Skeir, Tina

From: @gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 4:54 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Cc: Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage

Subject: Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA - Wentworth tourism development

Attachments: Wentworth 12 March 2022_Overview_LowRes.pdf

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

This submission is related to the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA.

I request the Minister of Environment & Climate Change outright reject the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm.

If the Minister of NSECC does not reject the project I request he considers the many deficiencies, errors and omissions and request significant further studies, analysis, etc including a comprehensive Socio-Economyic Impact Analysis. The Proponents section on tourism is an insult to local business operators and the approximately 100,000 visitors the Wentworth Valley sees in a given year. A number which will surely grow as the area continues to expand into a four-season destination.

I am submitting this as the owner/developer of Kawaba Holdco. It owns spectacular tourism properties I plan to develop in the Wentworth Valley.

The first attachment is an 11 page overview of an eco-tourism development I am undertaking around the beloved Wentworth (Higgins Brook) that have been a stable of residents and travellers for over 100 years. I shared this Site Master Plan Overview with the Proponent. I also said I would be happy to share a larger more detailed Site Master Plan in person but not via email as it contains proprietary information I'm not ready to share with public. I could share the larger document with the EA office if it isn't shared publicly.

This development is planned for public access to the famous waterfalls (featured on the covers of 2 NS waterfall guide books), trails, parking, wheelchair access, Blue Route access, public restroom facilities, etc... It is also building a number of unique, short-term stay accommodations that will be located far enough away from the falls to not disturb their beauty but to help with the huge demand for accommodations in the area.

Page 1 of the Site Master Plan Overview showcases a photo of the area, taken from a Kawaba Holdco property that includes a public trail used to access the Wentworth Valley Wilderness Area. Even though I took former Higgins Wind partner and a Elementals Energy staff member to this site they did not provide a Visual Simulation of the Project Area. I would expect Turbines 10, 11, 12 and 13 to be visible from several areas along this property. The Proponents EA barely mentions the development plans of the area nor did they share a Visual Simulation for the area for their EA.

The natural beauty and the ecological significance of the area is what pushed me to purchase the property.

When I bought the property I donated almost 100 acres of it to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust at no financial benefit to

me. See second attachment.

The first Baseline Study of the area noted evidence of alces tracks and scat.

Three scenic photos are also attached to this email.

The first picture features a winter visit I did. As I usually meet people at the falls and see numerous cars parked nearby 365 days of the year, I was not surprised to see several groups enjoying the area, but the wedding or engagements photo shoot was a pleasant surprise to stumble upon. In fact I know of at least three weddings that have been taken place here.

The second picture is taken looking west over the Higgins Brook falls gorge area. This lower gap in the landscape would likely make Turbines 11 or 12 significantly visible but as mentioned above the Proponent never published Visual Simulations from the area. I crudely indicated close to where they might be located but cannot for certain indicate if size scale or location is correct.

The third photo is from a random beautiful fall day where people were flocking to my blueberry fields for their special fall colour photos. It is not uncommon to see 20 or more cars here in the fall when the weather is nice. The area is a social media darling.

Thank you,			

Wentworth Valley Protected Areas Map Wentworth Wentworth Valley Mountain Portapique River Wilderness Area is located ~ 14 km Legend to the South West Potential NSNT Conservation Easements NSNT Conservation Lands Wentworth Valley Wilderness Area Kilometers Sources: Esri, HERE () GeoBase, IGN, Kada Lake OpenStreetMap cont







Skeir, Tina

From: @gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 4:58 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA - Wentworth Spartan event

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

Reject the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA.

Please note the size of the Spartan Event where over 1500 competitors completed a gruelling fitness race around the challenging terrain of the Wentworth Valley. As Ski Wentworth develops into four-season tourism more of these events will be planned.

Thanks





From: Sent:

Thank you,

To:	Environment Assessment Web Account				
Subject:	Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA - choice of views				
** 577500101 500011	COURDIEL EVITERNE **				
	COURRIEL EXTERNE **				
Exercise caution when	n opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce				
jointe ou cliquez sur u	<mark>ın lien</mark>				
Hello,					
,					
The Higgins Mountain	n Wind Farm should be rejected.				
The Higgins Wouldan	Willia Farm Should be rejected.				
Why the proponent c	hose to use the Visual Simulation photo location the secretly used for the top of Ski Wentworth				
when there were nun	nerous other sites without any obscured views from behind a chairlift and trees. This photo from				
the top of one of Atla	ntic Canada's oldest ski trails would have been a good example to use instead of 10.2J				
This breathtaking view	w would likely include at least 15 turbines.				

April 14, 2023 5:05 PM

gmail.com>



Skeir, Tina

From: 9gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 5:23 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Wind EA more moose

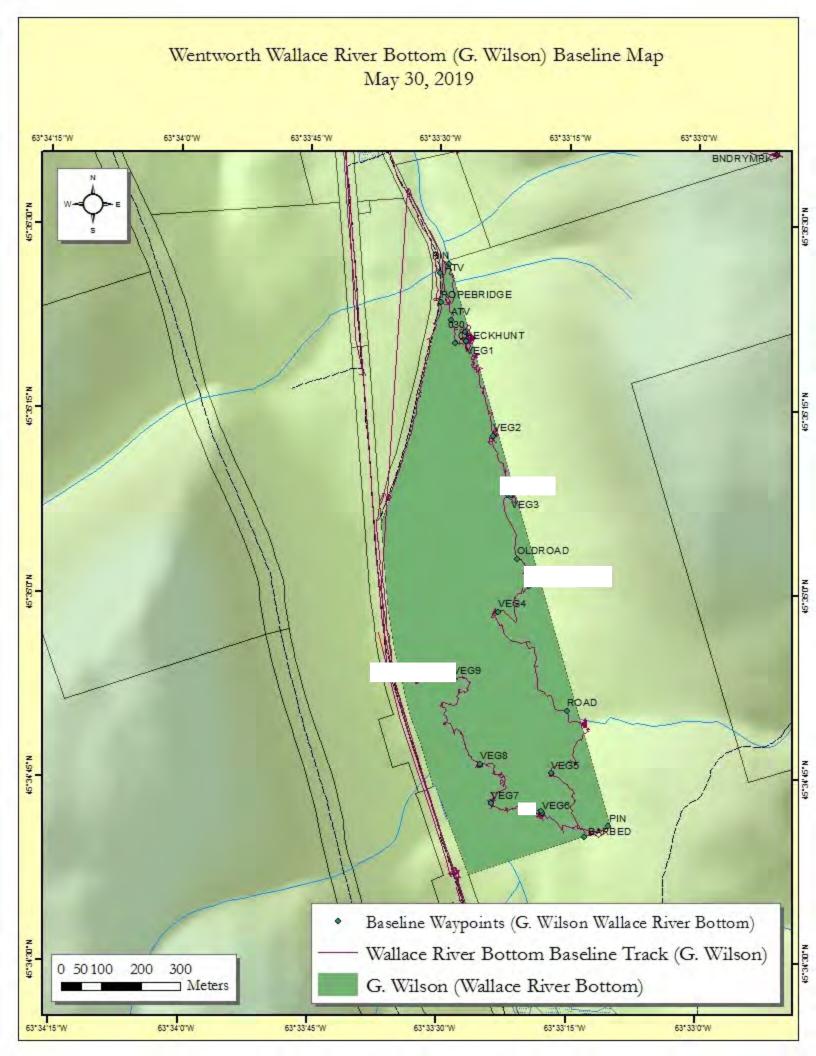
** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

I could not find this map earlier when I mentioned a baseline study of a property I donated to the NSNT. Please do not share publicly or redact location information regarding alces if you are required to share it.

