Grand Bend Wind Farm

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study Draft Report

Grand Bend Wind Limited Partnership, c/o Northland Power Inc.



NEEGAN BURNSIDE

August 2012



Grand Bend Wind Farm Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study Draft Report

Prepared By:

Neegan Burnside Ltd. 292 Speedvale Avenue West Unit 20 Guelph ON N1H 1C4

Prepared for:

Grand Bend Wind Limited Partnership

August 2012

File No: PIA019991

The material in this report reflects best judgement in light of the information available at the time of preparation. Any use which a third party makes of this report, or any reliance on or decisions made based on it, are the responsibilities of such third parties. Neegan Burnside Ltd. accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions based on this report.

Record of Revisions

| Revision | Date | Description | |
|----------|-----------------|---|--|
| 0 | August 14, 2012 | Initial Submission to the Ministry of Natural Resources | |
| | | (MNR), Municipalities and First Nations | |
| 0 | August 27, 2012 | Initial Draft Submission to Municipal and Aboriginal | |
| | | Communities as well as Selected Government | |
| | | Agencies | |

Executive Summary

The Grand Bend Wind Limited Partnership, c/o Northland Power Inc. ("Northland") is proposing to develop, construct and operate a 100 MW wind facility located north of Grand Bend, Ontario. An application for approval is being prepared under Ontario Regulation 359/09 of the Environmental Protection Act. 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 basic project components will include up to 48 turbines (Siemens SWT-2.3-113 direct drive wind turbine generators with a total name plate capacity of 100 MW), turbine access roads, a 36 kV electrical collection system, substation and a new transmission line within municipal road Right-Of-Ways ("ROWs") along Rodgerville Road, Line 17 and Road 183 with connection to the provincial power grid at the 230 kV transmission line south of the Seaforth Transformer Station. During construction temporary components will include access roads and work/storage areas at the turbine locations and transmission connections.

Under O.Reg. 359/09, a Natural Heritage Assessment ("NHA") is a required component of a REA Application for a Class 4 Wind Facility. The NHA is to be completed in four stages as follows:

- Stage 1: Records Review;
- Stage 2: Site Investigation;
- Stage 3: Evaluation of Significance; and,
- Stage 4: Environmental Impact Study.

This report presents the findings of the Stage 4, Environmental Impact Study ("EIS").

Based on the results of the Evaluation of Significance, the features listed in the table below are present within 120 m of the Project Location and meet the criteria for provincial significance or are being treated as significant:

| Feature Type | # of Features | Feature Identifiers | |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|--|
| Significant Features | 5 | | |
| Valleyland | 1 | V-001 | |
| Provincially | 2 | WE-027, WE-029 | |
| Significant | | (Hay Swamp Complex) | |

Significant Features or Features Being Treated as Significant

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

| Feature Type | # of | Feature Identifiers | |
|--|---------------|---|--|
| | Features | | |
| Wetlands | | | |
| Significant | 32 | W-004, W-012, W-013, W-014, W-020, W-021, W-023, W-026, W- | |
| Woodlands | | 029, W-030, W-031, W-034, W-036, W-037, W-039, W-041, W- | |
| | | 042, W-053, W-067, W-079, W-081, W-086, W-088, W-093, W- | |
| | | 094, W-099, W-102, W-104, W-118, W-123, W-127, W-128 | |
| Turtle Nesting | 1 | TNA-002 | |
| Areas | | | |
| Deer Yarding Areas | 2 | DYA-001 | |
| | | DYA-002 | |
| Amphibian | 1 | ABH-007 | |
| Breeding Habitat | | | |
| (Woodland) | | | |
| Wetlands Treated as | s Significant | | |
| Wetlands Treated | 22 | WE-001, WE-002, WE-008, WE-010, WE-011, WE-012, WE-013, | |
| as Provincially | | WE-014, WE-015, WE-016, WE-017, WE-020, WE-022, WE-026, | |
| Significant | | WE-030, WE-031, WE-032, WE-033, WE-034, WE-035, WE-037, | |
| | | WE-038, | |
| Wildlife Habitat Trea | ited as Sign | ificant and Requiring Habitat Use Study Prior to Construction | |
| Bat Maternal | 10 | BMC-001, BMC-002, BMC-003, BMC-004, BMC-005, BMC-006, | |
| Colonies | | BMC-007, BMC-008, BMC-009, BMC-010 | |
| Turtle Wintering | 1 | TWA-003 | |
| Areas | | | |
| Habitat for Special | 13 | SCC-001, SCC-002, SCC-003, SCC-004, SCC-005, SCC-006, | |
| Concern and Rare | | SCC-007, SCC-008, SCC-009, SCC-010, SCC-011, SCC-012, | |
| Species | | SCC-013 | |
| Generalized Candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat | | | |
| Generalized | N/A | N/A | |
| Candidate | | | |
| Significant Wildlife | | | |
| Habitat | | · · | |

The EIS identifies all potential negative environmental effects on the significant natural heritage features as a result of the Project activities.

A number of criteria for each potential negative environmental effect were considered to understand the extent of the effect and to develop appropriate mitigation and monitoring strategies. Key considerations included:

- the magnitude of the effect both in intensity and spatial scale;
- the proximity of the effect in relation to the Project;
- the likelihood of occurrence and reoccurrence of the effect;
- the timing and duration of the effect;
- the permanence or irreversibility of the effect; and,
- the potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature.

Mitigation measures were developed to address all potential impacts. Wherever possible, construction, operation and decommissioning scheduling and procedures were developed to avoid occurrence of a potential effect. In cases where avoidance was not possible, an appropriate mitigation strategy was developed to minimize the magnitude, likelihood, duration and permanence of the potential effect. Mitigation strategies were typically developed according to the following approach:

- design project siting to avoid occurrence of the effect;
- develop construction, operation and decommissioning scheduling and procedures to mitigate the effect; and,
- develop rehabilitation measures to restore affected features.

Performance objectives were then developed to provide a benchmark against which to evaluate the success of mitigation strategies. In general, performance objectives are to:

- minimize environmental effects during all phases of the project;
- reduce the environmental effects on natural habitats, flora, and fauna;
- avoid accidents and malfunctions;
- avoid levies or sanctions from the corresponding authorities for negligent environmental performance; and,
- comply with all environmental quality standards set by law.

Some mitigation strategies will require environmental monitoring to ensure proper implementation and confirmation that the effect is adequately mitigated. In some cases where the likelihood of a significant negative environmental effect is low, a monitoring approach has been proposed in lieu of a mitigation strategy. To prepare for an event where environmental monitoring may reveal a negative environmental effect, contingency measures have been developed to achieve the following:

- rehabilitate or correct a negative environmental effect;
- notify the applicable agencies if required; and,
- develop alternative mitigation strategies that could prevent the same negative environmental effect from occurring again.

With the mitigation, performance objectives, monitoring and contingency measures described in this report, it is anticipated that the project will not cause negative environmental effects. Should any unexpected effects occur, they will be identified through ongoing monitoring processes and actions will be undertaken to correct them. As such, the Grand Bend Wind Farm meets all provincial policies and regulations with respect to natural heritage.

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

Table of Contents

| Recor | d of Revisions | i |
|--|--|--|
| Execu | tive Summary | ii |
| 1.0 1.1 | Introduction Project Location | 1 2 |
| 2.0 | Findings of the Evaluation of Significance | 4 |
| 3.0 3.1 3.2 3.3 | Environmental Impact Study and EEMP Framework Potential Negative Environmental Effects Mitigation Strategies Performance Objectives Environmental Monitoring and Contingency Plans | 5 5 7 |
| 4.0 4.1 | Description of Project Components and Activities | 9 |
| 4.2 4.3 4.4 | Operation/Maintenance Decommissioning Summary of Project Activities | 9 9 .10 |
| 5.0 | Identification of Potential Negative Environmental Effects and Mitigation | |
| 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.4.1 5.4.2 | Measures Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat Significant Features Wetlands Treated As Significant Wildlife Habitat Treated As Significant Habitat Use Studies Impacts and Mitigation for Wildlife Habitats Treated as Significant | .13 .19 .30 .35 .37 .42 |
| 6.0 | Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan | .45 |
| 7.0 | Construction Plan Report | . 46 |
| 8.0 | Confirmation from Ministry of Natural Resources | . 47 |
| 9.0 | Conclusions | . 48 |
| 10.0 | References | . 49 |

Table of Contents (Continued)

Tables

| Table 2.1 | Significant Features or Features Being Treated as Significant | 4 |
|------------|--|----|
| Table 4.1 | Summary of Construction, Operation/Maintenance and | |
| | Decommissioning Activities | 10 |
| Table 5.1 | Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat within 120 m of the Project | |
| | Location | 13 |
| Table 5.2 | General Construction and Decommissioning Effects, Mitigation, | |
| | Performance Objectives, Monitoring and Contingency Plans | 15 |
| Table 5.3 | Significant Features | 19 |
| Table 5.4 | Summary of Potential Negative Effects and Proposed Mitigation | |
| | Measures for Significant Features | 25 |
| Table 5.5 | Wetlands Treated As Significant | 30 |
| Table 5.6 | Summary of Potential Negative Effects and Proposed Mitigation | |
| | Measures for Wetlands Treated As Significant | 33 |
| Table 5.7 | Wildlife Habitat Treated as Significant | 35 |
| Table 5.8 | Methodology for Bat Maternal Colony Habitat Use Study | 37 |
| Table 5.9 | Methodology for Species of Conservation Concern Habitat Use | |
| | Study | 39 |
| Table 5.10 | Summary of Potential Negative Effects and Proposed Mitigation | |
| | Measures for Features Treated As Significant | 43 |
| | | |

L

Appendices

- A Figures
- B MNR Confirmation

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

Glossary of Terms

| ABH | Amphibian Breeding Habitat |
|-------|--|
| BMC | Bat Maternal Colony |
| CSWH | Candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat |
| DYA | Deer Yarding Area |
| EIS | Environmental Impact Study |
| ELC | Ecological Land Classification |
| EOS | Evaluation of Significance |
| GCSWH | Generalized Candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat |
| MNR | Ministry of Natural Resources |
| NHA | Natural Heritage Assessment |
| PSW | Provincially Significant Wetland |
| SCC | Species of Conservation Concern |
| SS | Seeps and Springs |
| SWH | Significant Wildlife Habitat |
| TNA | Turtle Nesting Habitat |
| TWA | Turtle Wintering Area |
| | |

1.0 Introduction

The Grand Bend Wind Limited Partnership, c/o Northland Power Inc. ("Northland") is proposing to develop, construct and operate a 100 MW wind facility located north of Grand Bend, Ontario. An application for approval is being prepared under Ontario Regulation 359/09 of the Environmental Protection Act. 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 provided in **Appendix A, Figure 1**.

The basic project components will include up to 48 turbines (Siemens SWT-2.3-113 direct drive wind turbine generators with a total name plate capacity of 100 MW), turbine access roads, a 36 kV electrical collection system, substation and a new transmission line within municipal road Right-Of-Ways ("ROWs") along Rodgerville Road, Line 17 and Road 183 with connection to the provincial power grid at the 230 kV transmission line south of the Seaforth Transformer Station. During construction temporary components will include access roads and work/storage areas at the turbine locations and transmission connections.

Under O.Reg. 359/09, a Natural Heritage Assessment ("NHA") is a required component of a REA Application for a Class 4 Wind Facility. The NHA is to be completed in four stages as follows:

- Stage 1: Records Review;
- Stage 2: Site Investigation;
- Stage 3: Evaluation of Significance; and,
- Stage 4: Environmental Impact Study.

