

Why we need wind power

The Government of Nova Scotia has introduced legislation that requires 80 per cent of electricity to be supplied by renewable energy by 2030. This commitment to a greener source of energy requires the province to phase out the use of coal over the next 8 years.

To meet these targets, the province has asked renewable energy companies to propose projects to supply low-carbon, low-cost energy. This spring, companies will bid into a request for proposals (RFP) process through the Rate Based Procurement Program. The winning bids will be awarded Power Purchase Agreements with Nova Scotia Power Inc. to supply renewable electricity generation for their customers.

In addition to supporting Nova Scotia's goals to fight climate change, this procurement will encourage investment and create jobs. See <https://novascotiarp.com>

Expected Timeline

Spring 2022	ABO Wind and Community Wind submit RFP proposal Begin environmental and other studies required by Environmental Assessment (EA) Regulations
Summer 2022	If the Project receives a Power Purchase Agreement, install wind measurement tower and continue environmental studies
Fall 2022	Environmental studies continue
Winter 2022-2023	EA submission goes to the Province
Summer 2023	EA receives approval from the Province
Fall 2023	Construction begins with clearing and road building
Summer 2025	Commissioning – turn on the wind farm

Project Consultation

Consultation will continue through the life of the Project with stakeholders and First Nations. Currently, we are in the planning stage. There will be ample opportunity to ask questions, make comments and provide input during the Project design and environmental assessment stage.

We will continue to provide Project updates and correspond on a timely basis, through our website, open houses, mail-outs, personal meetings and expanded communication channels. Our objective is to facilitate open, honest and respectful discussion with all those interested in the Project.

Our Partnership

Community Wind Farms Inc. (Community Wind) is a local renewable energy company with development projects across Atlantic Canada.

ABO Wind Canada Ltd. (ABO Wind), a wholly owned subsidiary of ABO Wind AG, is a global company with extensive experience in renewable energy development.

Together, we are developing renewable energy projects throughout Nova Scotia.

Our Values

We commit to being part of the solution by working on projects that help reduce carbon emissions. The transition to a climate friendly, sustainable energy supply, based on renewable energies, is critical.

We value input from communities and First Nations and commit to promoting and participating in open, honest and respectful communication. We understand and acknowledge that projects can have an impact, and we work to minimize those impacts and to maximize social benefits.

Contact us

Send us an email through the website. You can also contact us directly.



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www.melvinlakewind.ca



Melvin Lake Wind Project Update

March 2022

Community Wind and ABO Wind Canada are proposing the 100-megawatt Melvin Lake Wind Project in response to Nova Scotia's recent Rate Based Procurement Program. An estimated 18 wind turbines would be placed on Crown land and private land, just south of Highway 101 and west of Pockwock Lake. This renewable energy project would generate enough electricity for 28,000 homes and displace approximately 2.2 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent during its lifetime.

Thank you for your feedback

We held our first open house for the proposed Project in September 2021. We appreciate community members taking the time to come out to the event to learn more and discuss the Project.

Thank you for your calls and emails. We continue to respond to your questions and comments. We have captured many of the questions at www.melvinlakewind.ca.

Our Project continues to be informed by ongoing input from the community, regulators, and environmental and technical experts.

See inside for a revised map of the proposed Project area



12 Questions

Here are the most common questions that we have heard from community members. For more topics, please see www.melvinlakewind.ca

1 Are wind turbines really that “green”?

Third-party studies have confirmed that wind turbines typically offset greenhouse gases emitted as part of their production and installation within the first year of operation. When the whole cycle of production and operations is considered, wind energy is recognized as one of the “greenest” or least carbon intensive forms of energy production.

2 How do you select the areas for the turbines?

There are many factors to consider in siting wind turbines – our ability to keep setbacks to at least 1,000 metres from homes, the wind resource, environmental features, access to transmission lines, and the ability to access and build turbines at the location.

3 What will we see?

The visibility of each turbine depends on the viewpoint. On the Project website there are preliminary visual simulations prepared by a third party. During development, we will ask community representatives to offer more viewpoints for more detailed visual impact assessments.