Thank you,



Skeir, Tina

From: 9gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 5:23 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Wind EA more moose

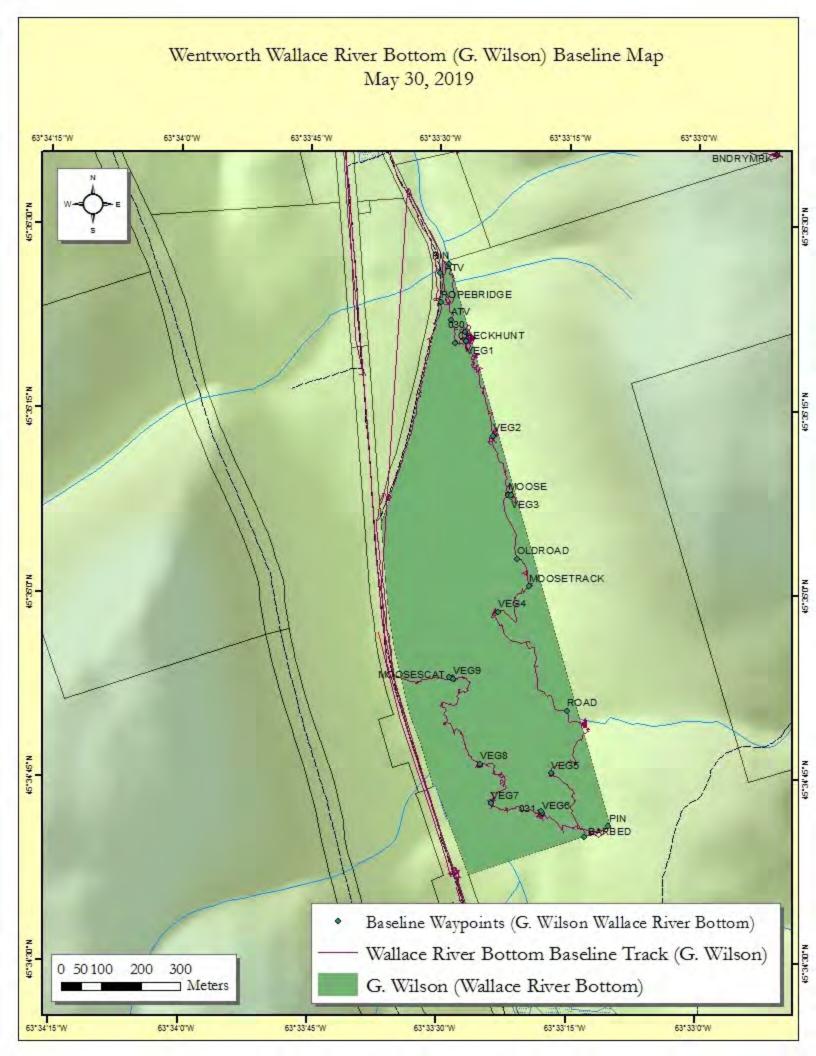
** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

I could not find this map earlier when I mentioned a baseline study of a property I donated to the NSNT. Please do not share publicly or redact location information regarding alces if you are required to share it.

Thank you,



From: @gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 5:41 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Cc: @gmail.com

Subject: Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA Public Comments

You don't often get email from

@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Dear Minister Halman

Thank you for the opportunity to make comment on the Environmental Assessment registration documents for the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm project. The focus of my comments today are centered around the project and the Mainland Moose that I know are in that area.

I have read the project submission as well as been part of a number of meetings hosted by the proponent, the Protect Wentworth folks, and individuals in the community. I also have read the Nova Scotia Recovery Plan for the Moose in Mainland Nova Scotia and talked with some of the authors of that plan. Using that document, I was able to overlay Core, Essential and Essential Buffer Habitat for the entire province in GIS. I also added Wilderness Protected Areas conservation areas etc. I then placed the mapping for the Higgins Wind Farm overtop. What quickly becomes obvious is that not only is the proposed wind farm directly in Core Habitat for recovery of Mainland Moose, but It is also in an area deemed as Essential Habitat (a step up in importance) for Mainland Moose recovery. I am also concerned that this piece of Essential Habitat is one of the narrowest sections in the Cobequids. It has the special function of being the only moose habitat corridor between a substantial area of Essential Habitat in the West section of the Cobequids and a large area of Essential Habitat in the east section of the Cobequids. You don't need a PHD in wildlife to understand that not only would fragmenting that narrow connection that is Higgins Mountain takes away a whole lot of options for ever fostering the recovery of the Mainland Moose in the Cobequids but also feeding to the other core habitat areas throughout the province.

Considering that most of the surviving moose population exists in this area of the province. This area appears to be one if not the main refugia for the endangered Mainland Moose in Nova Scotia.

From what I understand from the research; the continued decline in moose numbers is not caused by simply one thing. Rather it is likely a cumulative effect of disappearing habitat, human disturbance, transmission of new pests and disease into historic habitats and human activity related to forestry including road building. These are all stressors which serve to reduce the number of healthy breeding individuals. I understand that there presently enough of a breeding population for the moose to recover. What there is not is enough suitable habitat to maintain a healthy base population and then allow it to expand to a population of 5000 animals. Suitable habitat is not just about land area. It is about the right land area. The long deep snowy winters occurring over mixed forests preferred by moose and avoided by deer are disappearing in most places but still exist here at these higher elevations.

Unfortunately, the proposed plan for a wind farm on Higgins Mountain brings with it more challenges to helping the moose to recover than benefits. The project cannot be done without reducing habitat, carrying out large-scale construction, creating noise and building/expanding the road network. All these activities are identified as being detrimental to moose. The proponent claims that after the 80m blades and tower section are brought up the mountain and erected they will restore the roads to a logging standard. This must assume that they will never need similar access to maintain the turbines. Blades need to be replaced. I can see a cycle of habitat removal/road construction/ turbine construction/road demolition/habitat restoration followed by habitat destruction/road construction/turbine blade replacement/road deconstruction/habitat restoration for the life of the project (35 years) whenever new blades or other large parts of the turbine are required. How is this providing the stability necessary for recovery of the moose population.

I also can't see how the two-year construction period is not going to be harmful to the well-being of the existing population in the area and most importantly any calves. I am involved in large project construction and know that most two-year projects become three years. What does three years of construction do to the population.

It comes down to "What will be the potential impact of allowing/not allowing this wind farm to be built." I don't think anyone definitively knows. While there are arguments that without green energy there may not be a moose population owing to climate change, as there are other suitable locations for wind turbines and not suitable essential habitat for moose survival, I think the Precautionary Principle sides with moose.

Finally, I know that Norther Pulp is involved as the landowner in the Higgins Wind Farm and that they are suing the province for millions of dollars. I think most people of Nova Scotia question their motives; however, if and when it does come time for a settlement keep in mind a public acquisition of key lands from Northern Pulp could include these lands to help ensure recovery of the moose and help ensure the creation/preservation of a biodiversity highway connection to the rest of North America.

T	hanl	k'	۷оп	for v	νοur.	consid	leration.
	Halli	N	ıou	י וטו	your	COHSIC	iei a tioii.

Folly Lake

From:

Sent: April 14, 2023 5:58 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

You don't often get email from

. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Dear Mr. Halman,

I have reviewed the project submission for the Higgins Mountain wind farm and I have attended many community meetings and information sessions related to this wind farm project. I am also aware of the energy plans and policies of the province. Based on what I have learned, I have the following concerns and I appreciate the opportunity to share them with you.

Wentworth Valley is a scenic and recreational gem in Nova Scotia. It contains beautiful mountains, biking and hiking trails, forests, rivers, streams, waterfalls, caves, campgrounds, parks and an active ski hill. It is an area where people come to enjoy nature and be outdoors. To discover that this area has been selected as a site to place the largest land based turbines produced in the world was a shock.

These turbines are 1.6 times the size of many of the turbines we see dotting the landscape of other areas of the province. The towers are 195m high and the rotor is 165m in diameter. The construction phase will last years and it will destroy the beauty of the area, harm the mainland moose and the local recovering bat population potentially affect the physical and mental health of many nearby residents.