This report presents the findings of the Stage 4, Environmental Impact Study ("EIS") and builds upon the previous Records Review, Site Investigation and Evaluation of Significance ("EOS"). Part V, Section 38 of the REA Regulation requires that an EIS conducted as part of REA be prepared in accordance with the procedures established by MNR. An EIS must assess the construction, installation, use, operation, changing and retiring of the renewable energy facility.

The purpose of the EIS is to:

 Identify and address any potential negative environmental effects that the project may cause to significant or provincially significant natural features, Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves within 120 m of the Project Location.

Specifically, the EIS must identify:

- Potential negative effects resulting from the project;
- Mitigation measures to be used to minimize environmental effects;
- An Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan ("EEMP"), including:
 - o Performance objectives;
 - o Mitigation measures planned to achieve performance objectives;
 - o Monitoring to ensure that mitigation strategies are meeting objectives; and,
 - Contingency plans should mitigation measures fail to meet objectives.
- Describe how the Construction Plan Report addresses any negative environmental effects.

Additional post-construction monitoring measures are provided in the Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan for Birds and Bats (Neegan Burnside, August 2012). Mitigation measures and the EEMP provided herein are consistent with information provided in the <u>Construction Plan Report</u> and <u>Design and Operations Report</u>.

1.1 **Project Location**

The proposed Project is located in Huron County, spanning the lower-tier municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron as well as a portion of Huron East and the municipality of West Perth in Perth County. The Project Study Area, shown in **Appendix A, Figure 1** is bounded by:

- The Bluewater Highway (Highway 21) to the west;
- Main Street East/Grand Bend Line to the south;
- Blackbush and Shipka Lines with a small section of the study area in the central section of the project extending to Bronson Line and to the east; and,
- Staffa Road to the north; and,
- Including two potential transmission line routes, as described below.

Two transmission line routing options were originally studied, a northern route and a southern route, as described in the Records Review Report (Neegan Burnside, June, 2012). The northern route was identified as having fewer natural heritage as well as social, aesthetic and technical constraints as was thus selected as the preferred route. This route runs from a transformer sub-station on Lot 14, Concession 13, former Hay Township, and follows Sararas/Rodgerville Road to Line 17 and Road 183, connecting to the existing 230 kV Hydro One transmission line just south of the Seaforth Transformer Station ("TS"). The southern route was discarded as an option and was not studied any further.

O.Reg. 359/09 defines the Project Location as:

"a part of land and all or part of any building or structure in, on or over which a person is engaging in or proposes to engage in the project and any air space in which a person in engaging in or proposes to engage in the project."

For the purposes of this Project, the Project Location includes the footprint of the facility components, plus any temporary work and storage locations. The boundary of the Project Location is used for defining setback and site investigation distances according to O.Reg. 359/09. The buildable area, which includes the footprint of the facility components, plus any temporary work and storage locations, will be staked on private lands. All construction and installation activities will be conducted within these designated areas; this includes construction vehicles and personnel. Similarly, all installation activities related to transmission lines within the municipal road allowance will be contained within the boundaries of the road allowance.



2.0 Findings of the Evaluation of Significance

Based on the results of the EOS, the features listed in **Table 2.1** and shown on **Figure 2** in **Appendix A** are present within 120 m of the Project Location and meet the criteria for provincial significance or are being treated as significant:

| Eastura Type | # 66 | Eastura Identifiero |
|-----------------------|------------------|---|
| reature Type | # 01 Features | reature identifiers |
| Significant Features | i catares | |
| Valleyland | 1 | V-001 |
| Provincially | 2 | WE-027, WE-029 |
| Significant | | (Hay Swamp Complex) |
| Wetlands | | |
| Significant | 32 | W-004, W-012, W-013, W-014, W-020, W-021, W-023, W-026, W- |
| Woodlands | | 029, W-030, W-031, W-034, W-036, W-037, W-039, W-041, W- |
| | | 042, W-053, W-067, W-079, W-081, W-086, W-088, W-093, W- |
| | | 094, W-099, W-102, W-104, W-118, W-123, W-127, W-128 |
| Turtle Nesting | 1 | TNA-002 |
| Areas | | |
| Deer Yarding Areas | 2 | DYA-001 |
| | | DYA-002 |
| Amphibian | 1 | ABH-007 |
| Breeding Habitat | | |
| (Woodland) | | |
| Wetlands Treated as | s Significant | |
| Wetlands Treated | 22 | WE-001, WE-002, WE-008, WE-010, WE-011, WE-012, WE-013, |
| as Provincially | | WE-014, WE-015, WE-016, WE-017, WE-020, WE-022, WE-026, |
| Significant | | WE-030, WE-031, WE-032, WE-033, WE-034, WE-035, WE-037, |
| | | WE-038, |
| Wildlife Habitat Trea | ted as Sign | ificant and Requiring Habitat Use Study Prior to Construction |
| Bat Maternal | 10 | BMC-001, BMC-002, BMC-003, BMC-004, BMC-005, BMC-006, |
| Colonies | | BMC-007, BMC-008, BMC-009, BMC-010 |
| Turtle Wintering | 1 | TWA-003 |
| Areas | * | |
| Habitat for Special | 13 | SCC-001, SCC-002, SCC-003, SCC-004, SCC-005, SCC-006, |
| Concern and Rare | | SCC-007, SCC-008, SCC-009, SCC-010, SCC-011, SCC-012, |
| Species | | SCC-013 |
| Generalized Candid | ate Significa | ant Wildlife Habitat |
| Generalized | N/A | N/A |
| Candidate | | |
| Significant Wildlife | | |
| Habitat | | |

 Table 2.1
 Significant Features or Features Being Treated as Significant

3.0 Environmental Impact Study and EEMP Framework

3.1 Potential Negative Environmental Effects

The EIS identifies all potential negative environmental effects on the significant natural heritage features listed in **Table 2.1** as a result of the Project activities listed in **Table 4.1**.

A number of criteria for each potential negative environmental effect were considered to understand the extent of the effect and to develop appropriate mitigation and monitoring strategies. Key considerations included:

- the magnitude of the effect both in intensity and spatial scale;
- the proximity of the effect in relation to the Project;
- the likelihood of occurrence and reoccurrence of the effect;
- the timing and duration of the effect;
- the permanence or irreversibility of the effect; and,
- the potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature.

3.2 Mitigation Strategies

The primary mitigation measure employed to reduce impacts to natural features and functions was avoidance. Micro-siting of Project components has been undertaken with consideration of potential impacts to natural features, wildlife and wildlife habitat. The Project is sited predominately within actively cultivated agricultural land with limited natural habitat removal required for the Project.

Wherever possible, construction, operation and decommissioning scheduling and procedures were developed to avoid occurrence of a potential effect. In cases where avoidance was not possible, an appropriate mitigation strategy was developed to minimize the magnitude, likelihood, duration and permanence of the potential effect. Mitigation strategies were typically developed according to the following approach:

- design project siting to avoid occurrence of the effect;
- develop construction, operation and decommissioning scheduling and procedures to mitigate the effect; and,
- develop rehabilitation measures to restore affected features.

Project siting measures were described in the EOS. This report focuses primarily on scheduling and other mitigation and rehabilitation measures. Mitigation will be enacted through a variety of mechanisms, including:

- <u>Contract Documents.</u> Northland is committed to operating the Project in an environmentally responsible manner and in compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, and guidelines. All of Northland's contractors and subcontractors will be accountable for actions that have an adverse effect on the environment. As such, any contract documents executed by Northland will incorporate appropriate provisions from the REA documents. Additionally, all contractors, subcontractors, and other associates of the Project will follow the guiding principles of the monitoring program. These organizations will also comply with all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal legislation.
- <u>Management Structures.</u> Northland, the turbine manufacturer, the Balance of Plant Contractor and the Operation and Maintenance Contractor, will take steps to ensure that they have appropriately skilled personnel to carry out the environmental responsibilities as defined in this Report. All organizations associated with Project development activities will develop responsive reporting systems that clearly assign responsibility and accountability for development actions. As appropriate, Northland will review these reporting documents.
- <u>Change Management</u>. During the implementation of the Project, change may be required to address unforeseen or unexpected conditions or situations. Northland Power, the turbine manufacturer, the Balance of Plant Contractor and the Operation and Maintenance Contractor will be responsible for ensuring environmental and safety issues are addressed. Northland Power will affect any significant changes to Project programs, procedures, and plans throughout the life of the Project.
- 4. <u>Environmental Procedures</u>. Northland, the turbine manufacturer, the Balance of Plant Contractor and the Operation and Maintenance Contractor will be responsible for implementing all approved environmental procedures during all phases of the Project. Individual personnel responsibilities will be assigned as necessary to support the full and effective implementation of the environmental procedures. Environmental procedures will address the following issues to prevent environmental contamination:
 - Spills and releases: to identify the specific procedures for the prevention, response, and notification of spills. In addition it should establish the general procedures for spill clean-up, personnel training, and material handling and storage to prevent spills;
 - Hazardous waste management: to outline the procedures for the proper identification of hazardous waste and its proper storage, handling, transport, and disposal. In addition, the procedures should outline specific requirements for personnel training, emergency response, product review and approval, and record keeping; and,

 Solid waste management: to establish alternative procedures for the management and disposal of used lubricants, used drums, and general office waste.

These procedures will ensure internal and external risks are fully evaluated and the information communicated to personnel in advance of any accident or malfunction.

- 5. <u>Operation and Maintenance Training Program</u>. As appropriate Northland and/or the Operation and Maintenance Contractor should develop an operations training program to ensure personnel receive appropriate training in relation to operation and maintenance programs, environmental procedures, and the emergency preparedness and response plan. With respect to the environment and natural heritage, training may cover the following issues:
- Environmental Protection, including:
 - o Important/sensitive environmental features and areas;
 - o Incidence reporting (spills, wildlife incidents); and,
 - Materials disposal.
- Facility Safety, including:
 - o Accident reporting; and,
 - o Chemical and hazardous materials handling.
- Emergency Preparedness, including:
 - Fire preparedness and response;
 - o Natural disasters (i.e., extreme weather events); and,
 - o Hazardous materials and spill response.

Training should begin as the initial staff complement is hired during the preoperational mobilization period. There should also be on-going training for personnel as well as specific training sessions for new hires.

3.3 Performance Objectives

Performance objectives were developed to provide a benchmark against which to evaluate the success of mitigation strategies. In general, performance objectives are to:

- minimize environmental effects during all phases of the project;
- reduce the environmental effects on natural habitats, flora, and fauna;
- avoid accidents and malfunctions;
- avoid levies or sanctions from the corresponding authorities for negligent environmental performance; and,

• comply with all environmental quality standards set by law.

Performance objectives specific to natural heritage features and project activities are listed in Tables 5.2, 5.4, 5.6 and 5.10 of this report.

3.4 Environmental Monitoring and Contingency Plans

Some mitigation strategies will require environmental monitoring to ensure proper implementation and confirmation that the effect is adequately mitigated. In some cases where the likelihood of a significant negative environmental effect is low, a monitoring approach has been proposed in lieu of a mitigation strategy. To prepare for an event where environmental monitoring may reveal a negative environmental effect, contingency measures have been developed to achieve the following:

- rehabilitate or correct a negative environmental effect;
- notify the applicable agencies if required; and,
- develop alternative mitigation strategies that could prevent the same negative environmental effect from occurring again.

Reporting is an important component of the monitoring program. Specific internal audits (e.g., management team and/or process team), and external audits against the plans, safety and environmental procedures, and other policies and procedures are all part of establishing performance standards necessary to minimize risks on a continuing basis. As appropriate, a formal audit program for the Project with regard to environmental programs should be performed annually.

