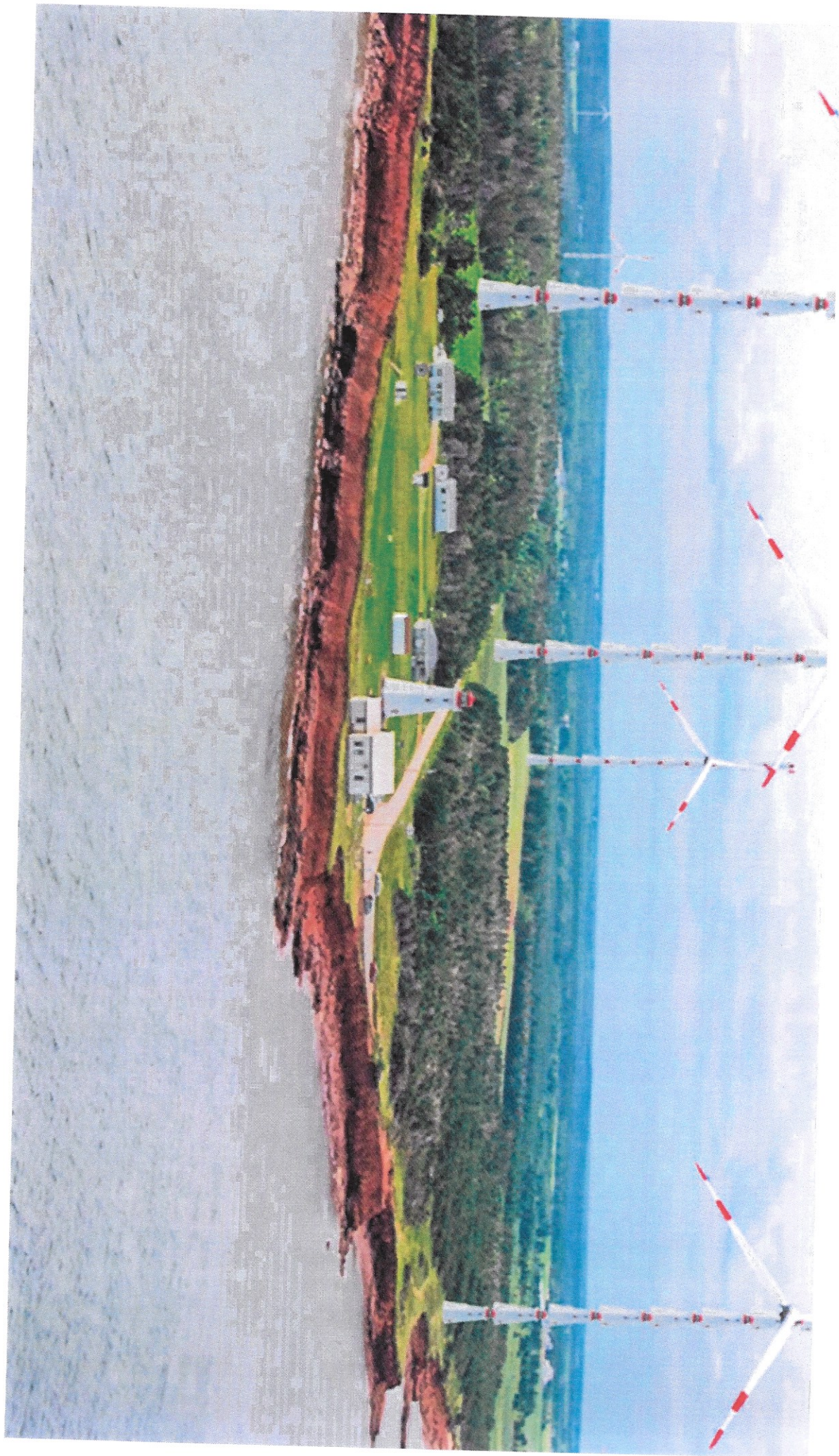


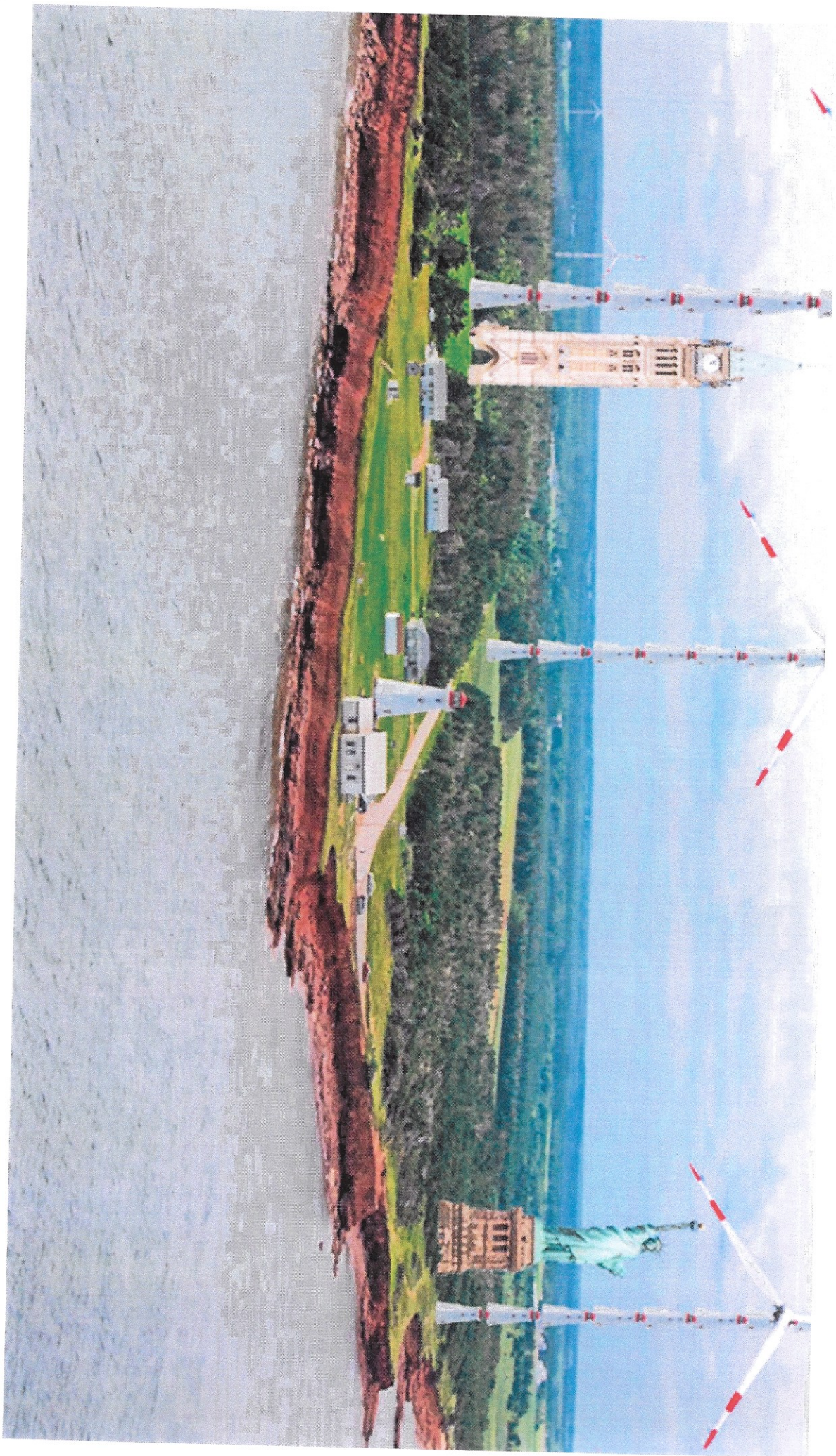
Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings

APPENDIX "F" – FRED CHEVERIE

EASTERN KINGS WINDMILL
DEC.4, 2019

Fred Cheverie





AREAS ADDRESSED IN LAST MEETING

- Size
- Windmill location vs Red triangle
- Ecological sensitivity of area
- Effects on Tourism
- PEIEC desire to establish industrial windfarm directly related to massive profits
- Declination of property values and tax revenue
- PEIEC pathetic track record
- Minister Myers Statement "I don't want to leave it in the air that we are not going there. We think the whole project is in order and as we move through the steps, we will pass them. Our homework is done and the plan is set."
- RMEK Official Plan
- Mammoth decision for Council