My main concerns are related to the infrasound and visual disruption the turbines create. Studies out of Germany are showing large turbines are producing more and stronger infrasound and the audio vibrations are being picked up as far as 20km away. Infrasound is inaudible (low frequency) but it penetrates through buildings and studies show it negatively affects 3 out of 10 people, some severely. It was predicted that covid would negatively impact 4 out of 10 people. With those predictions, we shut down the world, yet we may be going forward with this wind farm.

Given my belief that this farm will go ahead anyway, I ask that you consider removing turbines 15 and 16 or at the very least move them back to maintain the mountain view somewhat intact. This may also help with the infrasound as the mountain may provide some protection.

I sincerely hope you consider the concerns of the residents and the environment in the same way that Cumberland County did.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sent: April 14, 2023 7:00 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Proposed HIGGINS MOUNTAIN WIND FARM

You don't often get email from puremeditationcentrenovascotia@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Dear Minister Halman,

We have grave concerns about this proposed project.

Having attended open houses hosted by the proponents and meetings held by the Municipality of Colchester County, we noticed that several vitally important considerations were either skimmed over or not addressed at all. This is extremely worrying considering the consequences for those of us who live in the Wentworth Valley area, as well as tourists who visit here in ever-growing numbers and frequency.

Wentworth Valley is considered an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, we implore the Minister and our Nova Scotia Government to protect this magnificent area from such developments in perpetuity.

If you have not already done so, we strongly urge you to come to see for yourselves, to experience the sheer beauty, the serenity and magnificence of this area.

We understand that Northern Pulp have not honoured obligations to the Government of Nova Scotia - surely common sense decrees that we do not do business with persons who have seemingly demonstrated their willingness to disregard their obligations/promises?

The following are specific concerns:-

Visual Impact - these wind turbines are gigantic!

Flicker and Sound - will adversely affect peoples' mental health and emotional well-being.

Trails - our Nova Scotia Government has recognised the importance of mental health and subsequently actively encourages all peoples, families etc to get into nature and walk trails etc.

Many trails will be lost and there are no guarantees they will be adequately replaced and how many people will feel inclined to walk around these monstrotities anyway?

Endangered Mainland Moose - what are the proponents proposing to do to mitigate the risk to mainland moose as well as bats and several other species? This is of vital importance to the wildlife of Nova Scotia.

Geophysical Environment including Water Quality and Quantity -this is something we cannot afford to tamper with as the consequences may be unknown and could well be catastrophic.

Economic Impact - the likelihood is there will be little to no economic benefit to the local Community nor to the Government of Nova Scotia.

Land and Property Values - these giant wind turbines will have negative impact on land and property values over a widespread area.

Please help us to preserve and protect the unique ecology and biodiversity of the Wentworth Valley.

with thanks,

--

PURE MEDITATION CENTRE NOVA SCOTIA

MOUNTAIN SERENITY RETREAT for Meditation, Healing, Counselling, Yoga, Retreats Tel: 902 755-HEAL(4325) 1111 New Annan Rd, Highway 246 Wentworth, Cumberland Co, Nova Scotia http://www.eastrivermeditationcentre.com

From: @eastlink.ca>

Sent: April 14, 2023 7:10 PM

To:Environment Assessment Web AccountSubject:Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project

You don't often get email from

@eastlink.ca. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

As a lifelong resident of Colchester County, and former landowner in Cumberland County, I have the following comments to submit regarding the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project:

The NSECC website (Environmental Assessment | Environmental Assessment (novascotia.ca) states that Nova Scotians place a high value on the environment and want to ensure that it is not adversely impacted by development. I whole heartily agree with this statement and that is why I am offering my comments on the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm. I have spent a significant amount of time in and around Higgins Mountain, enjoying the resources that it offers. I know that there is an existing moose population, as well as a diversity of other species that occur here.

Over 7 months ago the Province approved this project through the Rate Based Procurement (RBP) Portfolio, long before an Environmental Assessment was registered with NSECC. This suggests a significant win for the wind farm project, pushing them in the direction of success and downgrading the fact that they still must get approval through the provincial environmental assessment process. So, to summarize, the province has given approval through the RBP process well in advance of even the registration of the Environmental Assessment, and the RBP is stated to be an independent, open, and objective process. Something doesn't add up to this Nova Scotian, is the system flawed? Again, the Province of Nova Scotia and its political leadership, is the approver for both 'independent' processes. Does the process convey the importance that Nova Scotians place on the environment and ensure that it is not adversely impacted by development? To me it does not, there is a major flaw in this overarching process (or lack there of). To the layperson it seems as thought the RBP has set the precedent, granting the approval of the wind farm development.

The environmental assessment is driven by the proponent through an environmental consulting firm of their choosing. This is not an unbiased report submitted by a third party, it is under the control of the proponent, suggesting that this process may be a conflict of interest with no independence or transparency. The consulting firm is working for the proponents and the interests that they have invested in the project. The public should give this some thought.

Overall, the environmental assessment does not provide a solid comprehensive analysis of the expected direct and indirect impacts to wildlife, habitats, and ecosystems. Of particular concern is endangered mainland moose, and cumulative impacts. The document has failed to bring to the forefront that there is a known existing population of moose on Higgins Mountain, Is this significant? The report has large gaps in the moose work that was done on Higgins Mountain, and the study area. It has minimized any solid discussion around the results of surveys that they have conducted for moose, and any significance of the findings, or

consideration of cumulative impacts. The report lightly mentions that the study area is classified as mainland moose concentration area in one sentence but does not elaborate or discuss this any further, they also fail to state it is core habitat as is described in the Mainland Moose Recovery Plan. According to the Nova Scotia Endangered Species Act (NSESA), mainland moose are listed as endangered, and are therefore fully protected. This means that no disturbance of the species or habitat are permitted. It is important to point out that under the NSESA, Core Habitat means specific areas of habitat essential for the long-term survival and recovery of endangered or threatened species. What are the implications of further disturbance to an area presently occupied by an endangered species that is on the brink of extinction? There is no mention of additional wind farms in the area, with the recent approval of a large one that is only a few kilometers from the study area (Westchester). There is no consideration of the cumulative impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Cobequid Pass Highway (noted in the Recovery Plan as a barrier to moose), other agricultural, industrial and commercial operations in the area, connectivity across the landscape (particularly between the wilderness areas (Higgins Mountain falls between two of them)), forestry, recreation, power grid/communication towers (the list goes on). No thought was given to increased assess for predators, increased threats of disease/parasites, and the competition of other species (deer). One will expect that if you consider all of these elements as a whole there has to be some impact on a species that is threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation, with wind development representing permanent land conversion. The report casts an unfair, negative light toward forestry and does not consider that it represents a much lower impact; for example, limited activity spread over time, retention of a mosaic of habitat and corridors, food source (browse), different treatments(selection), best management practices(buffers, corridors, cover).

At no time did I read that there were any formal discussions with local users of this land base; or local natural resources staff and conservation officers sought out for their expertise and local knowledge of the existing moose population (and other species/habitats). This should have been a priority. There was mention of one off, by chance, anecdotal reports from trail users and hunters, of moose observations. From what I can understand they recorded 8 different moose from cameras, found a carcass, and had numerous observations across the study area, plus additional observations made by trail users. That sounds rather significant to me, just imagine what they didn't see. The information also suggests all life forms of moose were noted (significant). Did they exhaust all databases for moose observation reports? Overall, this information provided is vague, making it difficult to interpret.

Moose are culturally significant to the people of Nova Scotia, and I understand this project is in partnership with Sipekne'katik First Nation. Was the indigenous community properly and meaningfully engaged in all aspects of this project, and the existing moose population on Higgins Mountain? I'm not convinced of this.

