all signed off on settlement conditions, which detail a number of changes to the project design and operations plans. These changes address concerns the Town and state agencies had voiced during the review process. On October 20, two Public Statement Hearings were held by phone (due to COVID-19 restrictions), during which members of the public provided comments on the record before the administrative law judges serving as the hearing examiners for High Bridge Wind's Article 10 application. The next milestone in the process is a Recommended Decision, which will be determined by a panel of judges. The state Siting Board is required to make a final decision on the permit no later than mid-March 2021, which is the one-year anniversary of the date that High Bridge Wind's application was deemed complete by the state.



On October 28, High Bridge Wind submitted its application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) under Section 68 to the Public Service Commission. This is a separate permit from

the Article 10 Certificate, and it determines whether High Bridge Wind and Northland Power are financially qualified to undertake the project. A public hearing may be set by the administrative law judge to hear evidence to decide whether or not Northland Power is financially capable of supporting a project of High Bridge's size. A CPCN must be in place before construction begins. Updates on the process can be found under <u>Case</u> <u>Number 20-E-0542</u> on the DPS DMM website.



Separate and apart from the state agencies, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has been reviewing the location of the project's turbines to ensure that they are compatible with existing air traffic in the area, including aircraft arriving and

departing from airports in Sidney and Norwich. We are happy to report that on October 13, the FAA issued Determinations of No Hazard for all of High Bridge's 25 turbine locations at High Bridge. The Determinations require High Bridge to adhere to customary conditions, including the installation of synchronized red lights. No further approval from the FAA is needed for High Bridge to begin construction on the project.



Message on COVID-19

We hope everyone remains safe and healthy during these unprecedented times. Though restrictions brought on by the pandemic have prevented us from scheduling in-person visits, we have been working steadily behind the scenes to ensure safe operations and keep the project moving on schedule. We'll see you back in the community as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we are available to answer questions via email at <u>highbridge@</u> <u>northlandpower.com</u> or speak to Chris Stanton by phone at (512) 557-8843.

Update on Field Work Related to the Project

In early October, High Bridge Wind conducted invasive species surveys on certain parcels of land in the project area. The work was done by biologists who are working to quantify the distribution and coverage of all of New York State's regulated invasive species within the project's footprint. GPS was used to capture the boundaries of all infestations, and that information will be shown in supporting mapping and design drawings. These will be used to develop an Invasive Species Control Plan for the project to protect the land's agriculture and forestry from invasive species.

In early November, we conducted surveys of streams throughout the project area to measure the typical width of the bodies of water that we'll be crossing with High Bridge Wind's components. The data collected is being used by project engineers to appropriately size culverts to withstand floods and allow passage by fish. Data collection was confined to streams and wetlands within the project's boundaries and did not require wider access to participating landowners' properties.



High Bridge Wind Will Support the Local Community Over the Long-Term

The High Bridge Wind Farm will bring long-term economic growth to the Town of Guilford and Chenango County through Host Community Agreement (HCA) and/or PILOT payments, depending on the structure ultimately decided on by the taxing jurisdictions. These payments are estimated to amount to tens of millions of dollars over the project's operating life. We look forward to continuing to work with Chenango County, the Town of Guilford, the Bainbridge-Guilford School District, and the Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School District to outline the funding that will be annually disbursed to each entity, covering the vast majority of payments that will be made by the project.

Although the value of the equipment will depreciate over the project's life, the HCA and PILOT agreements will ensure that contributions will escalate annually over the next 30 years. This built-in certainty of appreciation and guaranteed revenue will allow Chenango County, the Town of Guilford, the Bainbridge-Guilford School District, and the Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School District to plan ahead and make informed budgeting decisions, which could mean the jurisdictions would not have to raise taxes to meet budgetary demands and might even reduce taxes as a result of the payments provided by the project.

Coming Soon!

Following the preliminary geotechnical work we previously completed at a few locations, we will be sending out crews in late December or January to take boring samples at all wind turbine locations for the High Bridge Wind Farm. The process is expected to take approximately 1-2 months to complete, during which we will be working closely with participating landowners to minimize any disruptions to the land during hunting season. Analysis of the collected samples will help inform the project's final design.

In Support of the High Bridge Wind Farm? Let Us Know!

If you are in support of the High Bridge Wind Farm and the long-term benefits it will bring to Chenango County, we'd love to hear from you! Call Erin Salkowski at (713) 412-6436 to learn more about the different ways you can show your support.

Follow Us on Facebook

We recently launched a High Bridge Wind Project Facebook page to provide up-to-date, accurate information about the project. Search for "<u>High Bridge Wind Project</u>" on Facebook and follow or like the page to keep up with the latest project developments.



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