TIMING OF THIS MEETING

- Two weeks we met at a special meeting on proposed Windmill Development
- Astonished that this meeting within two weeks wasn't mentioned at that meeting
- Advertised as last call for verbal submissions
- Deadline for written submissions on EIA Dec. 19th
- Logic would suggest that this meeting would be after that date. It would give the opportunity for those that didn't do written submissions their opportunity.
- We seem to be in a very "hurry up mode".
- We do have a regular council meeting on Dec. 10th, does that have any reflection on having this meeting this early?

WINDPOWER VS HABITAT

- Souris & Area Wildlife Branch does not have a problem with green energy
- We like our Mother group the Canadian Wildlife Federation promote windmills, but not in places where destroys pristine habitat, or in areas close an area with a large avian population or in areas where there are sustainable bat populations.
- In this case we are destroying, ultimate habitat consisting of wetlands that are one the largest contributors of storing carbon, which is so necessary in this day of Green House Gas Emissions. The main reason this block of land is relatively untouched is because it was to wet to harvest by our forefathers. This is the ultimate habitat for many species of wildlife.

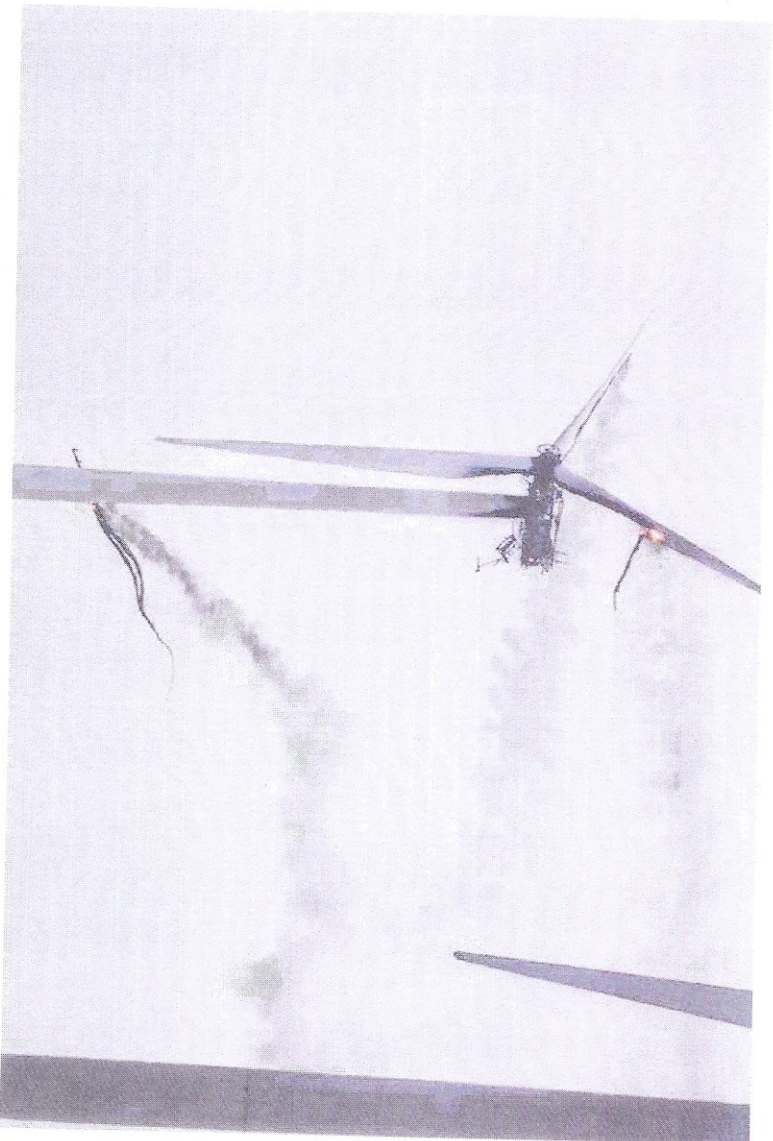
WINDPOWER VS HABITAT

- Several rare plants have been found in this area
- 2 species of bats found with equipment that only operated successfully for 22 nights out of 120 due to equipment failure
- 51 bird species found in this area that are of "conservation concern"
- 3 more species that are endangered
- It baffles me that a boardwalk in Souris Beach ends up at a dead end because the officials at Dept. Of Environment indicated Piping Plovers nested there a decade or more ago. Potentially we can install seven 175m industrial wind farm at East Point and be signed off by the Honorable Brad Trivers. If Hon. Brad Trivers signs off on this EIS it will bring the credibility of Dept. of Environment to a new low.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

- These are simply an exercise of ticking the boxes to say: Did you do this ? Did you do that?
- A lot of "copying and pasting".
- Short on modern data
- Essentially very weak but it is all that is required by the province, to get the project done

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/FIRES



• A wind turbine caught fire in West Pubnico, N.S., late Friday afternoon, throwing huge, burning pieces of material to the ground. ...Amiro said when the blades turn, the tips are more than 100 metres up in the air — too high to fight the **fire** from the ground. "If that fire had of started in August we would still be trying to put that fire out." Mar 16, 2019

EIS/ FIRE

- It suggests that if there is a fire they are to call Souris Fire Department and then if necessary, St Peters for backup.
- Obviously they don't know Eastern Kings Fire Department Exists