A quick search for research reports on wind developments (Wind07-2.pdf (wildlife.org)) identified a technical report written in 2007 that discusses habitat related impacts on large mammals (Impacts of Wind Energy Facilities on Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat- The Wildlife Society Technical Review 07-2, September 2007). The report acknowledges that evidence of direct impacts on large mammals is generally lacking, however based on current findings it states that large mammals such as elk, deer, and black bear may be impacted by wind developments. If there are deficiencies in quality and/or quantity of habitat, this can lead to population declines and displacement. Several US states have documented the direct loss of habitat for large mammals, these losses generally include habitat in adequate supply. Thus, suggesting the impacts of habitat loss and fragmentation are greatest when habitat is in short supply or not of good quality. One may interpret from this report, in the case of NS endangered mainland moose on Higgins Mountain, a wind development may be detrimental. Remember, the NSESA offers full protection for mainland moose and its habitat.

Based on all available information, the Province of Nova Scotia should not approve a wind farm development on Higgins Mountain if it is committed to the recovery of endangered mainland moose, a species on the brink on extinction. I acknowledge and understand economic development is important as is renewable energy, however not at the expense of moose.

 From:
 @gmail.com

 Sent:
 April 14, 2023 7:52 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Proposed Project Comments

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Project: higgins-mountain-wind-farm Comments: I support building wind turbines to support renewable energy solutions in Nova Scotia. Name: Email: j @gmail.com Address: Municipality:

Dartmouth email_message: Privacy-Statement: agree x: 74 y: 26

From: @hotmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 8:24 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Mountain Wind Project

Attachments: Doc3.docx

You don't often get email from

@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Please see attached

I am against the Higgins Wind Farm Development.

The point of an Environmental Impact Assessment is to determine of the value of the project outweighs the impact, in the Wentworth Valley it does not.

The balsa wood sourced to produce turbine blades has been proven to add to deforestation of the tropical rainforests, the fiberglass in the blades is not economical to recycle, therefore landfill material and the blasting and concrete used in the construction is not able to be reused. While this may be assessed as acceptable impact while constructing turbines in certain locations, the Wentworth Valley is home to mainland moose, endangered plants and an economy based on tourism searching for a wilderness retreat.

The Wentworth Valley is already home to dilapidated turbines that need to be removed and we do not feel this needs to be repeated.

I appreciate your attention to this matter,

From: qocva.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 8:50 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Mountain Wind EA

You don't often get email from

@gocva.com. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

I'm writing today to address my thoughts on the EA put forth on the Higgins Mountain wind project in Wentworth Valley.

Having grown up snowboarding in Wentworth, I know how special of a place it is and what presence it holds to Nova Scotia. To give some background on myself, I have travelled all over the world snowboarding as a proud member of the Canadian National Team aswell as competed in the 2022 Beijing Olympic games. I now live in Whistler BC but am still proud to call Wentworth home. Even through all my travels and all the places that I have visited there is nothing quite like the beautiful Wentworth Valley. Places like this thrive on tourism and tend to crumble and get swept under the rug if that consistent flow is to diminish. Now living in Whistler I could never imagine having this in my backyard, in all the beautiful places I have been to I have never seen a Ski Resort or amazing view like we have in Wentworth with a Wind Farm in the foreground.

I am an advocate for renewable energy and not against Wind farms by any means, but this proposal is about more than that. I strongly believe there is a solution or an area more suitable for this project as Wentworth Valley already has a very delicate ecosystem. One of my other passions is fly fishing and Wentworth valley is home to some of the more productive fall salmon runs in the Province. I'm very worried that this project will also change the outflow of drainage/water and possibly change the course of these migratory fish for the future.

This area of the Province is one we can not ruin because of a wind farm when it seems as though there are so many other problems at play that are getting overlooked.

To summarize, I am strongly against the Higgins Mountain Wind Project and would like to see more time put into alternate solutions and ways to mitigate what could be the downfall of a boosting tourism destination in Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

| CANADA SNOWBOARD

www.canadasnowboard.ca

From:

Sent: April 14, 2023 8:54 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Mountain.

You don't often get email from robertzed@zed.ca. Learn why this is important

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Environmental Assessment Branch
Department of Environment and Climate Change
PO Box 442
Halifax, NS, B3J 2P8

ea@novascotia.ca

Dear Minister of Environment and Climate Change,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and concerns about the proposed construction of Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project. I have been a long-time member of the Folly Lake/ Wentworth Valley community and I share the concerns of others in the community as to the negative impact of the this project on the important ecosystem in the area, especially the Wentworth Valley.

While there have been some modifications to the original footprint, the size of the project and location of the turbines is such that there is likely a significant negative impact on the Wentworth Valley ecosystem. The maps included in the EA, as well as the report on the wildlife and fauna indicate encroachment on core and essential habitat for endangered mainland moose as well as other species who inhabit the area. Wildlife experts and scientists including

one of the main authors of the NS Moose Recovery Plan, have signalled the negative impact of deforestation, road clearing, and erection of structures on clearing roads and building sites, on wildlife populations as well as flora in this area. Turbine operation as well as deconstruction will also impact the natural habitat irrevocably.

Finally there are pages of "exceptions" and exclusions which have not been addressed. This biast opinion is not satisfactory and does not fairly consider the many concerns raised by the citizens of this area.

I urge you to consider the special ecology, biodiversity of the Wentworth Valley area, I urge you to dismiss the EA application for the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm project.

Please send your response with acknowledgement of my concerns; I appreciate you considering these concerns in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Professor/Executive-in-Residence, Dalhousie University, Halifax/Toronto. Sent from my Z-phone

From: @bellalia	ant.net>
-----------------	----------

Sent: April 14, 2023 8:55 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Cc: Minister, Natural Resources and Renewables; Minister, Env;

@bellaliant.com

Subject: Higgins mountain wind farm Environmental Assessment Concerns

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

@bellaliant.net. Learn why this is

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

> Hello,

>

> I am writing with regards to my opposition to the Higgins Mountain wind farm project based on the environmental impacts that seem to outweigh the benefits.

>

> I have been a summer resident and more recently permanent resident at Folly Lake for over 30 years and have come to enjoy the beautiful vistas, wildlife, natural waterfalls, waterways and natural vegetation. This area is home to the endangered mainland moose and should be protected.

>

> The EA written by the proponent suggests that the impacts are minimal; however it seems that this assessment is skewed heavily in favour of the project as it is commissioned by and for the proponent.

As a resident I am very concerned about the impact to land value as well as the visual impacts.

Visual impact concerns were raised with the proponent at every community meeting and while the commentary and commitment was explicitly stated that this would be addressed, the reality of the outcome is far different. There will be significant visual impact and flicker. Of particular concern would be turbine 15 and 16 as these were in a different location than shown at the community meeting.

>

> Thanks,

 From:

 ②gmail.com

 Sent:
 April 14, 2023 9:23 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Proposed Project Comments

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Project: higgins-mountain-wind-farm Comments: One of my major concerns is the impact of the proposed project on the endangered Mainland Moose species. While the Environmental Assessment EA describes the methodology used to predict the impact on the Moose, it falls short of providing a clear plan for mitigating any potential damage to the species. This is unacceptable, especially for a species that the government has pledged to protect. The EA states that the model identified large areas of high-quality habitat across the study area, which suggests that the project could have a significant impact on the species. Its crucial that a concrete plan for minimizing harm to the Mainland Moose is developed. Another concern I have is the potential destruction of wetlands caused by the project. Wetlands provide many benefits, such as carbon storage and sequestration, and support biodiversity. Unfortunately, the EA fails to account for the loss of these benefits when analyzing the projects overall carbon footprint. This is a critical oversight that needs to be addressed. Lastly, I am worried about the economic impact of the project. Nova Scotia is experiencing population growth, and its essential to have an outdoor hub for recreation to attract and maintain a healthy, active population. The Wentworth area has the potential to be high quality destination being within a couple hours of Halifax and other sizable populations. Think what Whistler is to Vancouver. But that can only be achieved if the natural beauty of the area is preserved. The turbines will have a negative visual impact on the landscape, which could deter visitors and harm the local economy. We need to ensure that we dont sacrifice our provinces natural beauty by placing turbines on every high, windy location without careful consideration. Name: Email: @gmail.com Address:

Municipality: Lower Sackville email_message: Privacy-Statement: agree x: 60 y: 26

From: @bellaliant.net>

Sent: April 14, 2023 9:25 PM

To:

Cc: Environment Assessment Web Account; Minister, Natural Resources and Renewables;

Minister, Env; @bellaliant.com

Subject: Higgins mountain wind farm Environmental Assessment Concerns

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

@bellaliant.net. Learn why this is

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Good evening all. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I will keep this very short and to the point. Simply put, I am not in opposition to the above project. I believe green energy is very beneficial.