In certain instances (e.g., post-construction monitoring for birds and bats), annual monitoring reports are a condition of the Project approval and must be provided to agencies for review. Northland will be responsible for ensuring that all reporting requirements are met.

4.0 Description of Project Components and Activities

4.1 Construction

Construction activities for the Project generally involve:

- pre-construction works for investigation, design, and layout of Project components;
- site works to prepare the lands and facilitate access for construction;
- civil and mechanical works for the roads and turbines;
- electrical works for electricity generation and transmission; and,
- restoration works to reinstate temporary construction areas to predevelopment conditions.

Further details of these works are described in the <u>Construction Plan Report</u>, and are summarized in **Table 4.1** below.

4.2 Operation/Maintenance

Operations and maintenance activities for the Project generally involve:

- wind turbine operation and monitoring;
- transmission line maintenance;
- planned/scheduled maintenance of Project components;
- unscheduled maintenance of Project components;
- waste management;
- sewage management; and,
- water taking.

Further details of these works are described in the <u>Design and Operations Report</u>, and are summarized **in Table 4.1** below.

4.3 Decommissioning

Decommissioning activities for the Project generally involve:

- reinstating construction access roads to remove Project components;
- turbine disassembly and disposal;
- transmission line removal;
- removal and disposal of all other Project components; and,
- site restoration.

Further details of these works are described in the <u>Decommissioning Plan Report</u>, and are summarized in **Table 4.1** below.

4.4 Summary of Project Activities

Activities associated with project construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning are summarized in **Table 4.1**.

| D | coominissionin | | | |
|--------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| Phase | Activity | Description of Activity | | |
| Construction | Site Preparation | Site survey including installing survey stakes for layout of Project components: | | |
| | | Project components; | | |
| | | Geotechnical investigation including borehole and test pit | | |
| | | sampling of subsurface soils; | | |
| | | Installation of Erosion and Sediment Control measures; | | |
| | | Installation of construction site safety measures; and, | | |
| | | Clearing and grubbing of lands required for construction. | | |
| | Tile Drain | Installation of new headers and modifications to existing tile | | |
| | Modifications | drains. | | |
| | Local Road | Temporary culvert extensions at intersections; and, | | |
| | Improvements | Placement, grading, and compacting of additional aggregate | | |
| | | at intersections. | | |
| | Access Roads | Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil and subsoil separately; | | |
| | | Rough-grading; | | |
| | | Trench excavation and installation of 36 kV collector line and | | |
| | | fiber optic cable; | | |
| | | Backfilling and compacting trench; | | |
| | | Installation of geotextile if required to reinforce subsoil; and, | | |
| | | Placing, fine-grading and compacting granular sub-base and | | |
| | | base materials. | | |
| | Watercourse | Culvert installations; | | |
| | Crossings | High-Pressure Directional Drilling; | | |
| | | Punch and Bore; and, | | |
| | | Overhead Line Construction. | | |
| | Turbine | Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil and subsoil separately; | | |
| | Assembly | Foundation excavation; | | |
| | | Ground wiring, formwork, and rebar assembly; | | |
| | | Concrete pouring; | | |
| | | Tower erection; | | |
| | | Nacelle installation; and, | | |
| | | Rotor assembly and installation. | | |
| | 36 kV Collection | • For work within private land, refer to access road construction; | | |
| | System | and, | | |
| | | • For work within public Right-of-Way, the 36 kV collector line | | |
| | | will be installed underground in the gravel shoulder. | | |
| | 230 kV | Installation of utility poles; and, | | |
| | Transmission | Installation of 230 kV transmission line on utility poles. | | |

Table 4.1Summary of Construction, Operation/Maintenance and
Decommissioning Activities

| Phase | Activity | Description of Activity |
|-----------------|------------------|--|
| | Line | |
| | Communication | Installation of fiber optic communication lines in conjunction |
| | Lines | with 36 kV collection system and 230 kV transmission line. |
| | Transformer | Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil and subsoil separately; |
| | Sub-station and | Electrical connections and ground wiring; |
| | Switchyard | Placement, fine-grading, and compacting of aggregate |
| | | foundation; |
| | | Installation of electrical equipment; and, |
| | | Installation of safety features. |
| | Parts and | Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil and subsoil separately; |
| | Storage Building | Placement, fine-grading, and compacting of aggregate |
| | | building pad; |
| | | Construction of reinforced concrete foundation; |
| | | Erection of framing, siding, and roofing; and, |
| | | Construction of well and septic system. |
| | Site Restoration | All private and public lands temporarily used for construction |
| | | will be restored to pre-development conditions (restoration of |
| | | local roads, vegetation, agricultural land, etc.). |
| Operation | Wind Turbine | Full-time monitoring of wind turbine operation based out of |
| | Operation | Parts and Storage building. |
| | Planned / | Bi-annual inspections and maintenance of Project |
| | Scheduled | components, including transmission line. |
| | Maintenance | |
| | Unscheduled | Unscheduled maintenance of Project components. |
| | Maintenance | |
| | Waste | Proper storage, transportation, application and disposal of oil |
| | Management | and grease. |
| | Sewage | Maintenance of Parts and Storage Building septic system. |
| | Management | |
| | Water Taking | Maintenance of Parts and Storage Building well and potential |
| | | treatment and storage systems. |
| Decommissioning | Reinstatement of | Widening of site entrances and access road turns to transport |
| - | Construction | Project components off-site. Refer to Access Roads during |
| | Access Roads | the Construction phase for procedure. |
| | Turbine | Reverse engineering of turbines with use of a crane; and, |
| | Disassembly | Transportation of turbine equipment off-site for re-use, |
| | | salvage, or disposal. |
| | Removal of | Electrical decommissioning / de-energizing; |
| | Electrical | Proper removal and disposal of oil from transformers; and, |
| | Equipment (i.e. | Transportation of electrical equipment off-site for re-use. |
| | Switchyard, | salvage. or disposal. |
| | Transformer | |
| | Sub-station, | |
| | Turbine step-up | |
| | transformers) | |
| | Removal of | Removal of granular access roads off-site; |
| | Access Roads | Replacement with topsoil as applicable. |
| | Removal of | Breaking-up concrete turbine foundations to an appropriate |

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

| Phase | Activity | Description of Activity |
|-------|------------------|---|
| | Foundations | depth, and disposal off-site. |
| | Removal of 36 | • Removal of underground cable and disposal off-site for re-use, |
| | kV Collection | salvage, or disposal; and, |
| | System | Replacement of affected areas with topsoil as applicable. |
| | Removal of 230 | Removal of transmission line and utility poles for re-use, |
| | kV Transmission | salvage, or disposal off-site; and, |
| | Line | Re-vegetation as applicable. |
| | Site Restoration | Removal and disposal of all waste from site; and, |
| | | • Restoration of Project area to pre-development conditions (i.e. |
| | | topsoil and vegetation replacement as applicable). |

5.0 Identification of Potential Negative Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

This section of the EIS is organized according to the type of features present, including features identified as:

- Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat;
- Significant Features;
- Wetlands treated as significant; and,
- Other features treated as significant and requiring a habitat use study to confirm significance.

For Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat a number of standard construction mitigation measures are identified. These measures will also be applied to all other significant features; however, rather than reiterating them for each feature, reference is simply made back to Section 5.1. Mitigation for other types of features includes all standard measures as well as the additional measures described in each respective section.

For each type of feature, potential environmental effects, mitigation, performance objectives, monitoring and contingency measures are identified.

5.1 Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat

The types of habitats identified as Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat ("GCSWH") are present in **Table 5.1**. These types of habitats are identified as generalized because their location relative to various project components means that negative effects are predictable, short-term in duration and can be mitigated using standard construction mitigation. The location of these features is shown on **Figures 2a-h** in **Appendix A**.

| Location | |
|-------------|--|
| ID | Habitat Type |
| GCSWH-WSSA | Waterfowl Stopover and Staging Areas (Aquatic) |
| GCSWH-BMC | Bat Maternal Colonies |
| GCSWH-TWA | Turtle Wintering Areas |
| GCSWH-WNA | Waterfowl Nesting Areas |
| GCSWH-WRN | Woodland Raptor Nesting |
| GCSWH-TNA | Turtle Nesting Areas |
| GCSWH-ABH | Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland) |
| GCSWH-WASBB | Woodland Area-sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat |
| GCSWH-SS | Seeps and Springs |

Table 5.1Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat within 120 m of the Project
Location

Work within these features is limited to minor vegetation removal associated with the installation of utility poles and below ground collector and overhead transmission lines.

Other construction activities may occur adjacent to these features. Potential effects on these features include:

- accidental encroachment into features;
- mortality of wildlife inadvertently moving through construction zones;
- limited vegetation removal;
- introduction of invasive species into the environment;
- sediment and erosion impacts associated with:
 - open cuts/trenching for installation of the turbines, access roads, underground collector lines, parts storage building, transformer sub-station and utility poles;
 - directional drilling and/or punch and bore installation of select portions of the underground collector lines and transmission line;
- effects on seepage areas due to dewatering for construction of the turbine foundations;
- spills from equipment fueling or oiling/greasing of project components;
- impacts of noise on wildlife; and,
- dust effects.

General mitigation measures, performance objectives, monitoring and contingency plans are summarized in **Table 5.2**. A detailed description of each project activity is provided in **Table 4.1**.

Table 5.2 General Construction and Decommissioning Effects, Mitigation, Performance Objectives, Monitoring and Contingency Plans

| Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Site Preparation | Limited vegetation removal (D). | No project components will be located directly within any natural significant features boundaries Vegetated buffers will be left in place to the extent possible. A Tree Preservation Plan will be developed during the detailed design phase in order to identify trees which may need to be removed or trimmed during construction of the transmission line. Trees requiring removal will be replaced at a ratio determined through the Tree Preservation Plan based on the age, size, species and health of the tree. The Tree Preservation Plan will also include recommendations for minor adjustments to utility pole locations in order to minimize tree loss to the extent possible. Time vegetation removal to avoid periods of habitat use where possible especially during breeding bird season for migratory birds (May 1 – July 30) undertaking active nest surveys if clearing of vegetation must take place during breeding bird season. Any cleared areas will be re-vegetated using a native seed mix where appropriate | Duration is expected to be moderate (10-15 years until replacement trees have matured); however magnitude, frequency and geographic scope are very limited. No residual effect anticipated | Minimal vegetation removal for installation of utility poles only. | Undertake m Preparation s trees are rem damaged dui If active nest vegetation m will be suspe Replacemen to ensure at will be plante |
| All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | • Accidental encroachment of equipment, stockpiles etc. into natural areas (I). | All work zones should be delineated with silt fencing and be clearly marked to indicate that no work should occur outside the fenced area. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No disturbance to natural areas. | An Environm inspection to |
| All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | Potential soil compaction (D). | Heavy equipment and material stockpiles will be limited to fenced construction areas. Temporary construction staging areas and construction roads which have been compacted will be rehabilitated upon completion of construction. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | Minimize soil compaction to the extent possible. Rehabilitate any compacted soils within temporary construction areas. | An Environm inspection to do not extend Northland ar participating construction construction |
| All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | Mortality of wildlife inadvertently moving through construction zones (I). | Silt fencing will be properly installed and maintained around work zones will also act to kept wildlife out of work areas. Construction traffic will be restricted to day time hours. Speed limit signage will be posted along | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No wildlife mortality. | An environm fenced areas keyed/toed ir cannot gain a If wildlife ina- area, the Environment |

and Contingency Measures

nonthly site inspections during the Site stage to ensure that only specified moved and that remaining trees are not uring construction activities. tts are found in an area where must be cleared, construction activities ended during breeding bird period. In trees will be monitored for one year least 80% survival. Additional trees ed if survival rate is lower.

