

Walton Wind Energy Proposal

Open House - March 4th, 2015



Scotian Wind invites you to an Open House at the Walton Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall

Drop in between 6:30pm and 8:00pm on Wednesday March 4, 2015 for:

- Information regarding a proposed wind energy project near Walton
- General information regarding wind energy & the Community Feed-In-Tariff program
- Information on the Community Dividend benefits from the project
- Conversations with the staff of Scotian Wind Inc. to learn more and ask direct questions

About the Project

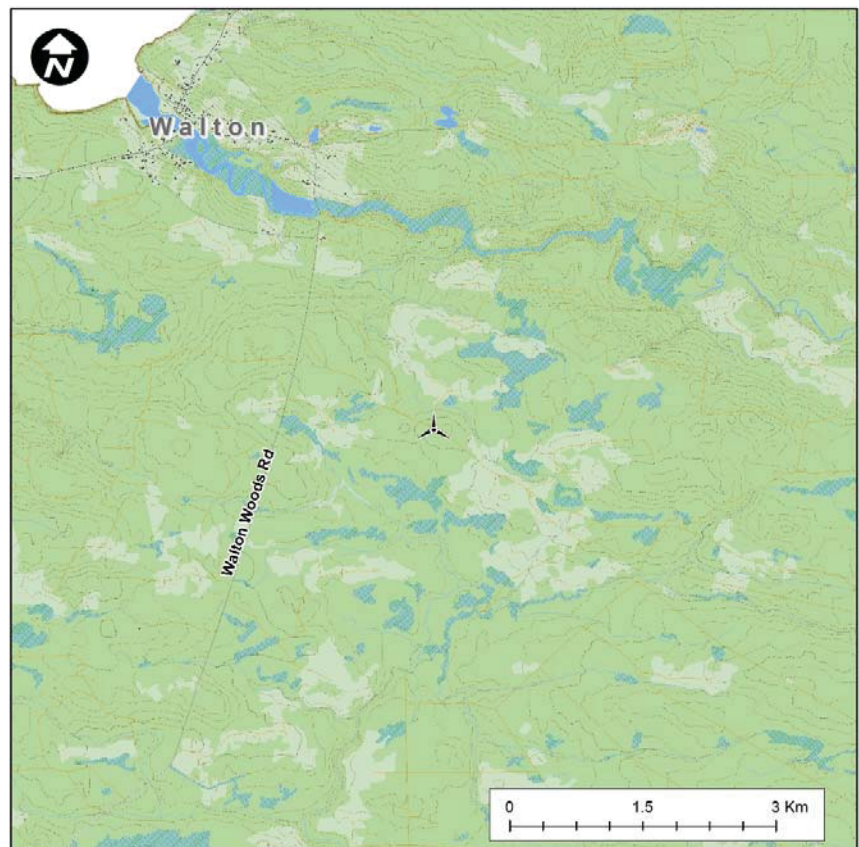
Scotian WindFields Wind Inc. has proposed to install a wind energy project consisting of one wind turbine generator near Walton. The capacity of the project will be 1.99 MW, representing enough energy to power approximately 650 Nova Scotia homes. The tower for this turbine is projected to be approximately 95 meters high. Each rotor blade measures about 50 meters in length, placing the total height of the each turbine at 145m.

The project has been awarded conditional approval from the Department of Energy as a Community Feed-In-Tariff project. Scotian Wind Inc is in the process of studying the wind energy potential and conducting environmental studies. This research will be conducted over the next year with a targeted plan begin construction in order to facilitate installation of the project in mid-2016

About the Community Feed-In-Tariff Program

The Community Feed-In-Tariff or ComFIT is a program of the Government of Nova Scotia that is designed to encourage the wide distribution of renewable energy projects throughout the province and promote the technical know-how to help communities get those projects off the ground. ComFIT projects are small in scale because they are limited to the local distribution grid and they are restricted to "community-based participants" in order that the benefits of investment remain in the community.

The government intends that the ComFIT will increase geographical distribution of renewable electricity sources thereby contributing to our energy diversity and security. For more information on the ComFIT program see: www.nsrenewables.ca.



The Big Picture - Health Costs & Energy Choice

We hear a lot these days about the potential health impacts of our energy choices. Health Canada undertook a two year study of the possible health effects of the proximity of utility-size wind turbines. Results of the study, published in 2014 concluded that wind turbines are benign neighbours, and at recognized setback distances do not emit enough noise to disturb even the lightest sleeper.

All energy production comes with a cost. In the context of full cost benefit analyses, renewable energies such as wind come out the obvious winners. In March, Pembina Institute, Canada's leading independent energy research group released a study that confirmed the overwhelming high health cost of electricity sourced from coal.

The study is based on Alberta's coal-fired generators, but the results apply equally to Nova Scotia.

"Doctors agree that coal is a health hazard from start to finish," says Farrah Khan with the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment. "Coal-fired power plants put Albertans' health at risk, especially the health of our children."

"Pollution from coal power contributes to thousands of asthma episodes every year," says Dr. Robert Oliphant, President and CEO of the Asthma Society of Canada. "On average in Alberta, a child visits an emergency department for asthma every 34 minutes, with pollution from coal power being a major contributor to these episodes."

Though coal is generally seen as a cheap source of electricity, this analysis reveals that the health and social costs of coal pollution add at least 3.6 to 5 cents per kilowatt-hour, nearly doubling the cost of electricity production. [emphasis added]

"Air pollution from coal is linked to respiratory conditions – chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, lung cancer, and pneumonia," says Beth Nanni, Environmental Program Specialist with The Lung Association, Alberta & Northwest Territories. "We urge the Alberta government to transition away from coal power and towards renewable energy as soon as possible."

In Nova Scotia, health care is a considerable portion of our budget and a significant concern for Nova Scotians. Addressing health costs and energy options in a full cost benefit analysis makes the most sense for planning the best energy mix for the future for this province.

References: A Costly Diagnosis, Pembina Institute, March 2013 <http://www.pembina.org/pub/2424>

Did you know?

Scotian Wind has committed to donate 1% of gross revenue to community projects in your area. A local committee will be designated to administer funds from the project that will be distributed to worthy community causes and activities. If you are interested in participating on the committee for your area, please contact our Manager of Community Relations at the email address or phone number listed below.



Audubon Society 'Strongly Supports' Wind Energy

Established in 1905, Audubon Society is one of North America's oldest, most-respected bird-watching and conservation societies. Therefore their endorsement of wind energy as a key solution in the fight to preserve bird habitat against climate change is a pretty important one.

They declare their position definitively on their website:

Audubon strongly supports properly-sited wind power as a clean alternative energy source that reduces the threat of global warming. Wind power facilities should be planned, sited and operated to minimize negative impacts on bird and wildlife populations.

In fact, their Massachusetts branch conducted a 9 year field study to conclude that the Cape Cod Wind Energy project poses no threat to birds and wildlife. *"As an important component of our support for responsible development of clean, renewable energy and to reduce the worst effects of climate change, we support this project."*

References:

Audubon Society
<http://policy.audubon.org/wind-power-overview-o>

Mass Audubon, Final Position on Cape Wind Energy Project, June 2010.

http://www.massaudubon.org/PDF/capewind/cape_wind_position_20100624.pdf

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Power for
the People**

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