That said, I do have concerns about how "green" wind actually is by the time one accounts for the impact from construction (cement off gassing, emissions from construction, destruction of habitat for road building to construct and maintain, not to mention the very concerning maintenance and demobilization issues associated with turbines in general....just to name a few).

The main concerns I would like to point out and focus on are:

1-the integrity of the proponent. There was an original proposal and layout for the turbines. The proponents were made aware of those concerns and when they held the community meeting they showed very clearly how the concerning turbines would be moved or removed to work with the community on concerns. Ironically enough in the EA those turbines were back in place. I would be more than willing to share pictures from the community meeting and turbine layout if you are interested.

If that isn't enough to call into question their integrity now and over the long run do I say anything more than the current landowner.

2-the lack of benefit to the community is vague at best and in reality the benefit to the community shouldn't be measured in paltry dollars. The impact to the community is better measured in the physical and mental health of the residents as well as the community's ability to grow because it is a desirable place to live and raise our next generation(s) 3-while the EA may attempt to, inaccurately, paint a picture of no environmental impact, we are burying our heads in the sand should we remotely think that is true. Massive construction and deforestation, varieties of species of flora and fauna eradicated or driven from their habitat will occur.

The only other point I can raise is with the political system and people. While we have had many assurances and meetings saying you understood and that you are listening and that you will act on the best interest of the community, residents and YOUR constituents, the reality is we are at the 11th hour of a pivotal change to our lives and community I/we don't see where your support has any impact. Please prove me wrong and illustrate that you did hear us and you will act and more importantly that you will effect change.

In summary I would request that you deny or alter the proposal that has been presented based on the impact it will have.

Thanks

From: @gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 9:34 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account **Subject:** Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

This is in response to the March 2023 Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project Overview on the Elemental Energy website.

Page 4

Proponent states they submitted 100mw project plan for the 2022 RFP process, but I am pretty sure they submitted a 150mw proposal.

Proponent was awarded a Power Purchase Agreement but I do not think it has been signed pending the EA outcome.

Page 5

Proponent suggests large setbacks but doesn't mention how it was community hostility towards the Project that helped create setbacks and the 3.2 Restrictive Wind Overlay in Cumberland County.

Proponent diminishes the impacts of the size and scale of the project by suggesting using old narrow forestry roads that need to be widened somehow means it has a lower impact than other projects.

Proponent suggest their work has minimized visual impact yet all mitigation is owed to a 2km setback and 3.2km overlay that the proponent resisted. Their Visual Simulations do a very poor job of capturing the reality of their project impacts. Visual Simulations from Folly Lake and Ski Wentworth are the worst examples of visual tricks to minimize the appearance of significant visual impacts.

Page 6

"Industry Best" standards would not suggest putting huge industrial wind project directly between two large Wilderness Areas, as recommended in the NSE Guide to Preparing an EA Registration Document for Wind Power Projects or Best Practice as defined by the Mainland Moose recovery Plan.

Page 7

Misleading, False

Proponent Visual Simulations from the top of Ski Wentworth are an insult to anyone who has been at the top[pf the mountain. The Proponent did the 'professional' work on Ski Wentworth without the consent of the owners.

The Proponents 10.2J image is taken in an area behind a chairlift and trees, when various nearby popular congregation areas have much larger views of the project area.

What defines Proponents "Zone of Visual Impact"? Because there are numerous turbines with significant visual impacts. Proponent falsely claims 3.2 Overlay was negotiated with the community. The Mayor, Elemental Energy, and the Chair of the CLC who acted without community or CLC consent. It was a classic 'behind closed doors' affair that offended member of the CLC, Protect Wentworth Valley, and the broader community at large. This was discussed at the March CLC and the Chair acknowledged it was true, and Elemental staff were there and did not challenge it.

Page 8

While nice to see the Higgins consortium removed the 'location sensitive species' locations on their Constraints map, it is still unfortunate they still to highlight some of the bigger moose concentration area in purple on their map on Page 6.

Page 9

Proponent claims 'community engagement informs' their approach. If this were true at all they would have walked away from the project any number of times since 2006.

The CLC process while time consuming produced no mitigative results the community sought. Both of the Proponents Open Houses were disasters from them, the community voice was loud and clear and both events, but was more than obvious when the Proponent alloted 10 minutes for Q&A. Community revolt saw the Q&A period last 90 minutes against the will of the Proponent.

The Proponent was summoned before Colchester County to share their Wind Project plans as required. Proponent showed maps of project including infrastructure within Colchester County before they spoke with Colchester County about it as required. Colchester Mayor appeared visibly annoyed at Proponent Paul Pynn at the Colchester meeting.

Page 10

Checkboxes. CLC is a checkbox yet the process was a dismal failure that produced almost no results. No check for construction start in 2023, but Northern Pulp is currently clearing all the area required for the project.

Hopefully no more check boxes occur for this terrible wind project. This project should be rejected.

Page 11

GHG reductions, any 100MW of wind energy projects can also meet the offset, and likely easier, if they dont require some much land clearing or infilling of carbon sequestering wetlands.

Low cost, not so low cost, when you add the costs of whatever back up system will be required to manage the intermittency of wind. Since the Atlantic Loop seems to happening, the majority of the wind projects in NS will not be required.

Employment numbers do not seem realistic, most long term jobs will not be local.

Community Benefits have never been addressed by Proponent and \$100,000 per year in this document is a slap in the face of the community that will bear the majority of the risks.

Page 12

A beautiful landscape image without any 195m tall industrial turbines littering the top of the ridges. Hopefully we can keep the beautiful Wentworth Valley looking like that.

From: @gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 9:58 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA sound modelling efforts