- Suggests to myself that they haven't visited proposed sight to often because they would of have driven by Eastern Kings Fire Dept.
- One would think that they should be the observant type.
- Another reason why windmills shouldn't be in the woods

EIS/ REFERENCES

- Approximately 285 references
- Approximately 30 % of the references used in this assessment are 20 years or older
- Unfortunately much of the 30% is reference to bats, birds and mammals
- 20 year old data is obsolete in the scientific world, Especially in an era when dealing with climate change.

EIS/ STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

3.5.2 Consultations with Stakeholders and Interest Groups A few environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and local resource people with local historical knowledge were consulted during the preparation of the EIA. In certain circumstances, these NGOs and persons provided baseline environmental and social information. In other circumstances, their professional opinions and perspectives were obtained. Table 3.1 provides a list of persons contacted, their affiliation and information discussed.

Table 3.1 Non-Governmental Organizations and Local Resource Representatives Contacted, their Affiliation and Topics Discussed
Contact Affiliation Topics Discussed
Tammy MacDonald Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island (MCPEI), Director of Research and Outreach
Indigenous Engagement / Archaeological survey
Danelle Elliott Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings, Deputy Mayor
Wind farm project development

EIS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Why wouldn't all councillors of RMEK be involved in the consultation process?
- Members of Eastern Kings Fire Department?
- Port Committee at North Lake
- Souris & Area Branch of PEI Wildlife Federation
- Island Nature Trust
- Natural History Society of PEI
- Eastern Kings Senior Neighbour's Club
- Basin Head Advisory Committee
- Friends Of Elmira
- Points East Tourist Association

EIS /ELECTRICAL MAGNETIC FIELD EMF'S

- I made a short video on Emf's being emitted from the transmission lines in Elmirra. It made You Tube and has being viewed 3000 times. It has caused a lot of conversation and questions.
- A study referenced on this in Canada was 2008
- Since that video a local friend purchased a EMF reader for his home and visited the transmission lines. An Alarm on this device will go off when it reaches 100v/m, he took readings in 4-5 sights in Elmirra, of which most were over a 1000v/m with the highest 1150 v/m
- SAB don't have the answers, but feel benchmark data relating to EMF's should be taken from Elmirra by certified personnel from Health Canada or Environment Canada on a day when all 10 windmills are turning with optimum output and a councillor from RMEK and SAB be in attendance for verification. Further tests should be done In Souris Line Rd, Gowan Brae, New Zealand, Bear River and St. Charles. We request PEIEC to set this up immediately before any vote.