nental Inspector will perform regular ensure that mitigation is implemented.

nental Inspector will perform regular o ensure that equipment and stockpiles ad beyond construction areas.

nd the contractor will work with landowners to ensure that soils in areas are rehabilitated to pre-

conditions.

nental inspector will regularly monitor s to ensure that fencing is properly n to the ground to ensure that wildlife access under fenced area.

dvertently moves into a construction vironmental Inspector will move the

| Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Pla |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| | (I=Indirect) | | | | |
| | | construction travel routes to ensure that construction vehicles respect appropriate speeds. | | | species outs gloves and If any speci identified or within the in Natural Res |
| Installation and removal of 36kV collector lines, 230kV transmission line, communication lines | Sediment and erosion impacts associated with open cuts/trenching and directional drilling/punch and bore activities (I). | Implementation of the erosion and sediment control measures will conform to industry best management practices and recognized standard specifications such as Ontario Provincial Standards Specifications (OPSS). Sediment and erosion control measures will be implemented prior to construction and maintained during the construction phase to prevent the escape of sediment from work zones: All sediment and erosion control measures will be inspected prior to construction phase to prevent the escape of sediment from work zones: All sediment and erosion control measures will be inspected prior to construction phase to prevent entry of sediment into natural features; If the sediment and erosion control measures are not functioning properly, no further work will occur until the sediment and/or erosion problem is addresses; All disturbed areas of the construction site will be stabilized immediately and revegetated as soon as conditions allow; and, Sediment and erosion control measures will be left in place until all areas of the construction site have been stabilized. Directional drilling will be undertaken in accordance with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' Operational Statement. Directional drilling and/or punch and bore operations will be designed with launching and receiving pits that will minimize tree loss and disturbance of | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No erosion and sediment impacts on wildlife habitats. | A plan for a "frac-out" du in accordan Erosion and regularly ins and are ma If erosion and functioning implemente constructior |
| Site Restoration | Introduction of invasive species into natural areas (I). | natural vegetation wherever possible. All disturbed areas of the construction site will be re-vegetated as soon as conditions allow. Where re-vegetation is | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated | No introduction of invasive species. | An Environ inspection to If extensive |
| | ~~~ | required in the municipal road allowance, as a result of transmission line | | | identified as measures n |

PIA019991

an and Contingency Measures

tside of the work area, if possible, using a bucket or plastic tub, as appropriate. ties at risk are encountered that are not n relevant permits, all work will cease mmediate work area and the Ministry of sources will be contacted.

addressing impacts associated with uring directional drilling will be prepared nee with the Operational Statement. d sediment control measures will be spected to ensure they are functioning aintained as required.

and sediment control measures are not properly, alternative measures will be ed and prioritized above other n activities.

mental Inspector will perform regular to ensure that mitigation is implemented. e invasion of non-native species is s a result of the Project, contingency may include an applicable herbicide

| Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | installation, standard roadside seed mixes, which do not contain invasive species, will be used. | | | application. / developed as |
| Turbine assembly | Effects on groundwater levels/seepage areas and wetlands due to dewatering for construction of turbine foundations (I). | Any discharge from dewatering will be outlet to a vegetated area at least 30m from a habitat area utilizing a sediment filter bag. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No effect on groundwater levels. | An Environm any dewaterin The Monitor s working appro- is entering hat In the event of should stop in resolved. If significant of areas are not water levels n |
| All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | Spills from equipment fueling, oiling, greasing of project components (I). | All materials and equipment used for the purpose of site preparation and project construction shall be operated and stored in a manner that prevents any deleterious substances (petroleum produces, silt, etc.) from entering natural features: Any stockpiled materials will be stored and stabilized away from the feature; Refueling and maintenance of construction equipment should occur a minimum of 30 m from a natural feature; and, Hazardous material transportation and application will occur in designated areas according to operational procedures. Proper spill containment equipment will be used and maintained on site. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | Minimize potential for indirect effects from accidental spills. | As appropria Spills Action |
| All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | Impacts of construction noise on wildlife (I). | Environmental noise will be reduced through the standard operating practices. A traffic plan will be developed and implemented by the Construction Contractor. Work within 120 m of Amphibian Breeding Habitats (GCSWH-ABH) will not occur after dusk during the breeding season (April, May and June). Work within 120m of bird habitats (GCSWH-WRN, GCSWH-WASBB, GCSWH-WNA, GCSWH-WASBB, GCSWH-WNA, GCSWH-WSSA) will not occur in the early morning hours (between dawn and 1.5 hours after dawn) during the breeding season (May 15-July 30). | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | Minimize effects of noise. | The Environr operational p associated w |

PIA019991

| n and Contingency Measures |
|--|
| |
| An herbicide application plan will be |
| as required. |
| |
| mental Monitor should be on-site during |
| ring within 120m of natural features. |
| r should ensure that the filter bay is |
| habitat areas |
| t of sediment discharge, all operations |
| immediately until the problem can be |
| , i |
| t changes in water levels/seepage |
| oted, operations should cease until |
| s recover. |
| iate, spills will be reported to the MOE |
| n Centre. |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| nmental Inspector will ensure that all |
| plans and construction timing |
| with noise reduction are being followed. |
| Ū. |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

| Project Activity | roject Activity Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) | | Mi | tigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | | Performance Objective | | Monitoring Plan | |
|------------------|---|--------------------------|----|--|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| All Construction | • | Dust effects on wildlife | ٠ | As appropriate, dust from the work areas | • | Limited duration, frequency, | • | Minimize effects from dust on | ٠ | Dust emissi |
| and | | habitat (I). | | will be controlled through suppressants | | geographic extent. | | wildlife habitats. | | construction |
| Decommissioning | | | | (e.g. water). | • | No residual effect anticipated. | | | | frequency a |
| Activities | | | | | | | | | | |

n and Contingency Measures

sions will be monitored daily during n to ensure dust control watering and rates are adequate.

5.2 Significant Features

Features within 120 m of the Project Location which have previously been identified as significant or were evaluated as significant during the EOS are summarized in **Table 5.3** and shown on **Figures 3a-h** in **Appendix A**.

| | Significan | i Features | |
|--|------------|---|---|
| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and Functions | Distance between Feature and all project components within 120 m |
| Valleyland | V-001: | Limited wildlife movement corridor; and, Surface water storage and conveyance. | 3 m, (overhead transmission line). |
| Provincially Significant Wetland | WE-027: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; groundwater recharge; and, Deer yarding habitat (DYA- 001). | 6 m (underground collector line); and, 14 m (overhead transmission line). |
| | WE-029: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; groundwater recharge; and, Deer yarding habitat (DYA- 002). | 26 m (overhead transmission line). |
| Significant Woodlands | W-004: | Spring ephemerals abundant in FOD4-2 community; and, No specific habitat features identified. | 34 m (turbine); 31 m (assembly site area boundary); 31 m to 83 m (access road: construction only); and, 31 m to 107 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | W-012: | Vernal pools; patches of Spicebush in shrub layer. | 69 m (access road: construction only); and, 96 m (access road). |
| | W-013: | • N/A | 11 m (underground collector line); 68 m (assembly site area boundary); 73 m (turbine); and, 70 m (access road: construction only). |
| | W-014: | Spring ephemerals abundant; Shagbark Hickory abundant in some locations. | 3 m to 94 m (underground collector line); 37 m (turbine); 35 m (assembly site area boundary); 28 m (access road: construction only); and, 89 m (access road). |
| | W-020: | • N/A | • 2 m to 117 m (access road: |

Table 5.3 Significant Features

| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and | Distance between Feature and all |
|---------|------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | | Functions | project components within 120 m |
| | | | construction only); |
| | | | 4 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line); |
| | | | 20 m (underground collector line); |
| | | | 113 m (turbine); and, |
| | | | 112 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary). |
| | W-021: | Vernal pools; Sugar Maple | 5 m (underground collector lines); |
| | | with Red Oak in canopy; | 2 m, to 90 m (access road: |
| | | north end more disturbed. | construction only); |
| | | | 30 m to 42 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary); |
| | | | 39 m to 58 m (turbine); |
| | | | 60 m to 87 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line). |
| | W-023: | CUP3 approximately 50 | 2 m (access road and |
| | | years old; vernal pools | underground collector line); |
| | | present in the FOM6-1 and | 36 m to 87 m (access road: |
| | | SWD2-2 communities; dead | construction only); |
| | | ash present in canopy. | • 2 m to 116 m (underground |
| | | | collector line); |
| | | | 38 m to 117 m (assembly site |
| | | | area boundary); |
| | | | 39 m to 119 m (turbine); and, |
| | | | 95 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line). |
| | W-026: | Vernal pools present in the | 2 m (access road and |
| | | FOD5-8 community; spring | underground collector line); |
| | | ephemerals abundant in | 2 m to 49 m (access road: |
| | | some locations. | construction only); |
| | | | • 2 m to 116 m (underground |
| | | | collector line); |
| | | | • 39 m to 63 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary); |
| | | | • 40 m to 86 m (turbine); and, |
| | | | • 96 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line). |
| | W-029: | Vernal pools present in the | • 2 m (underground collector line); |
| | | SWD2-2 community. | • 47 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line); |
| | | | • 33 m to68 m (access road: |
| | | | construction only); |
| | | | • 43 m to 95 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary); and, |
| | | | • 61m to 95 m (turbine). |
| | VV-030: | • N/A | • 20 m (underground collector line). |
| | W-031: | • N/A | • 7 m (underground collector line). |

| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and | Distance between Feature and all |
|---------|------------|------------------------------|---|
| | 14/ 00 4 | Functions | project components within 120 m |
| | W-034: | • N/A | • 2 m (underground collector line). |
| | W-036: | Vernal pools. | • 8 m to 117 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line); |
| | | | 2 m to 80 m (access road: |
| | | | construction only); |
| | | | • 24 m to 48 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary); |
| | | | • 34 m to 71 m (turbine). |
| | W-037: | Seepages noted: occasional | • 2 m to 67 m (underground |
| | | Balsam Fir: spring | collector line): |
| | | ephemerals abundant in | • 5 m to 107 m (access road: |
| | | some locations. | construction only) |
| | | | 21 m to 98 m (turbine) |
| | | | 20 m to 106 m (assembly site area |
| | | | • 20 III (0100 III (assembly site area |
| | | | Journary), and, |
| | | | • 78 m to 114 m (access road and |
| | 14/ 000 | | underground collector line). |
| | W-039: | Green Ash forest with some | • 2 m to 51 m (overhead |
| | | White Elm and Trembling | transmission line). |
| | | Aspen; Green Ash Swamp | |
| | | with Trembling Aspen; | |
| | | European Buckthorn in | |
| | | understory. | |
| | W-041: | Vernal pools. | 32 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary); |
| | | | • 46 m to 60 m (turbine); |
| | | | 43 m (access road: construction |
| | | | only); and, |
| | | | • 43m to 116 m (access road and |
| | | | underground utility line). |
| | W-042: | Garlic Mustard (invasive | • 2 m (underground collector line); |
| | | species) present in some | • 7 m to 78 m, (access road and |
| | | locations in FOD4-2 | underground collector line); |
| | | community. | • 2 m to 95 m (access road: |
| | | | construction only); |
| | | | • 67 m to 119 m (turbine): and. |
| | | | 66 m to 116 m (assembly site |
| | | | area boundary). |
| | W-053: | • N/A | • 2 m to 52 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line): and |
| | | | • 2 m (access road: construction |
| | | | |
| | W/ 067. | - NI/A | Ully). |
| | vv-007. | ● IN/A | • 92 m (turbine); and, |
| | 14/ 070 | | • 92 (assembly site area boundary). |
| | vv-079: | • Spring ephemerals present; | • 14 m to68 m (overhead |
| | | vernal pooling. | transmission line). |
| 1 | I W-081: | I● N/A | 18 m to 118 m (overhead |

| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and | Distance between Feature and all | | | |
|----------------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | Functions | project components within 120 m | | | |
| | | | transmission line). | | | |
| | W-086: | • N/A | • 3 m to 34 m (overhead | | | |
| | | | transmission line). | | | |
| | W-088: | Mature forest dominated by | • 6 m (underground collector line); | | | |
| | | Sugar Maple and White Ash. | 6 m to 35 m (overhead | | | |
| | | | transmission line). | | | |
| | W-093: | • N/A | 120 m (overhead transmission | | | |
| | | | line). | | | |
| | W-094: | • N/A | 26 m (overhead transmission | | | |
| | | | line). | | | |
| | W-099: | • N/A | 28 m to 60 m (overhead | | | |
| | | | transmission line). | | | |
| | W-102: | Patches of mature | 2 m to 101 m (overhead | | | |
| | | deciduous forest dominated | transmission line). | | | |
| | | by Sugar Maple, White Flm | | | | |
| | | and White Ash: lowland | | | | |
| | | portions dominated by Green | | | | |
| | | Ash Swamp: portions of | | | | |
| | | coniferous plantation | | | | |
| | W/ 104: | | a 10 m to 16 m (overhead | | | |
| | vv-104. | • N/A | • 19 m to 40 m (overnead | | | |
| | | | transmission line). | | | |
| | VV-118: | Mature Sugar Maple and | • 5 m (overhead transmission line). | | | |
| | | American Beech forest with | | | | |
| | | some White Ash. | | | | |
| | W-123: | White Ash dominated with | 18 m (overhead transmission | | | |
| | | some Sugar Maple; mid- | line). | | | |
| | | aged. | | | | |
| | W-127: | • N/A | 92 m (overhead transmission | | | |
| | | | line). | | | |
| | W-128: | Willow swamp; White Ash | 20 m (overhead transmission | | | |
| | | and Sugar Maple forest. | line). | | | |
| Turtle Nesting | TNA-002: | Snapping turtle nest and egg | • 7 m to 20 m (underground | | | |
| Areas | | shells present. | collector lines): | | | |
| | | | • 2 m (access road and | | | |
| | | | underground utility line). | | | |
| Deer Yarding | DYA-001: | Stratum II Deer Yard | 6 m (underground collector lines): | | | |
| Areas | | | 29 m to 55 m (overhead | | | |
| 7 11 0 0 0 | | | transmission lines) | | | |
| | | - Stratum II Door Vard | a 26 m (averband transmission | | | |
| | DTA-002. | • Stratum i Deer Yard. | • 26 m (overnead transmission | | | |
| A man hiki | | | | | | |
| Amphibian | ABH-007: | Open water and marsh area | • 20 m to 116 m (assembly site | | | |
| Breeding | | supporting concentrations of | area boundary); | | | |
| Habitat | | spring peeper and green | • 35 m to 89 m (turbine); | | | |
| (Woodland) | | frog. | 32 m to 98 m (access road: | | | |
| | | | construction only); | | | |
| | | | • 91 m (underground collector line); | | | |
| | | | and. | | | |

| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and Functions | Distance between Feature and all project components within 120 m |
|---------|------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| | | | • 92 m to 103 m (access road and underground collector line). |



No portions of the project, or activities associated with it, will be located within any of these features. Some activities will occur adjacent to these features, including:

- construction of access roads, transformer sub-station, parts and storage building;
- installation of overhead and below ground collector lines, transmission lines and communication lines;
- construction of turbines;
- operation of the wind facility; and,
- decommissioning of the facility.

As such, there is potential for these features to be affected during construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the project.

All of the general construction mitigation described in **Table 5.2** will apply to activities occurring in and around these features. In addition to general mitigation, several specific measures, performance objectives, monitoring and contingency plans have been identified for these features above and beyond those previously described. These additional measures are summarized in **Table 5.4**.



| | y er i eterniar negative Eneet | | l'orginitoant l'oataroo | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/ duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
| CONSTRUCTION AND DEC | | the hatural feature. | | | | |
| CONSTRUCTION AND DEC | | | | | | |
| All Significant Features | All Construction and | General construction and decommissioning | Refer to mitigation listed under | Refer to Residual | Refer to | Refer to monitoring and |
| | Decommissioning Activities | effects. | Generalized Significant Wildlife | Effects listed under | Performance | contingency measures |
| Significant Valleylands | | Refer to effects listed under Generalized | Habitat. | Generalized Significant | Objectives listed | listed under Generalized |
| V-001 | | Significant Wildlife Habitat. | | Wildlife Habitat. | under Generalized | Significant Wildlife Habitat. |
| Significant Wetlands | | | | | Habitat | |
| WE-027 WE-029 | | | | | Tabilal. | |
| WE-027, WE-025 | | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | |
| 0: ::: :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::: | | | | | | |
| Significant Woodlands | | | | | | |
| vv-004, vv-012, vv-013, W- | | | | | | |
| 014, W-020, W-021, W- | | | | | | |
| 023, W-026, W-029, W- | | | | | | |
| 030, W-031, W-034, W- | | | | | | |
| 036, W-037, W-039, W- | | | | | | |
| 041. W-042. W-053. W- | | | | | | |
| 067, W-079, W-081, W- | | | | | | |
| 086 W-088 W-093 W- | | | | | | |
| 000, W-000, W-000, W- | | | | | | |
| 094, W-099, W-102, W- | | | | | | |
| 104, 00-118, 00-123, 00- | | | | | | |
| 127, W-128 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Turtle Nesting Areas | | | | | | |
| TNA-003 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Deer Yarding Areas | | | | | | |
| DYA-001 | | | | | | |
| DYA-002 | | | | | | |
| | | | Ψ. | | | |
| Amphibian Breeding | | | | | | |
| Habitat | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Significant valleylands | Installation and removal of 230kV | Siope failure, erosion or slumping during | I he detailed design and | Limited duration, | No slope failure, | Erosion and slope stability |
| | transmission line and | work in and around slope areas (I). | construction plan for this area will | frequency, geographic | erosion or | measures will be regularly |
| V-001 | communication lines | The effects identified above could have an | include a geotechnical assessment | extent. | slumping. | inspected to ensure they |
| | | effect on the health (water quality) of the | that will outline specific mitigation | No residual effect | No decrease in | are functioning and are |
| | | watercourse within the valley as well as on | for work on sloped areas. | anticipated | health functionality | maintained as required. |
| | | the health of the forested areas within the | A permit from the Ausable Bayfield | anticipatoa. | and stability of the | |
| | | | Concernation Authority will be | | | |
| | | valley. | Conservation Authority will be | | valleyland. | |
| | | | required for work in this area. All | | | |
| | | | conditions of the permit will be met. | | | |
| Significant Woodlands | Construction and removal of | Inadvertent loss of, or disturbance to. | Access road and collector lines will | Limited duration. | No disturbance to | Silt fencing and tree |
| - | access roads adjacent to the | vegetation along the edge of woodlands | be no closer than the dripline of | frequency geographic | woodlots | hoarding will be installed |
| W-04 W-020 W-21 W-23 | following woodlands: | during construction of adjacent access | each woodland odgo | evtent | | along the dripling and |
| W-026 W-29 W-30 W-31 | | reade and below ground callecter lines. | | | | monitored by an |
| W_34 W_036 W 37 W | | roads and below ground collector lines (I). | • Below ground collector lines will be | INO residual effect | | monitored by an |
| vv-34, vv-030, vv-37, vv- | | | | 1 | | |

Table 5.4 Summary of Potential Negative Effects and Proposed Mitigation Measures for Significant Features

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature. | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/ duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| 042, W-053, | W-053 (access road to T-16); W-042 (access road to T-18); W-036 (access road to T-25 and T-28); W-026 (access road to T-31); and, W-020 (access road to T-40). Installation of 36kV collector lines adjacent to the following woodlands: W-04 and W-037 (collector line along Sararas Road); W-029, W-030, W-034, W-031 (collector line along Shipka Road); W-023 and W-026 along Schadeview Road; W-020 along Turnbull's Road; and, W-021 along the field edge between T-37 and T-39. | The effects identified above could have minor effect on the size of woodlands and their function in providing edge habitat for a variety of species including Red-headed woodpecker (Special Concern species). | located within the gravel road shoulder and will not extend into wooded areas. Additional, taller tree protection fencing (tree hoarding) should be installed in these areas to protect tree limbs from equipment in adjacent areas. Any tree roots which extend into the construction area should be cut and re-packed into soil to avoid desiccation. Vegetation along the woodland edges should be surveyed for rare species by biologist prior to removal (see mitigation for Species of Conservation Concern). | anticipated. | | Environmental Inspector. |
| Significant Wetlands WE-027, WE-029 | Installation and removal of 230kV transmission line and communication lines | Inadvertent loss of, or disturbance to, vegetation within the wetlands (I). Movement of exposed sediment into the wetlands (I). The effects identified above could have minor effect on the size of wetlands and on the function of the wetland as surface water storage. | Two options for mitigation may be used: The transmission line may be located on the opposite side of the road from these wetlands. In this case, mitigation will include: Clearly demarcating wetlands and ensuring the equipment and material stockpiles do not encroach into the wetland in the opposite ROW. The transmission line may be directionally drilled below ground under the wetlands. In this case, mitigation measures will include: Entrance and exit pits will be at least 30m from the edge of the wetland; and, Sediment and erosion controls will be used around the entrance and exit pits. | May be residual effect associated with frac- out during directional drilling. Likelihood is low, limited duration, frequency and geographic extent. | No vegetation loss or disturbance associated with sediment and erosion on Provincially Significant Wetlands. | An Environmental Inspector will regularly monitor operations to ensure that activities do not encroach into wetland areas. If directional drilling is used, an Environmental Inspector will be on-site during drilling activities. A plan to address potential frac-out will be developed and activated by the Environmental Inspector if required. |

