



January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Dear Sir/Madam;

**Re: Northland Power Inc., McLean's Mountain Wind Project  
Renewable Energy Approval (REA) Draft Submission Package**

Northland Power Inc. (NPI) proposes to develop the McLean's Mountain Wind Farm (MMWF), located south of the community of Little Current, in the Municipality of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI); geographic Township of Howland, and the geographic Township of Bidwell in the District of Manitoulin, Ontario. This wind farm is expected to consist of approximately 43 wind turbines that will generate about 77 MW of electricity.

It is NPI's intention to obtain a contract for the sale of electricity with the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) through the Province's Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) program. The project will require approval under Ontario Regulation 359/09 – Renewable Energy Approval (REA) under the *Green Energy Act*. The REA process replaces the previous process that required several separate approvals including for example, the *Environmental Assessment Act*, *Planning Act* and *Environmental Protection Act*. As specified in the REA regulations (Section 16), a project proponent is required to:

- Notify the local community of the proponent's intent to develop the project (accomplished through this letter);
- Provide paper copies of the drafts of all documents as required by the REA Regulations (accomplished through this submission); and,
- Provide electronic copies of the drafts of all documents as required by the REA Regulations on the Project website (available via [www.northlandpower.ca](http://www.northlandpower.ca) *click tab for Development Projects*)

This Renewable Energy Approval (REA) Draft submission package has been released as of January 18th, 2010 for a 60-day review period and includes the following sections:

**Section 1: Concordance Table**

NPI is relying on the previously completed Environmental Study Report to fulfill much of the REA reporting requirements. The MOE advised that this is an acceptable approach for this project. The Concordance Table document outlines the NPI's fulfillment of the REA requirements for a Class 4 Wind Facility. The Concordance Table summarizes the REA requirements and illustrates how these requirements were fulfilled through the McLean's Mountain Wind Farm Environmental Screening Report/Environmental Impact Statement (ESR) released in July 2009. The McLean's Mountain Wind Farm ESR document was released in July 2009 for a 30-day public review as part of the former Environmental Assessment process. The ESR document is consistent with the former Environmental Screening provisions of Ontario Regulation 116/01 for a Category B project. The ESR document was developed to assist in the determination of potential environmental effects, including both the social and natural environment, which could result from the proposed project.

The concordance table also references any supplementary information that was provided as part of the REA Draft submission package.

*Please note that the wind farm layout presented in the ESR is to be considered as draft subject to revisions based on the input received from government agencies, aboriginal communities, the public and landowners through the REA consultation process.*

## **Section 2: The McLean's Mountain Wind Farm ESR/EIS (ESR), July 2009 Comment/Response Table**

A comment-response table that documents NPI's responses to the comments received during the 30-day review period the ESR document was developed.

## **Section 3: Supplementary REA Reports**

NPI is obligated to provide the required documentation to support its REA application. NPI intends to rely on the ESR that was released in July 2009 to fulfill, at least partially, the necessary documentation. The following supplementary documents, which were not required for the ESR process, are included in this REA Draft submission package:

- ✓ Project Description Report
- ✓ McLean's Mountain Wind Farm Environmental Management and Protection Plan - Supplementary Information for the Design and Operations Report
- ✓ Community Response Plan - Supplementary Information for the Design and Operations Report
- ✓ Construction Schedule - Supplementary Information for Construction Plan Report
- ✓ Decommissioning Plan Report

A Comprehensive Consultation Report will be prepared once the REA consultation process is completed. The Consultation Report will be prepared to reflect REA requirements and will document the consultation program that will be conducted under the REA process. The Consultation Report will include a summary of communication and consultation activities conducted with the public, government agencies and Aboriginal communities and will include responses to comments received. NPI has met the REA requirements for the first Public Information Centre under the former Environmental Screening process.

## **Section 4: Supplementary Mapping**

A map depicting the REA wind farm setback requirements is enclosed. This map depicts all applicable REA setbacks that have been met for the draft wind farm project layout. The setbacks include the distances from the proposed wind turbines to the important features within the project area boundary such as residences and natural features

Comments on the draft REA reports are to be submitted in writing (see below for contact information) by **March 18th, 2010**.

NPI is pleased to continue its communications with members of your community with respect to this project. The proposed project and findings of the REA process will be presented at a future Public Information Centre (PIC) that is planned for March 22, 2010. Notice of this future PIC will be released in your community close to the date of the planned PIC.

If you have questions about the project please do not hesitate to contact me at:

- McLean's Mountain Wind Farm Project, P.O. Box 73, Little Current ON, P0P 1K0
- Phone (mobile: (705)-271-5358, project office: (705)-368-0303); or
- E-mail: [rickmartin@northlandpower.ca](mailto:rickmartin@northlandpower.ca).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rick" and last name "Martin" clearly distinguishable.

Rick Martin  
Project Manager  
**Northland Power Inc.**