



WESTCHESTER WIND PROJECT

Environmental Assessment Registration

02.16.2022

Natural Forces Developments LP
1801 Hollis St., Suite 1205
Halifax, NS B3J 3N4

P +1 (902) 422 9663
F +1 (902) 422 9780
naturalforces.ca



Executive Summary

This Environment Assessment document has been prepared for the registration of the proposed Westchester Wind Project (Project) by Dillon Consulting Limited on behalf of the Proponent, Natural Forces Developments Limited Partnership. The Project is being developed by Natural Forces Developments Limited Partnership in partnership with Wskijnu’k Mtmo’taunuow Agency Limited, a corporate body wholly owned by the 13 Mi’kmaq bands in Nova Scotia. The potential environmental effects of the proposed undertaking on the environment have been assessed and evaluated and are discussed herein. The purpose of this document is to provide information on the assessment of the environment for the protection of valued environmental components (VECs).

The proposed wind energy project consists of up to 12 wind turbine generators capable of producing up to 50 MW of renewable energy that will be connected to the existing Nova Scotia Power transmission grid via overhead transmission lines. The Project will be located on privately-owned lands within the Municipality of Cumberland.

This Environmental Assessment registration details the desktop research, and field studies conducted in an effort to identify and assess potential impacts to physical, biophysical, and socio-economic valued environmental components (VECs).

| Valued Environmental Components | Environmental Assessment Studies |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Atmospheric Environment | Onsite weather monitoring Climate impact assessment Sound level impact assessment |
| Physical Environment | Geology study Hydrology study of surface water and groundwater |
| Visual Environment | Visual Assessment Shadow Flicker Assessment |
| Terrestrial Environment | Vegetation Surveys Assessment of Culturally Important Flora Preliminary Survey of Wetlands Terrestrial Wildlife Surveys |
| Birds and Bird Habitat | Winter Resident Bird surveys Spring Migratory Bird Surveys Summer Breeding Bird Survey Nocturnal Breeding Bird Survey Fall Migratory Bird Surveys Nocturnal Avian Migration Survey |
| Species at Risk | Acoustic Bat Monitoring Survey |
| Aquatic Environment | Preliminary Fish Habitat Assessment Surveys |
| Bats and Bat Habitat | Species at Risk and Species of Conservation Concern Assessment Mainland Moose Survey Wood Turtle Survey |
| Socioeconomic Environment | Radio Communication System Impact Study |
| Cultural and Heritage | Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment and Screening |

From the data that has currently been assessed, it is anticipated that residual effects following the application of the mitigative measures will be minor to negligible and short term in nature. The Proponent is committed to minimizing any potential for environmental impact as a result of the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Proposed Westchester Wind Project and has committed to post construction monitoring and mitigation activities that may be required given the predicted impacts.

The Proponent believes that with the careful planning completed to date the anticipated Project Development Area minimizes many environmental concerns while providing an excellent opportunity to provide a productive source of environmentally friendly renewable energy. The Westchester Wind Project will help Nova Scotia achieve their provincially mandated targets of producing 80% renewable energy by 2030, and will support local community economic development.

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- Appendix P Qualifications of Lead Technical Field Professionals

This Environmental Assessment (EA) Registration Document has been created to initiate the regulatory process for the Westchester Wind Project (Project) for the construction of a renewable (wind) power generating project capable of producing up to 50 MW of renewable energy near Westchester Station, Nova Scotia. The registration document has been prepared by Dillon Consulting Limited and the Proponent, Natural Forces Developments Limited Partnership, in alignment with the Guide to Preparing an EA Registration Document for Wind Power Projects in Nova Scotia (NSE 2021).

The Project is located on lands in Mi'kmaq traditional territory in an area where the Mi'kmaq have historically and continue to use the land and exercise their Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

1.0 Proponent Description

| | |
|---|--|
| Name of Project | Westchester Wind Project |
| Name of Proponent: | Natural Forces Developments Limited Partnership |
| Joint Registry of Stocks Full Name of Proponent | Natural Forces Developments GP LTD., Natural Forces Technologies Inc., 3261507 Nova Scotia Limited, Natural Forces Wind Inc., and Natural Forces Assets Limited Partnership, carrying on business as Natural Forces Developments Limited Partnership |
| Joint Registry of Stocks ID Number | 3324453 |
| Mailing and Street Address of Proponent: | 1205-1801 Hollis Street, Halifax, NS, B3J 3N4 |
| Chief Executive Officer: | Robert Apold |
| Proponent's Contact Person for the purposes of this EA Registration: | Meg Morris Development Manager at Natural Forces mmorris@naturalforces.ca (902) 422-9663 (Phone) (902-422-9780) (Fax) naturalforces.ca |

Signed by Robert Apold

On behalf of Natural Forces Developments Limited Partnership in acceptance the contents of the Environmental Assessment Registration Document