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/ duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| Significant Turtle Nesting and Amphibian Breeding Habitat ABH-007 TNA-002 | All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | Accidental mortality due to wildlife moving through the construction zone (I). The effect identified above may affect individual animals but unlikely to affect population health or resiliency. No effect on habitat functionality. | During construction wildlife fencing (sediment fencing) will be installed around all work areas within 120m of these habitats prior to any earth movement, stockpiling or other activities on the site. Fencing must be keyed in correctly and monitored for proper installation and maintenance by the Environmental Inspector. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No accidental mortality. No reduced amphibian breeding due to noise impacts. | The Environmental Inspector should be on-site for daily inspections of wildlife fencing for signs of turtles accessing the construction zone. This should occur in the work zone associated with T-40, its access road and all associated components during the period between March and October when turtles are active. If any turtles are found within the work zone, the Environmental Inspector should relocate them to the nearest habitat area outside of the work zone. When relocating snapping turtles, care should be taken to avoid injury by wearing gloves and placing turtles into a bucket or large plastic tub for relocation. Sediment/wildlife fencing within 120m of Amphibian Breeding Habitat (ABH-007) should also be inspected by the Environmental Inspector at least once a week during |
| Amphibian Breeding Habitat ABH-007 | Construction of turbines T-21, T-22, T-23, T-24 and T-25, their access roads and all associated components | Inhibition of amphibian breeding patterns and reproductive success due to disruptions of breeding calling patterns from turbine noise (I). The effect identified above could affect the size and diversity of the amphibian population in this pond. | Construction of turbines T-21, T-22, T-23, T-24 and T-25, their access roads and all associated components should not occur after dusk during the breeding season (April, May and June). | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No significant decrease in amphibian populations. | Contractor and Environmental Inspector to monitor work schedules to ensure that no work occurs within the restricted timing window. |
| OPERATION Significant Woodlands W-39, W-79, W-81, W-86, W-88, W-93, W-94, W-99, | Operation of the 230kV overhead transmission line | Fires or electrical outages from transmission line arcing to nearby trees and vegetation (I). The effect identified above could affect the | • The transmission line will be maintained to comply with the tree and vegetation clearance requirements of the North American | Likelihood of effect very limited and only expected to occur as an accidental | No fires or power outages as a result of tree or vegetation arcing with | If a transmission line fire or power outage occurs, the operations and maintenance staff will implement the Emergency |
| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature. | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/ duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|--|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| W-102, W-123, W-128 | | size, health and ecological diversity of woodlands. | Electricity Reliability Corporation (NERC). | occurrence.No residual effects anticipated. | transmission line. | Response Plan. |
| Amphibian Breeding Habitat ABH-007 | Wind Turbine Operation | Inhibition of amphibian breeding patterns and reproductive success due to disruptions of breeding calling patterns from turbine noise (I). The effect identified above could affect the size and diversity of the amphibian population in this pond. | Strategy to site turbines outside of habitat. | Duration of the effect could be experienced throughout entire operating period of the turbines. Effect most significant during spring breeding season. Potential for residual effects exists. | Minimize impacts to amphibian breeding. Baseline amphibian calling index to be maintained at 3 for both spring peeper and green frog. | Conduct an Amphibian Monitoring Program for two years following construction of the wind farm. Amphibian surveys to be undertaken in accordance with Marsh Monitoring Program Manual (Bird Studies Canada, 1994). Surveys will be conducted between one-half hour after sunset and midnight during each of the following three periods: April 15-30; May 15-30; and, June 15-30. Contingency measures may include additional monitoring to determine cause of decline, possible turbine shut-down or blade feathering during breeding season. Additional two years of monitoring if significant effects are observed. |

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature. | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/ duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| All Significant Features Significant Valleylands V-001 Significant Wetlands WE-027, WE-029 Significant Woodlands W-004, W-012, W-013, W- 014, W-020, W-021, W- 023, W-026, W-029, W- 030, W-031, W-034, W- 036, W-037, W-039, W- 041, W-042, W-053, W- 067, W-079, W-081, W- 086, W-088, W-093, W- 094, W-099, W-102, W- 104, W-118, W-123, W- 127, W-128 Turtle Nesting Areas TNA-003 Deer Yarding Areas DYA-001 DYA-002 Amphibian Breeding Habitat ABH-007 | Planned and Unplanned Maintenance | Maintenance activities may have impacts associated with spills and the accidental release of hazardous materials. General effects such as those described under listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat may occur if earth movement is required. Refer to effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. Maintenance activities are not anticipated to affect size, diversity, heath, connectivity or function of natural features. | Procedures will be in place for the handling of hazardous materials, disposal of waste and management of dust and noise. Any maintenance requiring earth movement will use the same mitigation measures described under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to Residual Effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. No residual effect anticipated. | Refer to Performance Objectives listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to monitoring and contingency measures listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. |
| | | | | | | |

5.3 Wetlands Treated As Significant

Twenty-two wetlands within 120 m of the Project Location were treated as significant and assessed through the characteristics and ecological functions assessment, as listed in **Table 5.5** and shown on **Figures 4a-h** in **Appendix A**.

| Feature | Feature | Feature Attributes and Functions | Distance between Feature and all project components within 120 m |
|-------------|---------|----------------------------------|--|
| Wetlands | WE-001: | Elood attenuation: | 69 m (access road: construction |
| Treated as | | Water quality improvement: | only): and. |
| Significant | | and. | 96 m (access road). |
| | | Groundwater recharge | • 97 m to 108 m (assembly site |
| | | | area boundary). |
| | WE-002: | Flood attenuation: | • 2 m (underground collector line): |
| | | Water quality improvement: | • 39 m to 74 m (access road: |
| | | and, | construction only): |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | • 47 m to 65 m (turbine): |
| | | | 103 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line); and, |
| | | | • 44 m to 65 m (assembly site area |
| | | | boundary). |
| | WE-008: | Flood attenuation; | • 38 m (underground collector line); |
| | | Water quality improvement; | • 67 m (assembly site area |
| | | Groundwater recharge; and, | boundary); |
| | | Moderate erosion control on | • 86 m (turbine); and, |
| | | shore of open water area. | • 83 m to 95 m (access road: |
| | | | construction only). |
| | WE-010: | Flood attenuation; | • 20 m to 116 m (assembly site |
| | | Water quality improvement; | area boundary); |
| | | Groundwater recharge; and, | • 35 m to 89 m (turbine); |
| | | Moderate erosion control on | • 32 m to 98 m (access road: |
| | | shore of open water area. | construction only); |
| | | | • 91 m (underground collector line); |
| | | | and, |
| | | | 92 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line). |
| | WE-011: | Flood attenuation; | • 33 m to 75 m (assembly site area |
| | | Water quality improvement; | boundary); |
| | | and, | • 47 m to 76 m (turbines); |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | 44 m (access road: construction |
| | | | only); |
| | | | 102 m (access road); and, |
| | | | 103 m (access road and |
| | | | underground collector line). |
| | WE-012: | Flood attenuation; | • 10 m to 67 m (underground |
| | | Water quality improvement; | collector line); and, |
| | | and, | 71 m (access road: construction |
| | 1 | | only). |

Table 5.5Wetlands Treated As Significant

| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and Functions | Distance between Feature and all project components within 120 m |
|---------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-013: | Flood attenuation: | • 9 m to 43 m (overhead |
| | | Water quality improvement: | transmission line). |
| | | and. | |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-014: | Flood attenuation; | • 15 m to 119 m (overhead |
| | | Water quality improvement; | transmission line). |
| | | and, | |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-015: | Flood attenuation; | • 2 m (overhead transmission line). |
| | | Water quality improvement; | |
| | | • Groundwater recharge; and, | |
| | | Moderate erosion control on | |
| | | shore of open water area. | |
| | WE-016: | Flood attenuation; | 62 m (overhead transmission |
| | | Water quality improvement; | line). |
| | | • Groundwater recharge; and, | |
| | | Moderate erosion control on | |
| | | shore of open water area. | |
| | WE-017: | Flood attenuation; | 12 m to 51 m (overhead |
| | | Water quality improvement; | transmission line). |
| | | and, | |
| | 14/5 000 | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-020: | Flood attenuation; | 14 m to 68 m (overhead |
| | | water quality improvement; | transmission line). |
| | | anu, | |
| | WE 022: | Groundwater recharge. | a 19 m to 119 m (overboad |
| | VVL-022. | Water quality improvement: | transmission line) |
| | | and | |
| | | Groupdwater recharge | |
| | WF-026 [.] | Flood attenuation: | 3 m to 34 m (overhead |
| | | Water quality improvement: | transmission line). |
| | | and. | |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-030: | Flood attenuation; | • 19 m to 55 m (overhead |
| | | Water quality improvement; | transmission line). |
| | | and, | |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-031: | Flood attenuation; | • 2 m to 101 m (overhead |
| | | Water quality improvement; | transmission line). |
| | | and, | |
| | | Groundwater recharge. | |
| | WE-032: | Flood attenuation; | • 19 m (overhead transmission |
| | | Water quality improvement; | line). |
| | | Groundwater recharge; and, | |

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

| Feature | Feature ID | Feature Attributes and Functions | Distance between Feature and all project components within 120 m |
|---------|---------------|---|---|
| | | Low erosion control function due to lack of surrounding vegetation. | |
| | WE-033: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; and, Groundwater recharge. | 19 m to 72 m (overhead transmission line). |
| | WE-034: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; Groundwater recharge; and, Moderate erosion control on shore of open water area. | • 41 m to 107 m (overhead transmission line). |
| | WE-035: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; Groundwater recharge; and, Low erosion control due to nature of slopes. | 23 m to 103 m (overhead transmission line). |
| | WE-037: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; and, Groundwater recharge. | 18 m (underground collector line); and, 31 m (overhead transmission line). |
| | WE-038: | Flood attenuation; Water quality improvement; and, Groundwater recharge. | 20 m (underground collector line or overhead on alternate side of road). |

No portions of the project, or activities associated with it, will be located within any of these features. Some activities will occur adjacent to these features, including:

- construction of access roads;
- installation of overhead and below ground collector lines, transmission lines and communication lines;
- construction of turbines;
- operation of the wind facility; and,
- decommissioning of the facility.

As such, there is potential for these features to be affected during construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the project.

All of the general construction mitigation described in **Table 5.2** will apply to activities occurring in and around these features. In addition to general mitigation, several specific measures, performance objectives, monitoring and contingency plans have been identified for these wetlands above and beyond those previously described. These additional measures are summarized in **Table 5.6**.

Table 5.6 Summary of Potential Negative Effects and Proposed Mitigation Measures for Wetlands Treated As Significant

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature. | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Object |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CONSTRUCTION AND DECOMMISS | ONING | | | | |
| Wetlands Treated as Significant WE-001, WE-002, WE-008, WE-010, WE-011, WE-012, WE-013, WE-014, WE-015, WE-016, WE-017, WE-020, WE-022, WE-026, WE-030, WE-031, WE-032, WE-033, WE-034, WE-035, WE-037, WE-038, | All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | General construction and decommissioning effects. Refer to effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to mitigation listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to Residual Effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. No residual effect anticipated. | Refer to Performance Objectives liste under Generaliz Significant Wild Habitat. |
| Wetlands Treated as Significant WE-013, WE-014, WE-015, WE-017, WE-020, WE-022, WE-026, WE-031, WE-038 | Installation of 230kV transmission line and communication lines | Minor loss of vegetation within the wetlands (D). Movement of exposed sediment into the wetlands (I). The effects identified above could have minor effect on the size of wetlands and on the function of the wetland as surface water storage and flood control. | Two options for mitigation may be used: The transmission line may be located on the opposite side of the road from these wetlands. In this case, mitigation will include: Clearly demarcating wetlands and ensuring the equipment and material stockpiles do not encroach into the wetland in the opposite ROW. The transmission line may be directionally drilled below ground under the wetlands. In this case, mitigation measures will include: Entrance and exit pits will be at least 30m from the edge of the wetland; and, Sediment and erosion controls will be used around the entrance and exit pits. | May be residual effect associated with frac-out during directional drilling. Likelihood is low, limited duration, frequency and geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No vegetation to or disturbance associated with sediment and erosion on Provincially Significant Wetlands. |

| ctive | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|-------------------|---|
| d zed Ilife | Refer to monitoring and contingency measures listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. |
| OSS 1 | An Environmental Inspector will regularly monitor operations to ensure that activities do not encroach into wetland areas. If directional drilling is used, an Environmental Inspector will be on-site during drilling activities. A plan to address potential frac-out will be developed and activated by the Environmental Inspector if required. |