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

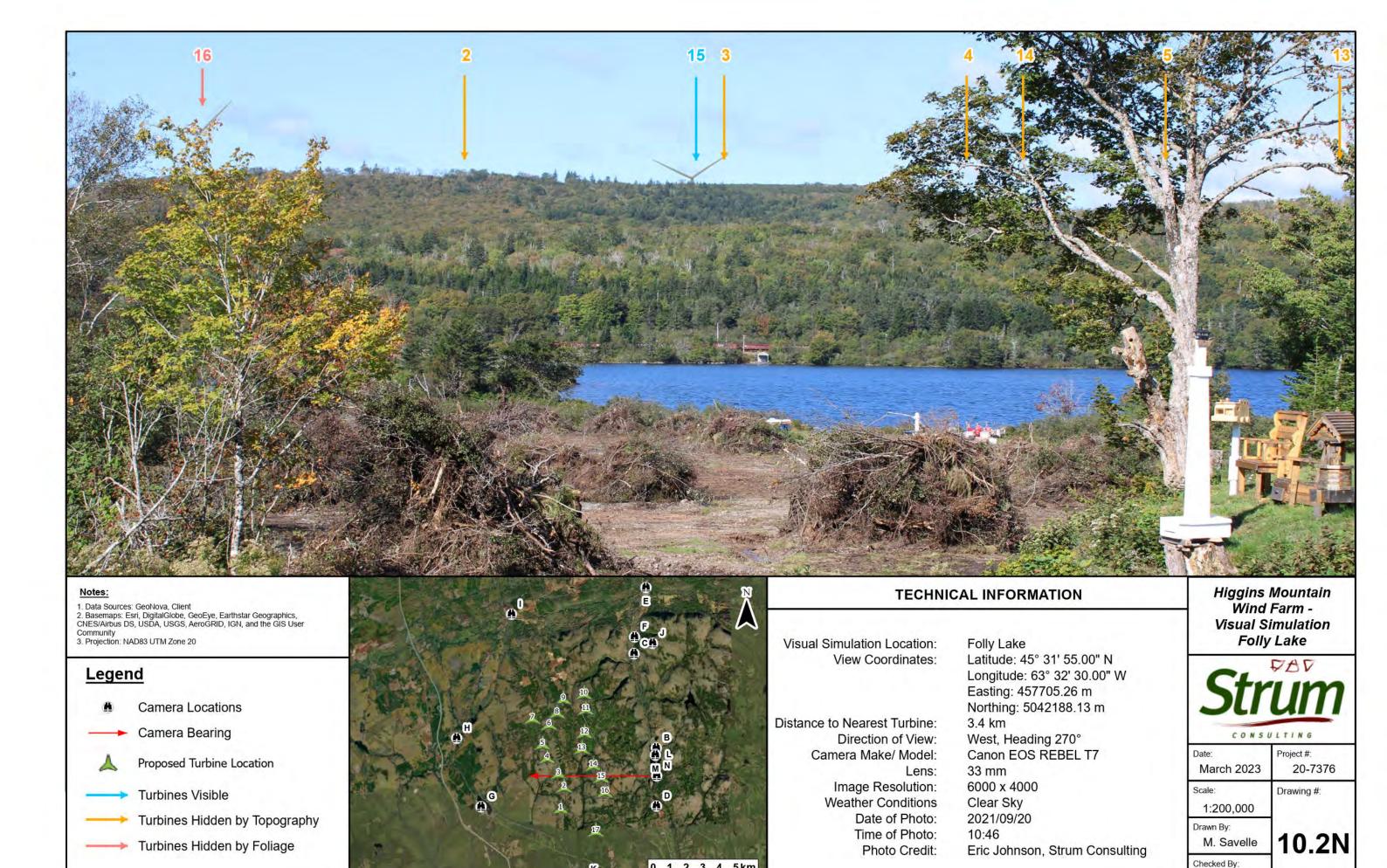
Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Ea

Sound Modeling poster Page 15 from Dec 2021 Open House PDF includes many of the homes in the area at Folly Lake, Wentworth Valley, Sutherlands Lake and Westchester but a similar Sound Modelling map in the EA registration Document doesn't include any of those receptors. Seems odd to include than remove it later.

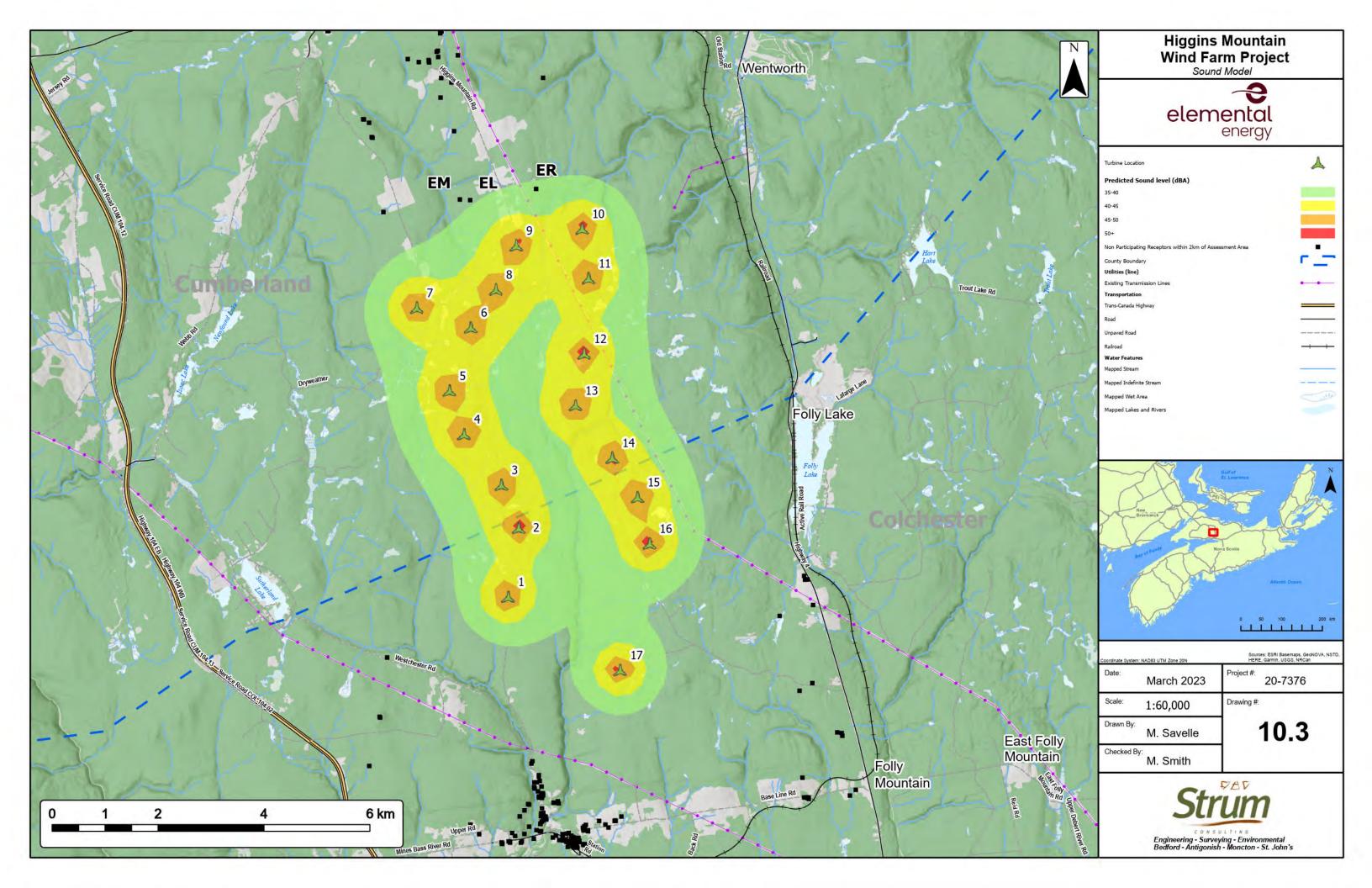
I do not understand what impacts these differences would have but it would appear to imply the Proponent did not include sound modelling effects for most residents closest to the Project Area.

Thanks



0 1 2 3 4 5km

M. Smith



From:	@gmail.com>			
ent: April 14, 2023 10:11 PM				
To: Environment Assessment Web Account Subject: Environment Assessment Web Account				
Subject:	Fwd: Higgins Mountain Wind CLC notes to be added			
	/ COURRIEL EXTERNE **			
	en opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce			
<mark>jointe ou cliquez sur</mark>	<mark>un lien</mark>			
Hello,				
Higgins Mountain W	ind Farm EA Registration Document			
A lot of relevant EA բ	points throughout this email.			
Especially note wort	hy is ongoing attempts to ignore repeated requests;			
the EA (paraphrase) - Dr Beazley's Best P - Best practices for V	nectares, have asked for years, no answer, yet the Proponent mentions dozens of times throughout I 'impacts are expected to be minimal because of the use of existing roads'. ractice guidelines for industrial use in core moose habitat. Visual impact analysis from local planning expert economic Impact Study with the EA			
	nts never made it to the minutes despite being discussed regularly at CLC meetings.			
Thank you,				
Begin forwa	rded message:			
	@gmail.com> iggins Mountain Wind CLC notes to be added 11, 2022 at 3:00:21 PM ADT			
Hello,				

After getting disconnected from June 30th CLC during minutes review, I later shared I'd like to make some changes to the previous minutes.

