

High Bridge Wind Project Preliminary Environmental Compliance and Monitoring Plan

High Bridge Wind, LLC

2019

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Introduction

High Bridge Wind, LLC (“High Bridge Wind”), is committed to developing and operating the High Bridge Wind Project (the “Project”) in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. The Project will be a utility-scale wind energy generating system located in eastern Chenango County, New York.

The purpose of this plan is to implement specific measures to protect sensitive environmental resources and limit long-term impacts to agricultural land. As part of this plan, the Applicant will hire an independent, third party environmental monitor to oversee compliance with environmental commitments and permit requirements.

Independent Monitors will Oversee Construction and Inspect during Operations

The Environmental Monitor will be an independent, third-party hired to oversee compliance with environmental commitments and permit requirements. The Agricultural Monitor will oversee construction of the Facility and ensure that all agreed-upon measures to protect agricultural land are implemented.

The Applicant will utilize one or more qualified individuals to satisfy the Project oversight responsibilities associated with the environmental monitor and the agricultural inspector.

Environmental Monitoring

The Environmental Monitor is the primary individual responsible for overseeing and documenting compliance with environmental permit conditions of the Project. Therefore, the Environmental Monitor will:

- Perform daily inspections of construction work sites and Keep a log of daily construction activities
- Issue regular reporting and compliance audits,
- Closely coordinate with both the Contract and High Bridge Wind Construction Site Manager during construction to ensure proper monitoring of all construction activities, and be aware of change notices,
- Work with the contractors to create a punch list of areas in need of restoration or mitigation in accordance with all issued permits,
- Participate in daily meetings with the contractors to obtain schedule updates, identify in-field monitoring priorities, and address any observed or anticipated compliance issues.

Agricultural Monitoring

Specific to agricultural land impacted by the Project, the Agricultural Monitor will inspect agricultural protection measures during construction to ensure that all agreed-upon measures to protect agricultural land are implemented. As necessary, the Agricultural Monitor will coordinate with the respective farmland operators and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM).

In accordance with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Guidelines for

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Agricultural Mitigation for Wind Power Projects,¹ restoration success will be evaluated through an agricultural remediation monitoring period of no less than two years immediately following the completion of initial restoration.² Information collected during the agricultural remediation monitoring period will inform the monitoring determinations that need to be made. Agricultural impacts associated with construction that that may require mitigation or follow-up restoration will be identified.

Qualification and Contact Information

The Final Environmental Compliance and Monitoring Plan, provided prior to the start of construction, will include the names, titles, qualifications and contact information of all individuals responsible for ensuring minimization of environmental impact by the Project and for enforcing compliance with environmental commitments and permit requirements. In particular, qualification and contact information will be included for, but not be limited to:

- a) Full-time environmental monitor;
- b) Full-time construction supervisor;
- c) Part-time or full-time agricultural inspector; and
- d) Part-time health and safety inspector.

This information is not available at this time, as the Applicant has not yet filled these roles. Hiring of the aforementioned individuals/companies typically occurs closer to the start of construction.

Pre-Construction Planning and Coordination

Prior to the start of construction a Site Engineering and Environmental Plan for the construction of the High Bridge Wind Project (SEEP) will be developed. This document will distill and clearly present all environmental requirements for construction and restoration included in Project permits, and approvals and will be designed to aid in the management of environmental issues and concerns that may arise during construction of the Project.

Prior to construction, the contractor(s) and the Environmental Monitor will conduct a walkover of areas to be affected by construction activities. The limits of work areas, especially in and adjacent to sensitive resource areas such as wetlands, will be defined by flagging or staking prior to construction, as needed. This walkover will identify sensitive resources, limits of clearing, proposed stream or wetland crossings, and placement of sediment and erosion control features. Specific construction procedures will be discussed amongst the group and updated to become part of the Project layout and construction sequence, as needed. This process might

¹ Available at: https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agsservices/Wind_Farm_Guidelines.pdf

² This time period is allotted to account for climatic cycles (e.g., precipitation, frost action, seasonal changes, etc.) that may impact information collected during this period.

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need to be repeated multiple times (e.g., to address the specific constraints of a construction phase or to review the site with newly arrived contractors/personnel specific to a construction phase).

Training

The Environmental Monitor or their designee will hold environmental training sessions that will be mandatory for all contractors and subcontractors before the start of construction. The purpose of the training sessions will be to distribute the SEEP, explain the environmental compliance program in detail prior to the start of construction, and assure that all personnel on site are aware of the permitting requirements for construction of the Project.