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| Wetlands Treated as Significant WE-001, WE-002, WE-008, WE-010, WE-011, | Turbine Assembly | Localized effects on wetland water levels due to dewatering for construction of turbine foundations (I). Water from the dewatering process could be outlet into a wetland causing scour within the wetland and deposition of sediment from the pumped water (I). The effects identified above could affect habitat for aquatic species if standing water is drawn down. Sedimentation could affect wetland functions associated with surface water storage and flood control. | Dewatering will be minimized to the extent possible. Any discharge from dewatering will be outlet to a vegetated area at least 30 m from a wetland utilizing a sediment filter bag. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | No effect on wetland water levels. No sediment discharge into wetlands. | An Environmental Monitor should be onsite during any dewatering within 120m of wetlands. The Monitor should ensure that the filter bag is working appropriately and ensure that no sediment is entering wetland areas. In the event of sediment discharge, all operations should stop immediately until the problem can be resolved. Although no effects on water levels is anticipated, the Environmental Monitor should also monitor water levels in the vicinity of dewatering activities during the dewatering process. If significant changes in water levels are noted, operations should cease until water levels recover. |
| OPERATION | - | | | | | |
| Wetlands Treated as Significant WE-001, WE-002, WE-008, WE-010, WE-011, WE-012, WE-013, WE-014, WE-015, WE-016, WE-017, WE-020, WE-022, WE-026, WE-030, WE-031, WE-032, WE-033, WE-034, WE-035, WE-037, WE-038, | Planned and Unplanned Maintenance | Maintenance activities may have impacts associated with spills and the accidental release of hazardous materials. General effects such as those described under listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat may occur if earth movement is required. Refer to effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. Maintenance activities are not anticipated to affect size, diversity, heath, connectivity or function of wetlands. | Procedures will be in place for the handling of hazardous materials, disposal of waste and management of dust and noise. Any maintenance requiring earth movement will use the same mitigation measures described under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to Residual Effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. No residual effect anticipated. | Refer to Performance Objectives listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to monitoring and contingency measures listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. |

5.4 Wildlife Habitat Treated As Significant

Wildlife habitat which has been treated as significant is present in **Table 5.7** and shown on **Figures 4a-h** in **Appendix A**. These are features which may be significant and which are being treated as such until habitat use study can confirm the relative use of each habitat. If it is found that wildlife are not using the habitat in significant numbers, then the mitigation identified below will not be required.

| Feature | Feature ID | Distance between Feature and all project components within |
|--------------|-------------|--|
| l'outuro | i outuro ib | 120 m |
| Bat Maternal | BMC-001: | • 3 m, 94 m (underground collector line); |
| Colonies | | • 37 m (turbine); |
| | | 35 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 28 m (access road: construction only); and, |
| | | • 89 m (access road). |
| | BMC-002: | • 5 m (underground collector lines); |
| | | 2 m to 50 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | 30 m to 42 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 39 m to 58 m (turbine); and, |
| | | • 60 m to 87 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | BMC-003: | • 2 m to 95 m (underground collector lines); |
| | | • 39 m to119 m (turbine); |
| | | 36 m to 74 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | 38 m to 117m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | 95 m to120 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | BMC-004: | 2 m (underground collector line); |
| | | 47 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 33 m to 68 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 43 m to95 m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | • 61 m to 95 m (turbine). |
| | BMC-005: | • 8 m to 117 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 2 m to 80 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 24 m to 49 m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | • 34 m to 71 m (turbine). |
| | BMC-006: | 2 m to 67 (underground collector line); |
| | | 5 m to 107 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 21 m to98 m (turbine); |
| | | • 20 m to 106 m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | • 78 m to 97 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | BMC-007: | • 92 m (turbine); and, |
| | | • 92 (assembly site area boundary); |
| | BMC-008: | 11 m (underground collector line); |
| | | • 68 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 73 m (turbine); and, |
| | | 70 m to 82 m (access road: construction only). |
| | BMC-009: | • 7 m to 96 m (access road and underground collector line); |

 Table 5.7
 Wildlife Habitat Treated as Significant

| Feature | Feature ID | Distance between Feature and all project components within 120 m |
|--------------|------------|--|
| | | 2 m to 49 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 20 m to 25 m (underground collector line); |
| | | • 32 m to 63 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 40 m to 86 m (turbine); and, |
| | | • 7 m to 96 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | BMC-010: | 2 m (underground collector line); |
| | | • 7 m to 78 m, (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | • 2 m to 85 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 67 m to 119 m (turbine); and, |
| | | • 66 m to 116 m (assembly site area boundary). |
| Turtle | TWA-003 | 2m (underground collector line). |
| Wintering | | |
| Area | | |
| Habitat for | SCC-001: | • 34 m (turbine); |
| Special | | 30 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| Concern and | | 31 m to 83 m (access road: construction only); and, |
| Rare Species | | • 71 m to 107 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | SCC-002: | 3 m to 94 m (underground collector line); |
| | | • 37 m (turbine); |
| | | 35 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | 28 m to 89 m (access road: construction only); and, |
| | | 89 m (access road). |
| | SCC-003: | 69 m (access road: construction only); and, |
| | | 96 m (access road). |
| | SCC-004: | 2 m to 117 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | 7 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 20 m (underground collector line); |
| | | 113 m (turbine); and, |
| | | 112 m (assembly site area boundary). |
| | SCC-005: | 5 m (underground collector lines); |
| | | 2 m to50 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | 30 m to 42 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 39 m to 58 m (turbine); and, |
| | | 60 m to 87 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | SCC-006: | 2 m to 58 m (underground collector line); |
| | | 39 m to 74 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 47 m to 65 m (turbine); |
| | | 103 m (access road and underground collector line); and, |
| | | 44 m to 65 m (assembly site area boundary). |
| | SCC-007: | • 7 m to 96 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 2 m to 49 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | 20 m to 25 m (underground collector line); |
| | | • 32 m to 63 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 40 m to 86 m (turbine); and, |
| | | • 7 m to 96 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | SCC-008: | 2 m (underground collector line): |

Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study August 2012

| Feature | Feature ID | Distance between Feature and all project components within |
|---------|------------|---|
| | | 120 m |
| | | 47 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 33 m to 68 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 43 m to 95 m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | • 61 m to 95 m (turbine). |
| | SCC-009: | 8 m to 117 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 2 m to 80 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 24 m to 49 m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | • 34 m to 71 m (turbine). |
| | SCC-010: | 2 m to 91 m (underground collector line); |
| | | 18 m to 107 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 21 m to 98 m (turbine); |
| | | 20 m to116 m (assembly site area boundary); and, |
| | | • 78 m to 114 m (access road and underground collector line). |
| | SCC-011: | 27 m to 78 m (access road and underground collector line); |
| | | 17 m to 85 m (access road: construction only); |
| | | • 101 m to119 m (turbine); and, |
| | | 89 m to 116 m (assembly site area boundary). |
| | SCC-012: | 32 m (assembly site area boundary); |
| | | • 46 m (turbine); |
| | | 43 m to 55 m (access road: construction only); and, |
| | | 46 (access road and underground collector line). |
| | SCC-013: | • 2 m to 52 m (access road and underground collector line); and, |
| | | 2 m (access road: construction only). |

5.4.1 Habitat Use Studies

Habitat use studies will be completed prior to construction in Bat Maternal Colony, Turtle Wintering and Species of Conservation Concern habitats. Methodologies for habitat use studies are as follows:

Bat Maternal Colonies

Habitat use studies will be undertaken in BCM-001 through BMC-007 habitats, according to the procedures listed in **Table 5.8**.

BMC-008 through BMC-010 will not be surveyed as these habitats are inaccessible on properties.

| Table 5.8 | Methodology for Bat Maternal Colony Habitat Use Study |
|------------|---|
| Feature ID | Habitat Use Study Criteria and Procedures |
| BMC-001 | Surveys in each habitat area will be carried out in accordance with the |
| BMC-002 | procedures for Evaluating the Significance of Maternity Colony Roosts |
| BMC-003 | (MNR, 2011). |
| BMC-004 | Surveys will involve monitoring of candidate roost trees for evidence of |
| BMC-005 | maternal colonies through exit surveys. Exit surveys will be conducted in the |
| BMC-006 | month of June and will require a qualified observer to watch for bats exiting |

| Feature ID | Habitat Use Study Criteria and Procedures |
|------------|---|
| BMC-007 | roosting sites from a viewing station during a period from 30 minutes before dusk until 60 minutes after dusk. Each candidate roost will be monitored once. |
| BMC-008 | No survey possible due to site access restrictions. Habitat to continue to be |
| BMC-009 | treated as significant and mitigation described in Section 4.4.2 to be |
| BMC-010 | employed. |

Turtle Wintering Areas

The Turtle Wintering Area will be searched twice for congregations of turtles basking on warm, sunny days during the fall (September or October) or spring (March to May).Weather conditions should be sunny and warm with temperatures about 20°C.

One hour (60 minutes or more) will be spent at the site on each visit using binoculars to determine species observed. The habitat will be observed for signs of turtles emerging from, or preparing for, hibernation and basking on surrounding logs and rocks. Particular attention will be paid to any observations of Snapping Turtle, *Chelydra serpentina*. Turtles that are observed, if any, will be photographed and the location recorded with a GPS unit.

Habitat for Special Concern and Rare Species

Habitats for Special Concern and Rare Species will be surveyed by a qualified biologist prior to construction. Surveys will occur within the applicable bloom times noted in **Table 5.9**. No parts of the project are proposed within any of these habitats; however, work will occur adjacent to them. Surveys will be focused on portions of the habitat immediately adjacent to project components, particularly the areas where access roads and collector lines will be installed immediately adjacent to woodlands as noted in **Table 5.4**.

| CSWH ID | ELC Unit | ELC Community Name | Species Which May be Present | Bloom Time | Habitat Use Survey or Alternative Investigation? (i.e. Edge survey vs. full access) |
|---------|----------|--|--|--|--|
| SCC-001 | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type | Burning BushHairy Wood MintSlim-flowered Muhly | May and June July and August for Hairy Wood Mint. | Alternative Investigation. |
| | FOD5-8 | Dry – Fresh Sugar Maple – White Ash Deciduous Forest Type | American GromwellHairy Bedstraw. | | |
| SCC-002 | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | May and June July and August for Hairy Wood Mint. | Habitat Use Survey. |
| SCC-003 | SWD2-2 | Green Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp Type | Green Dragon Scarlet Beebalm. | May and June June – August for Scarlett Beebalm. | Limited Access. Combination of alternative investigation and habitat use survey may be required. |
| SCC-004 | FOD5-8 | Dry – Fresh Sugar Maple – White Ash Deciduous Forest Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | May and June July and August for Hairy Wood Mint. | Habitat Use Survey. |
| SCC-005 | FOD5-1 | Dry – Fresh Sugar Maple Deciduous Forest Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | May and June July and August for Hairy Wood Mint. | Habitat Use Survey. |
| SCC-006 | SWD2-2 | Green Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp Type | Green DragonScarlet Beebalm. | May and June June – August for Scarlett Beebalm | Limited Access. Combination of alternative investigation and habitat use survey may be required. |

| Tahlo 5 9 | Methodology for Species of Conservation Concern Habitat Use Study | , |
|-----------|---|---|
| Table 5.9 | methodology for Species of Conservation Concern Habitat Use Study | / |

| CSWH ID | ELC Unit | ELC Community Name | Species Which May be Present | Bloom Time | Habitat Use Survey or Alternative Investigation? (i.e. Edge survey vs. full access) | |
|---------|----------|---|---|--|--|-----------|
| SCC-007 | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type Dry – Fresh Sugar Maple – White | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell | May and June July and August for Hairy Wood Mint. | Limited Access. Combination of alternative investigation and habitat use survey may be required. | |
| | FOD5-8 | Ash Deciduous Forest Type | Hairy Bedstraw. | | | |
| SCC-008 | SWD2-2 | Green Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp Type | Green DragonScarlet Beebalm. | May and June June – August for Scarlett Beebalm | Habitat Use Survey. | |
| | FOD3-2 | Dry – Fresh White Birch Deciduous Forest Type | Burning BushHairy Wood MintSlim-flowered Muhly | May and June July and August for Hairy Wood Mint. | Limited Access. Combination of alternative investigation and habitat | |
| SCC-009 | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type | Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | | required. |
| SCC-010 | MAM2-2 | Reed-canary Grass Graminoid Mineral Meadow Marsh Type Red-osier Dogwood Mineral Deciduous Thicket Swamp Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Chinese Hemlock Parsley Crowned Beggar-ticks Slim-flowered Muhly | Colour most prevalent in the spring July and August August and | Limited Access. Combination of alternative investigation and habitat use survey may be required. | |

| CSWH ID | ELC Unit | ELC Community Name | Species Which May be Present | Bloom Time | Habitat Use Survey or Alternative Investigation? (i.e. Edge survey vs. full access) |
|---------|------------------|--|--|--|---|
| | FOD5-8 FOD5-8 | Dry – Fresh Sugar Maple – White Ash Deciduous Forest Type Dry – Fresh Sugar Maple – White Ash Deciduous Forest Type | American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw Scarlet Beeblam. | September August, September, October May, June May – August June – August. | |
| SCC-011 | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly | Colour most prevalent in the spring | Alternative Investigation. |
| | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type | American GromwellHairy Bedstraw. | July and AugustMay, JuneMay – August. | |
| SCC-012 | FOD4-2 | Dry - Fresh White Ash - Hardwood Deciduous Forest Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | Colour most prevalent in the spring July and August May, June May – August. | Alternative Investigation. |
| SCC-013 | FOD3-1 | Dry – Fresh Poplar Deciduous Forest Type | Burning Bush Hairy Wood Mint Slim-flowered Muhly American Gromwell Hairy Bedstraw. | Colour most prevalent in the spring July and August May, June May – August. | Alternative Investigation. |