Thanks to for acknowledging that sharing CLC minutes notes less than 24hrs before the following meeting is unacceptable and that the Higgins Group, specifically , will get future notes out 2 weeks after the meeting. Please add this the June meeting notes.

I noted that a lot of details were shared about various topics but no details were included from planning expert discussion.

Some of what shared includes the following that should be added to the April minutes;

Visual Impact Analysis

- Visual analysis should be done via DTM with photo overlay
- analysis should include a Dominance & Prevalence rating such as what Protect Wentworth Valley presented in 2021
- visual analysis camera focal length should be 90mm as this is closest representation to how the human eye sees images.
- photo representation should be on a clear blue sky, not grey, overcast, or cloudy.
- video representation from receptors is very easy with todays technology. Wind developers should share this with communities.
- developers should share 'how much space a project will occupy'
 Gregor notes that Higgins wind has not addressed any of the above to date despite talking about these things since 2021

Have never received promised visual impact analysis from two very popular trails with spectacular look-offs that face towards proponents project area. Proponent has promised this since at least mid-2021.

Committee member has repeatedly requested leading moose experts to attend a meeting. Proponent has not accommodated this request. I mentioned them both the following April 28th.

Dalhousie, lead author Mainland Moose Recovery Plan, <u>y@dal.ca</u>
Donna Hurlburt, DNRR, Species-at-Risk lead, <u>Donna.Hurlburt@novascotia.ca</u>

Asked how many hectares of land to be cleared for layout? Never answered and still relevant with latest layout changes.

Asked if proponent will get legal commitment from landowner and partners that no more turbines would added if 100MW plan moves forward.

Proponent again stated socio-economic impact study will be completed and submitted with EA

Environmental

...' this has been made possible through community feedback...' This statement is very misleading. The only layout changes the proponent has undertaken is from RFP downsized from 150 to 100mw, then changing setback via overlay that occurred due to displeasure with Higgins group and community members mobilizing to make changes in other ways beyond negotiating with proponent.

It wasn't at the April meeting but I also noticed emailed comments to proponent Nov 23, 2021 but they have not made it into any meeting notes nor were they ever discussed at a meeting. Please add them to these meeting notes with reference not captured since Nov 21.

lead author of NS Mainland Moose Recovery Plan wrote;

Points that I would be looking for or recommending in terms of windmill (and road) location are:

- 1. Locations should be concentrated so as to minimize footprint of site impact (clearing) caused by windmills, associated construction, access and maintenance roads and any other infrastructure;
- 2. Layout should be such that moose could move across the site in both directions (e.g., east-west and north-south) (1) without being more than 200 m from mature forest cover and ideally (2) with no or minimal road crossings;
- 3. To avoid indirect impacts on moose:
 - a. Any roads that can be decommissioned post construction should be, and those that cannot should be gated, with restricted access, to minimize opportunities for disturbance due to motorized recreational and other human uses, including poaching;
 - b. Cleared areas needed for construction but not needed for operations should be restored to enhance recovery of forest cover, to benefit moose and discourage deer (who carry a brain worm that kills moose).

Thanks,

From: @gmail.com>

Sent: April 14, 2023 10:15 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account **Subject:** Fwd: Higgins Mountain Wind: June CLC

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

More CLC related comments RE Higgins Mountain Wind Farm EA

More examples of not listening to CLC members comments.

Begin forwarded message:

From: @gmail.com Subject: Re: Higgins Mountain Wind: June CLC

Date: July 14, 2022 at 2:15:50 PM ADT

To:

Thanks for the prompt sharing of minutes this time. It makes it much easier to confirm meeting notes when still fresh.

April meeting notes

I see that you accepted the previous April 2022 minutes as accepted but made no reference/changes to my related comments at the June meeting or in my July 11th email to CLC members. Attached below. Specifically you did not add any content related to;

- discussion around planning, visual assessments, etc
- moose expert emailed comments around road building and construction that have never been captured or discussed.
- see others below

can you please add these comments to ensure they are recorded in our CLC notes? Or justify why not being included?

June 30th meeting notes

RFP update, last point. said most towers would likely be a 'hybrid' style tower, which means it would have a very tall concrete base extending up above the ground. This tower type requires a huge amount of concrete via a 'continuous pour' technic due where concrete trucks run 24/7 for a longtime. Next meeting should have this on the agenda as the around the clock noise nuisance to communities is often significant.

6:45 asked about Higgins/Northern Pulp plans to formalize a legal commitment Higgins group pledged to the community that would prevent any further turbines on the property beyond 100MW as previously promised. Higgins Group said no further action has moved forward. asked to make sure these comments were captured in the minutes, which did not happen.

comments. Make said Northern Pulp would protect the moose but gave no evidence or reason what, where, when, why. Since seem to have open access to Northern Pulp could they encourage Northern Pulp to attend next CLC as we have been asking for three years.

Visual Assessments & Socio-economic impacts

has previously promised to interview local business operators regarding the socio-economic impact study but are now saying 'individual interviews are not in the scope ..." Why are you going back on previous promise?

has previously promised to do visual assessments for numerous sites before the EA that currently haven't been completed. . At least two outstanding historic and very popular look-offs look towards the Higgins group project area. Why are going back on your previous promise?

Copied from July 11, 2022 CLC email regarding June and earlier CLC meeting notes

After getting disconnected from June 30th CLC during minutes review, I later shared I'd like to make some changes to the previous minutes.

Thanks to for acknowledging that sharing CLC minutes notes less than 24hrs before the following meeting is unacceptable and that the Higgins Group, specifically , will get future notes out 2 weeks after the meeting. Please add this the June meeting notes.

I noted that a lot of details were shared about various topics but no details were included from planning expert discussion.

Some of what shared includes the following that should be added to the April minutes;

Visual Impact Analysis

- Visual analysis should be done via DTM with photo overlay
- analysis should include a Dominance & Prevalence rating such as what Protect Wentworth Valley presented in 2021
- visual analysis camera focal length should be 90mm as this is closest representation to how the human eye sees images.
- photo representation should be on a clear blue sky, not grey, overcast, or cloudy.

- video representation from receptors is very easy with todays technology. Wind developers should share this with communities.
- developers should share 'how much space a project will occupy'

notes that Higgins wind has not addressed any of the above to date despite talking about these things since 2021

Have never received promised visual impact analysis from two very popular trails with spectacular look-offs that face towards proponents project area. Proponent has promised this since at least mid-2021.

Committee member has repeatedly requested leading moose experts to attend a meeting. Proponent has not accommodated this request. I mentioned them both the following April 28th.

Dalhousie, lead author Mainland Moose Recovery Plan, <u>@dal.ca</u>
Donna Hurlburt, DNRR, Species-at-Risk lead, <u>Donna.Hurlburt@novascotia.ca</u>

Asked how many hectares of land to be cleared for layout? Never answered and still relevant with latest layout changes.

Asked if proponent will get legal commitment from landowner and partners that no more turbines would added if 100MW plan moves forward.

Proponent again stated socio-economic impact study will be completed and submitted with EA

Environmental

...' this has been made possible through community feedback...' This statement is very misleading. The only layout changes the proponent has undertaken is from RFP downsized from 150 to 100mw, then changing setback via overlay that occurred due to displeasure with Higgins group and community members mobilizing to make changes in other ways beyond negotiating with proponent.