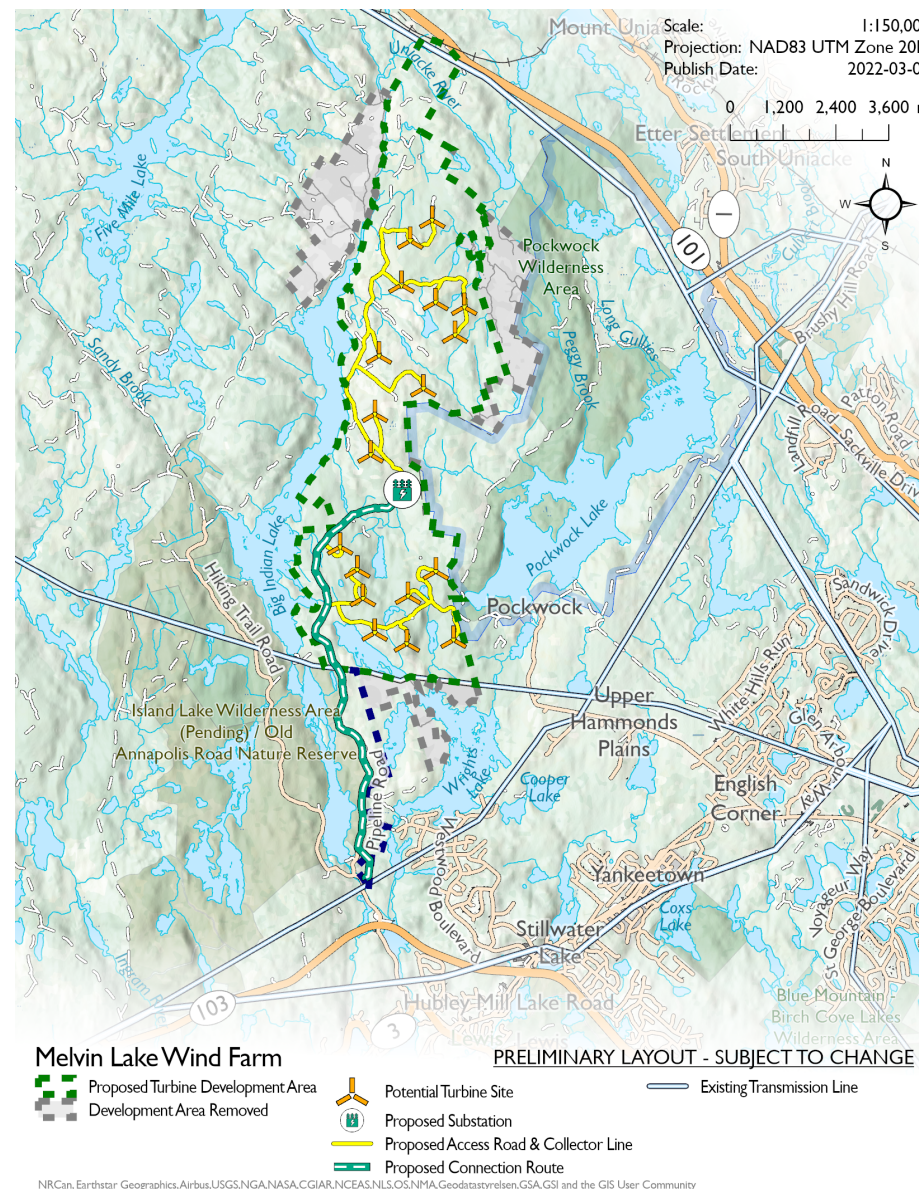
4 Will the turbines be noisy?

During development, we will prepare a detailed noise impact assessment with a map showing sound emissions in relation to nearby residential properties. As the Project team gains more information about the area and the wind, the engineers adjust their recommendations about turbine models. Once we have selected a model, more information will be made available.

5 How does the community benefit from this Project?

We anticipate many benefits to the community such as

- tax revenue for the municipalities to provide services to residents
- short-term and long-term jobs and contracts in site clearing, road building, electrical, construction and concrete work, and ongoing maintenance
- revenue to local businesses during construction, for accommodations, restaurants and catering, and other services
- benefit funds to provide financial support to the community hosting the Project, for community-level initiatives
- revenue to local landowners from leases signed with the developer



This updated map is preliminary and subject to change based on additional stakeholder, environmental, regulatory, and technical input.

6 How do you protect wildlife?

As part of the regulatory approval process, an environmental assessment will be undertaken to understand the relationship between wind turbines and the local environment. This is a requirement of the Province of Nova Scotia. Through this analysis, our team will make the necessary adjustments to avoid or reduce potential impact on wildlife.

7 Will people be able to use the land as they have been (hunting, fishing, cutting wood)?

Project planning will be done to minimize restrictions on land use. Typically, most activities underway before construction of a wind site can continue afterwards.

8 How will traffic be affected during construction?

Before construction begins, the Project team will circulate a traffic management plan to the municipality, local police services and the community. It will outline mitigation measures, such as site speed limits and daily work hours. There will be public notification of various stages of construction traffic to and from the site.

9 Who maintains the turbines, access road, equipment, etc.?

During the life of the Project, there will be a local site manager who will ensure the turbines, roads and equipment are well maintained and operating safely.

10 How big will the turbines be?

A few factors contribute to the choice of wind turbines, such as the wind profile and the height of nearby vertical obstacles. The Project is still at a preliminary stage. Once we have more wind data to tell us where the wind blows strongest, we can choose a turbine. We anticipate the hub height would range from about 100 to 120 metres with an approximate blade length between 60 and 85 metres.

11 Will safety lights have to be on all night?

Aviation warning lights on wind turbines are required by Transport Canada regulations. However, the Project is exploring the feasibility of light mitigation options to reduce the visibility to those on the ground.

12 Will the wind farm affect property values?

Studies have been conducted on property sale data in and around wind farms in Canada, the United States, and internationally. Data gathered cannot support or disprove the impact on property values.

In Ontario, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation examined assessments of properties located at 1, 2, and 5 kilometres from wind turbines. The studies found that for 2012 and 2016, there were no conclusive findings on the prices of residential properties resulting from the proximity to a turbine. See <https://www.mpac.ca/en/PropertyTypes/SpecialStructuresProperties/Windturbinesnearproperties>.

Our options for producing renewable power are shaped by Nova Scotia's geography and weather. The most affordable and reliable option is harnessing the strong winds. The requirements for good wind projects limit where they can be located. We are proposing this Project for a specific area with strong wind, where we can meet setback requirements from homes and we can access power transmission lines.