Ministry of Natural Resources

Peterborough District Office P.O Box 7000, 300 Water Street 1st Floor, South Tower Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8M5 Telephone: (705) 755-2001 Facsimile: (705) 755-3125

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Le bureau du district de Peterborough C.P. 7000, 300 rue Water Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8M5 Telephone: (705) 755-2001 Facsimile: (705) 755-3125



December 14, 2012

Windlectric Inc. 2845 Bristol Circle Oakville Ontario L6H 7H8

Attention: Mr. Sean Fairfield

Dear Mr. Fairfield,

In accordance with the Ministry of the Environment's (MOE's) Renewable Energy Approvals regulation (O.Reg.359/09), applicants are required to prepare a natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study using evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). The regulation requires MNR to confirm that the natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study, including mitigation measures, were prepared using established procedures acceptable to MNR. The MNR's confirmation letter, along with other required project documentation, must be submitted to MOE as part of an application for a Renewable Energy Approval for consideration by MOE in making their Renewable Energy Approval decision.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has reviewed the natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study for Windlectric Inc., Amherst Island Wind Energy Project, submitted December 3, 2012. Based on our review and understanding the aforementioned project is located at Amherst Island, Township of Loyalist.

In accordance with sections 28(2) and 38(2)(b) of the Renewable Energy Approvals regulation, MNR provides the following confirmations following review of the natural heritage assessment reports:

- 1. The MNR confirms that the determination of the existence of natural features and the boundaries of natural features was made using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
- 2. The MNR confirms that the site investigation and records review were conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
- 3. The MNR confirms that the evaluation of the significance or provincial significance of the natural features was conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
- 4. The MNR confirms that the project location is not in a provincial park or conservation reserve.
- 5. The MNR confirms that the environmental impact study report has been prepared in accordance with procedures established by the MNR.

In accordance with Section 28(3)(c) and 38(2)(c) of the Renewable Energy Approvals regulation, MNR offers the following comments in respect of the project:

- 1) The potential for ongoing risk of negative environmental effects has been identified in the natural heritage assessment (NHA). The project and potential effects will be monitored as outlined with the Environmental Impact Study Report to ensure that proposed mitigation strategies are effective and contingency measures have been included for instances where performance objectives are not met.
- 2) As part of the Environmental Impact Study Report, comprehensive post construction monitoring has been identified to determine if disturbance effects are occurring for Late Winter Raptor Wildlife Habitats. Should disturbance effects be identified, MNR will be consulted, and mitigation techniques will be employed in accordance with commitments outlined in the Environmental Impact Study Report. MNR, in cooperation with Windelectric Inc., and any relevant agencies, will review the post construction monitoring reports in conjunction with relevant science to develop approaches to minimizing impacts should they occur.

MNR is providing this confirmation letter based on the review of the information provided in your natural heritage assessment reports. Applicants should be aware of the transition provisions under section 62 of the amended Renewable Energy Approvals regulation and fulfill natural heritage assessment requirements accordingly.

Where specific commitments have been made by the applicant in the natural heritage assessment with respect to project design, construction, rehabilitation, operation, mitigation, or monitoring, MNR expects that these commitments will be considered in MOE's Renewable Energy Approval decision and, if approved, be implemented by the applicant.

This confirmation letter is valid for the project as proposed in the natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study, including those sections describing the environmental effects monitoring plan and construction plan report. Should any changes be made to the proposed project that would alter the natural heritage assessment, MNR may need to undertake additional review of the natural heritage assessment.

In accordance with section 12(1) of the Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation, this letter must be included as part of your application submitted to the MOE for a Renewable Energy Approval.

If you wish to discuss any part of the confirmation or additional comments provided, please contact Eric R. Prevost, Renewable Energy Planning Ecologist, at (705) 755-3134.

Sincerely,

Karen Bellamy District Manager

Peterborough District, MNR

cc. Vic Schroter, Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, MOE Jim Beal, Southern Region Planning Unit, MNR