



**Environment
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 442, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2P8 • www.gov.ns.ca/nse

our file number:

Chris Veinot
Natural Forces Wind Inc.
1801 Hollis Street, Suite 1205
Halifax NS, B3J 3N4

Dear Mr. Veinot:

**Re: Environmental Assessment – Gaetz Brook Wind Farm
Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia**

The environmental assessment of the proposed Gaetz Brook Wind Farm, Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia, has been completed.

This letter is to advise that, pursuant to Section 13 (1)(a) of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, I have determined that the registration information provided is insufficient to allow me to make a decision and that I require additional information.

During the environmental assessment review it was determined that additional information is required to adequately assess the risks to Provincially Endangered bat species. Bat surveys must be designed in consultation with Nova Scotia Environment and Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division.

During the review concern was expressed with respect to presence of bird species at risk such as the Canada Warbler. The Registration Document failed to provide sufficient detailed information of mitigation plans to address these concerns. This information must be developed in consultation with Nova Scotia Environment and Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division. If the Canada Warbler is shown to breed in any of the wetlands on site, those wetlands will be deemed Wetlands of Special Significance and wetland alteration approval will not be granted.

Additional information may also be required with respect to potential adverse environmental effects of the Project in the event turbines are relocated to accommodate these objectives.

This information must be submitted by Natural Forces Wind Inc. within one year, as an Addendum to the original Registration Document. Upon submission of the information I will have 50 days to make my decision.

Chris Veinot
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Natural Forces Wind Inc. must not commence the undertaking or any part thereof until the undertaking has been approved under Part IV of the *Environment Act*.

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please contact the Acting Manager, Environmental Assessment Branch, Ms. Helen MacPhail, at (902) 424-3960 or via e-mail at macphafh@gov.ns.ca.

Sincerely,



Sterling Belliveau
Minister

c: Helen MacPhail

bc: Sarah Jane Snook
Lorrie Roberts
Roger Munroe

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