5.4.2 Impacts and Mitigation for Wildlife Habitats Treated as Significant

No portions of the project, or activities associated with it, will be located within any of these features. Some activities will occur adjacent to these features, including:

- construction of access roads;
- installation of overhead and below ground collector lines, transmission lines and communication lines;
- construction of turbines;
- operation of the wind facility; and,
- decommissioning of the facility.

As such, there is potential for these features to be affected during construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the project.

All of the general construction mitigation described in **Table 5.2** will apply to activities occurring in and around these features. In addition to general mitigation, several specific measures, performance objectives, monitoring and contingency plans have been identified for these wetlands above and beyond those previously described. These additional measures are summarized in **Table 5.10**. If habitats are found to be non-significant, these measures outlined herein will not be required.

Table 5.10 Summary of Potential Negative Effects and Proposed Mitigation Measures for Features Treated As Significant

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature. | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| CONSTRUCTION AND DECO | MMISSIONING | | | 1 | <u> </u> | |
| Wildlife Habitat Treated as Significant Bat Maternal Colonies BMC-001, BMC-002, BMC- 003, BMC-004, BMC-005, BMC-006, BMC-007, BMC- 008, BMC-009, BMC-010 Turtle Wintering Area TWA-003 Habitat of Species of Conservation Concern SCC-001, SCC-002, SCC- 003, SCC-004, SCC-005, SCC-006, SCC-007, SCC- 008, SCC-009, SCC-010, SCC-011, SCC-012, SCC- | All Construction and Decommissioning Activities | General construction and decommissioning effects. Refer to effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Undertake Habitat Use Study prior to construction to confirm significance. Apply mitigation measures listed under Generalized Candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat in the case that habitats are significant. | Limited duration, frequency, geographic extent. No residual effect anticipated. | Minimize impacts. | In the case that habitats are significant, refer to monitoring and contingency measures listed under Generalized Candidate Significant Wildlife Habitat. |
| O13 Species of Conservation Concern SCC-001, SCC-002, SCC- 003, SCC-004, SCC-005, SCC-006, SCC-007, SCC- 008, SCC-009, SCC-010, SCC-011, SCC-012, SCC- 013 | Site Preparation All Decommissioning Activities | No SCC anticipated within work zones; however, small number of unanticipated individuals may be present outside of identified habitat areas and may require removal (I). The effect identified above may affect individuals but no effect anticipated at the population scale. | If a species is identified within a work zone during Habitat Use Studies, the qualified biologist undertaking surveys, in conjunction with the Environmental Inspector, will determine whether the species can be protected in situ or whether it can be re-located/transplanted to an alternative location away from construction activities. | Likelihood of encountering individuals is minimal. Magnitude of effect on population size and health is minimal. Limited frequency. No residual effect anticipated. | No net loss of species of conservation concern. | If a species cannot be successfully transplanted (e.g. a mature tree), replacement trees will be planted of the same species at a 2:1 ratio. Transplants and replacement trees will be monitored for one year to ensure 80% survival rate. To the extent that this 80% survival rate isn't met additional specimens will be replanted. |
| OPERATION Bat Maternal Colonies BMC-001, BMC-002, BMC- 003, BMC-004, BMC-005, BMC-006, BMC-007, BMC- 008, BMC-009, BMC-010 | Turbine Operation | Impacts due to collisions with turbine blades during operation (D). The effect identified above has the potential to affect the population size and health if collisions occur during maternal roosting periods and if mortality exceeds 10 bats/turbine/year. | Refer to mitigation provided in the EEMP for birds and bats. | Refer to the EEMP for birds and bats. | Refer to the EEMP for birds and bats. | Refer to the EEMP for birds and bats. |

| Affected Environmental Feature(s) | Project Activity | Potential Effects (D=Direct) (I=Indirect) Potential effect on the size, diversity, health, connectivity, functionality and resilience of the natural feature. | Mitigation Strategy | Residual Effect (magnitude/frequency/duration) | Performance Objective | Monitoring Plan and Contingency Measures |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| Wildlife Habitat Treated as Significant Bat Maternal Colonies BMC-001, BMC-002, BMC- 003, BMC-004, BMC-005, BMC-006, BMC-007, BMC- 008, BMC-009, BMC-010 Turtle Wintering Area TWA-003 Habitat of Species of Conservation Concern SCC-001, SCC-002, SCC- 003, SCC-004, SCC-005, SCC-006, SCC-007, SCC- 008, SCC-009, SCC-010, SCC-011, SCC-012, SCC- 013 | Planned and Unplanned Maintenance | Maintenance activities may have impacts associated with spills and the accidental release of hazardous materials. General effects such as those described under listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat may occur if earth movement is required. Refer to effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. Maintenance activities are not anticipated to affect size, diversity, heath, connectivity or function of wildlife habitats. | Procedures will be in place for the handling of hazardous materials, disposal of waste and management of dust and noise. Any maintenance requiring earth movement will use the same mitigation measures described under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to Residual Effects listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. No residual effect anticipated. | Refer to Performance Objectives listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. | Refer to monitoring and contingency measures listed under Generalized Significant Wildlife Habitat. |
| | | | | | | |

6.0 Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan

Performance objectives, management and contingency plans have been identified in Tables 5.2, 5.4, 5.6 and 5.10 of this report. A separate EEMP for birds and bats has also been prepared (Neegan Burnside, August 2012). Information from both reports has been brought forward into the Design and Operations Report (Neegan Burnside, August, 2012) which provides and inclusive and comprehensive EEMP for all aspects of the project.



7.0 Construction Plan Report

Under O.Reg. 359/09, a Construction Plan Report must be prepared as part of the Renewable Energy Approval application package. Activities related to the construction of the Project as well as associated potential negative environmental effects are described within the Construction Plan Report. All impacts and mitigation related to natural heritage features described in this report have also been carried forward to the Construction Plan Report (Neegan Burnside, August 2011). This EIS and the Construction Plan Report thus address natural heritage features in a consistent manner.

8.0 Confirmation from Ministry of Natural Resources

Under Section 28 of O.Reg. 359/09, the Ministry of Natural Resources ("MNR") must review the EIS and confirm that it was completed in accordance with criteria and procedures accepted by that Ministry. This EIS is currently under review and is awaiting confirmation. A copy of the MNR confirmation will be provided in **Appendix B** upon receipt.



9.0 Conclusions

The Grand Bend Wind Farm is located within the vicinity of several natural heritage features, including features which are significant, which are treated as significant and which may be significant subject to a habitat use study prior to construction.

The project layout was designed to avoid impacts to these features as much as possible. Performance objectives have been set with the goal of avoiding impacts to all significant natural features. With the mitigation, monitoring and contingency measures described in this report, it is anticipated that performance objectives can be met.

| Written by: | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------|-------------|
| Signature | Tricia Radburn, M.Sc. (PI), MCIP, RP Environmental Planner R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited | Date P | August 2012 |
| Reviewed by: | | | |
| Signature | Lyle Parsons, B.E.S. Project Manager R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited | Date | August 2012 |
| Approved by: | | | |
| Signature | Jim Mulvale, P.Eng. Manager, Environment, Health and Sa Northland Power Inc. | Date afety | August 2012 |

10.0 References

Ministry of Natural Resources. 2011, Bats and Bat Habitat. Guidelines for Wind Power Projects. First Edition. Queen's Printer for Ontario.

Ministry of Natural Resources. 2011b. <u>Natural Heritage Assessment Guide for</u> <u>Renewable Energy Projects. First Edition.</u> Queen's Printer for Ontario.



NEEGAN BURNSIDE











| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|--------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 20 |
| | Scale | | Project | | Zđ |
| tions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |





| | Prepared | Checked | | Figure Number | |
|------|------------|---------|------------|---------------|--|
| | P. Stubber | t | T. Radburn | 26 | |
| | Scale | Project | | | |
| ons. | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | | |



| | Prepared | Checked | Figure Number |
|-----|-------------|------------|---------------|
| | P. Stubbert | T. Radburn | 20 |
| | Scale | Project | |
| ns. | 1:25,000 | PIA019991 | |



| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|--------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 24 |
| | Scale | | Project | | Zu |
| tions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |



| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|--------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 20 |
| | Scale | | Project | | Ze |
| tions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |



IA0 Can







Can







| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number | |
|------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|--|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 20 | |
| | Scale | | Project | | 30 | |
| ons. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | | |





| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|-------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 2h |
| | Scale | | Project | | 20 |
| ions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |


| Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|----------|-------------------|--|---|--|
| | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 20 |
| Scale | | Project | | 36 |
| | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |
| | Prepared Scale | Prepared P. Stubbert Scale 1:25,000 | Prepared P. Stubbert Checked Scale Project 1:25,000 | Prepared Checked P. Stubbert T. Radburn Scale Project 1:25,000 PIA019991 |



| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|--------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 24 |
| | Scale | | Project | | 3U |
| tions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |



| | Prepared | Checked | | Figure Number | |
|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------------|--|
| | P. Stub | bert | T. Radburn | 20 | |
| | Scale | Project | | 3e | |
| ations. | 1:2 | 5,000 | PIA019991 | | |



I A 0.1 ā Can ath







ada 3. Can





Note: All infrastructure shown on the map represents proposed local



| | Propared | Chackad | | Figuro Numbor | |
|--------|----------|---------|------------|---------------|--|
| | P. Stul | bbert | T. Radburn | | |
| | Scale | Project | | 40 | |
| tions. | 1:2 | 5,000 | PIA019991 | | |





| | Prepared | Checked | Figure Number |
|------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| | P. Stubbert | T. Radburn | 16 |
| | Scale | Project | 40 |
| ons. | 1:25,000 | PIA019991 | |





| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|--------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 1 d |
| | Scale | | Project | | 40 |
| tions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |



| | Prepared | | Checked | | Figure Number |
|--------|----------|-------------|---------|------------|---------------|
| | | P. Stubbert | | T. Radburn | 10 |
| | Scale | | Project | | 40 |
| tions. | | 1:25,000 | | PIA019991 | |



Can

Note: All infrastructure shown on the map represents proposed location









ada 3. Can

NEEGAN BURNSIDE

Appendix B MNR Confirmation