It wasn't at the April meeting but I also noticed emailed comments to proponent Nov 23, 2021 but they have not made it into any meeting notes nor were they ever discussed at a meeting. Please add them to these meeting notes with reference not captured since Nov 21.

lead author of NS Mainland Moose Recovery Plan wrote;

Points that I would be looking for or recommending in terms of windmill (and road) location are:

- 1. Locations should be concentrated so as to minimize footprint of site impact (clearing) caused by windmills, associated construction, access and maintenance roads and any other infrastructure;
- 2. Layout should be such that moose could move across the site in both directions (e.g., east-west and north-south) (1) without being more than 200 m from mature forest cover and ideally (2) with no or minimal road crossings;
- 3. To avoid indirect impacts on moose:
 - a. Any roads that can be decommissioned post construction should be, and those that cannot should be gated, with restricted access, to minimize opportunities for disturbance due to motorized recreational and other human uses, including poaching;
 - b. Cleared areas needed for construction but not needed for operations should be restored to enhance recovery of forest cover, to benefit moose and discourage deer (who carry a brain worm that kills moose).

Thanks,

From: @gmail.com **Sent:** April 14, 2023 10:22 PM

To: Environment Assessment Web Account

Subject: Proposed Project Comments

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Project: higgins-mountain-wind-farm Comments: While I support the development of wind energy in Nova Scotia as a means of reducing our carbon footprint and moving away from fossil-fuels, the environmental assessment for this project gives me pause for concern. There is insufficient mention of responsible decommissioning and clean up of the wind farm, whether that happens five or fifty years from now. The proponents need to be held accountable for their interventions, this includes the associated infrastructure. As we have seen many times in the past, in this province, extractive industries abandon sites once they are no longer considered profitable. They leave significant scars on the land and frequently leave a toxic mess and tie up the province in years of litigation when it comes to clean-up. While a wind farm is not technically extractive, it is similar in its imposition on communities and its intrusive footprint. The proponents need to be financially and legally accountable for the wind farm from start to finish. I cant see how this will happen without some funds being held in escrow prior to the start of the project, to ensure the clean up takes place. My other concern stems from the Proponents report which demonstrates a lack of direct community benefit. Aside from tax revenue to the county and a few short term jobs, the local community bears all the risk and potential impacts and no real benefit. Communities need good governance, sustainable industry, and respect and I do not see this reflected in this project. Too bad the community wasnt approached to partner in this project from the get-go. Too bad the community receives no financial benefit from green energy in their own backyards. Its just too bad. Name:

Email: @gmail.com Address: : Londonderry email_message: Privacy-

Statement: agree x: 29 y: 22

1 0110	ck, Meaghan Enzabet	1		
From:			@gmail.com>	
Sent: April 14, 2023 10:25 PM		- 3		
To:	Environment Assessment Web Account		b Account	
Subjec	rt:	Re: Higgins Mountain Wind Farm: August 26 CLC Meeting		
** EXT	ERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL	XTERNE **		
			/ Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièc	e
	ou cliquez sur un lien	-		
Hello,				
Some o	of the many questions the	roponent was aware related	to the EA. A few April 2023 edits within.	
	, .	·	·	
Thank	VOLL			
mann	,			
	On Aug 16, 2021, at 11:48	PM,	@gmail.com> wrote:	
	Hello,			
	,			
	Here are a few questions	related to Strum EA work:		
	Here are a few questions related to Strum EA work;			

- 3. Avifuana 'some species are banded more than others' Since Motus banding mostly occurs for bird and species at risk, doesn't it make sense to include a Motus radar to try to specifically capture endangered species?
- 11. At the last meeting Strum attended, he wasn't aware of any talus slopes in the study area until I pointed it out there were at least several. How, when and where was this bird data collected related to the talus slopes?

edit April 2023, two areas talus slopes now included on Constraints map but still no evidence of Rockland Brook and Roaring Brook talus slopes

- 13. Please provide the specific areas the radars were deployed and the justification for choosing those areas.
- 14.1 Does building Atlantic Canada's largest industrial wind complex seem like a good idea along a 'significant topographical and migratory chokepoint'?
- 14.2 What is the 'desktop review' of EA? Why doesn't an IBA due south of the Folly Gap migratory corridor not give Strum any reason to do further research related to the IBA?

- 4 Visual Impacts how are historic viewpoints considered and included in a visual impact study? Who chooses the visual impact study sites?
- 6 Strum Mission statement- Strum website states, "Strum can carry out the studies you need to get your project underway and approved, from Environmental Assessments..." Sounds like Strum guarantees approval. How?
- 7 Cumulative Effects- are cumulative effects being studied by Strum? What do 'remaining residual effects' have to do with cumulative effects?
- 8 NSECC's Rachel Bower agreed that NS EA's do nothing to capture cumulative effects. Does your EA do anything to capture cumulative effects?
- My understanding is that Federal EA's consider cumulative effects of projects whereas NS EA's do nothing to study cumulative effects. Do you disagree with that statement?
- 9 What other EA's have you used to consider cumulative effects in the area? Do you consider forestry practices work in the area for cumulative effects?
- 10 Has Strum considered the latest parcels of land being added to the Wentworth Wilderness Area?
- 15.1 Can you speak to it now?
- 15.2 'Potential' for fragmentation??? There will be a dramatic increase in fragmentation if project moves forward. How can you say otherwise?
- 17 Please discuss
- 32 Please share all species at risk, threatened and vulnerable. If you are unable to share some specific species and locations please share how many species and numbers you can't share.
- 16.1 Please share a map of wetlands, mature forests, talus slopes and any other identified "significant habitat"
- 19 The cluster of the highest peaks on the mainland of NS make this area 'unique'. How is that captured in the research and EA?
- 23 "prior to construction' is an inappropriate time to assess acid rock drainage. It needs to be assessed in the EA. What study of acid rock drainage has been undertaken for the area.
- 24 There can be no baseline study of impacts without a 2 year water study. Will Strum and the developer please begin a two year study of the water in the various watersheds within the project area?
- 26 Please bring a map and I'll show you
- edit April 2023 eastern waterfan location I was aware of and had repeatedly tried to share the info to no avail.
 - 30 NSDLF is a big part of the problem for habitat fragmentation in NS. The entire project area is a wildlife corridor as fragmented as it already is. To stop further habitat fragmentation this project should be shelved.

	L Were there boots on the ground in the Dicks Meadows and ponds area? Strum was unaware of rea last time we spoke.		
	um take up on offer to purchase a Motus radar 023. No they did not.	for a 2 years study of the area?	
	On Aug 11, 2021, at 8:27 PM,	<pre>@elementalenergy.ca> wrote:</pre>	
	Hi everyone,		
	er.		
	Thank you for participating in the Doodle poll for the upcoming CLC meeting. The majority of you can make it on Thursday, August 26 th , so we will hold the meeting the from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Atlantic on Zoom. Details to join the Zoom call can be found below. I will circulate the upcoming meeting agenda and the meeting minutes from Ju 7 th 's CLC meeting closer to date.		
	As requested, this meeting will be environmentally themed. As most of you know, Strum Consulting has been retained to complete the environmental assessment work for Higgins. Strum Consulting will be in attendance to give a presentation on the environmental work done to date, the environmental assessment process, and to answer any questions you may have relating to this.		
	If you have any specific topics that you'd like to touch on his presentation, please send your suggestions to me by Monday, August 16 th so he has sufficient time to prepare materials tailored to your interests. If you have any questions that you would like us to answer or discuss during the meeting, please also send them to me by Monday, August 16 th .		
	We look forward to connecting with you all again!		
	All the best,		

<image001.gif></image001.gif>	, PROJECT COORDINATOR c				
	Investing in the power of the elements.				
Higgins Wind LP is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.					
Join Zoom Meeting					
Meeting ID: Passcode: One tap mobile # US (San Jose) US (Tacoma)					
Dial by your location					
Meeting ID: Passcode: Find your local number:					

<Mail Attachment.ics>