



January 27, 2013

Via: Email

Nick Colella
Senior Project Evaluator
Environmental Approvals Branch
Ministry of the Environment
2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A
Toronto, ON, M4V 1L5

Dear Mr. Colella:

**Re: Grand Bend Wind Farm
Summary of Proposed Project Modifications
File No.: PIA019991.003**

Summary of Proposed Project Modifications

Grand Bend Wind Limited Partnership, with Northland Power Inc. ("Northland") as agent, are proposing to develop, construct and operate a 100 MW wind facility located north of Grand Bend, Ontario. An application for a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) was submitted under Ontario Regulation 359/09 of the Environmental Protection Act on February 15, 2012. The project is classified as a Class 4 Wind facility under the Regulation. The Grand Bend Wind Farm ("the Project") is located in Huron County, spanning the lower-tier municipalities of Bluewater and Huron South. Portions of the transmission line also traverse the municipality of Huron East and municipality of West Perth in Perth County. The Project location and study area is outlined in the Project Description Report and can be found listed under reports at the Grand Bend Wind Farm web site at:

<http://grandbend.northlandpower.ca/index.cfm?pagepath=Reports&id=35972>.

This letter report summarizes a modification being sought to the original REA application submitted. The original application proposed to include up to 48 turbines Siemens SWT-2.3-113 direct drive wind turbine generators with a total name plate capacity of 100 MW. Northland continues to seek approval for the 48 turbine locations, but requires a change of the turbine's model to the Siemens SWT-3.0-113, 2.48 MW turbines, while still limiting the facility's total name plate capacity to 100 MW.

With the use of this new turbine there are a number of benefits to the Project and the community. The new SWT-3.0-113 turbine will only require 40 turbine locations to be

constructed . The extra eight locations are only being permitted should one or more of the preferred 40 locations not be constructible due to unexpected geotechnical conditions or some other factor(s). This modification is possible due to the potential higher MW output of the Siemens SWT-3.0-113, 2.48 MW turbine versus the original SWT-2.3-113 model. Another beneficial feature is that the SWT-3.0-113 turbine, when operated as planned at 2.48 MW will reduce noise levels at all the receptor locations as compared to the SWT-2.3-113 model that was originally proposed.

There are no negative effects anticipated with the use of this new turbine. There are only positive effects for the Project with both reduced turbine numbers and noise.

This Project modification has resulted in changes to two of the reports previously submitted, and revised reports have been provided to the Ministry of the Environment for review as follows:

- An updated Noise Assessment
- An updated Turbine Specifications Report

These two updated reports can be found on the Grand Bend Wind Farm web site as mentioned previously.

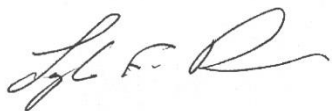
The turbine locations, tower height and blade length proposed in the original application have not changed, therefore there are no impacts to natural heritage, archeological, cultural and other aspects detailed in the reports of the original application. For this reason no additional contact or approvals from either the Ministry of Natural Resources or the Ministry of Culture Tourism and Sport are required.

Throughout our reports submitted as part of the original REA application, anywhere the Siemens SWT-2.3-113 turbine is mentioned, it should be replaced with the Siemens SWT-3.0-113, 2.48 turbine.

We trust that this letter along with the supporting reports adequately addresses the beneficial project modification proposed.

Respectfully,

Neegan Burnside Ltd.



Lyle Parsons
Project Manager
LP:hl

cc: Jim Mulvale, Northland Power Inc.
Gord Potts, Northland Power Inc.