\$60 MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT

- I assume there would be some federal money involved
- We haven't seen Hon. Steven Myers, Hon. Brad Trivers or our Local MLA Colin LaVie present themselves at these meetings. They certainly know there is strong opposition.
- SAB strongly believes that the magnitude of this project and the potential destruction of pristine habitat, the interference with endangered species that a Federal Environmental Assessment should take place prior to decision on moving forward. We are calling upon Hon. Brad Trivers to make that decision.



OFFICIAL PLAN

Official plans are to be interpreted in their entirety to understand the general intent of the Plan. It is clear to me that the Official Plan for Eastern Kings seeks to protect [the natural environment , the natural viewscapes, the natural aesthetics, the environmental threats and the safety threats to the public] Any application by the Energy Corporation must conform to the general intent of the official plan and any decision by Council must similarly conform to this intent. No where do I see in the Official Plan that it is the intent of the Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings to desire large scale industrial wind turbines of heights that are taller than any other structure on PEI, or the tallest structures east of Montreal and north of Boston.

CONCLUSION

- I have been involved with Souris Area Branch of PEI Wildlife Federation for over 40 years with the last 15 been Watershed Coordinator.
- I have put a lot of effort into it and have had great support from landowners and the various communities.
- One always have a fear of a environmental disaster taking place in our management area, like fish kills, environmental spills, private developers wanting to remove water, etc.
- Little did I realize in my tenure the elephant that I would have to fight to save the environment would be the government of PEI

In 2013 the Bylaws of Eastern Kings Community Council were revised and strengthened in the wake of the previous years engagement with the then Minister of Energy over his plans for expansion of the Eastern Kings Wind Farm. Community Council rejected the Ministers wishes.

The revised bylaws increased the setback distance required between a turbine and a dwelling on a neighbouring property to 1000 m and increased the setback distance from a turbine to the shore to 2000 m. The new provisions were more stringent than provincial setbacks.

Earlier this year PEI Energy Corp. requested to reduce the setback from a dwelling to the former distance of 800 m so as to make feasible the addition of 14 turbines in a proposed expansion.

Applying the Bylaws strengthened in 2013, Council was easily able to push back on the request and deny the 14 turbine proposal.

If, in 2012, Council had agreed to the wind farm expansion, it is likely that we would now have 10 of the under-performing, noisy, hydraulic oil spewing, Hermanville stinkers.

Payments to landowners and Eastern Kings Community Council would be about 1/2 or less than that expected. (Revenue is based on turbine performance.)

In 2019 we are reaping the benefits of the previous councils foresight and action.

In Bylaw 5.33, Wind Turbines, the first paragraph states:

5.33. Wind Turbines

All provincial rules and regulations regarding wind turbines will be respected. Where the provisions of this section conflict with those of any other Bylaw of the municipality or regulation of the Province or the Government of Canada, the higher or more stringent provisions shall prevail.

Council intended that if more wind turbines were to come to Eastern Kings, then the higher or more stringent provisions would prevail. For example, our municipal setbacks are more stringent than provincial setbacks. These provisions were put in place to prevent the bitterness and dissension that resulted from the 2012 situation.

On November 1st, Council received a Special Permit Application from Energy Corp, a proposal for a seven-turbine expansion. Unlike the turbines on the existing wind farm that are situated on high ground, mostly at the end of farm fields, the turbines selected for the new project are about 50 m higher and would be situated on low ground—an area of wetland, woods, and streams.

A Special Permit Application requires an environmental assessment.

Energy Corp. hired Wood Canada Ltd. to do the assessment. The Environmental Impact Statement produced by Wood Group was delivered in October and there was a public information session held two weeks ago. The Environmental Impact Statement is 299 pages long. There is a section on local and migratory birds. Four pages are devoted to evaluation methods (4.5.1) About one and a half of those pages are specific to migratory birds. Radar sensing, using a new \$500,000 piece of equipment, and acoustic sensing were employed to study migratory birds. Both of these sensing techniques operated between the end of August and late October of this year.

Despite the fact that Environment and Climate Change Canada and Canadian Wildlife Service considers

that 1) all wind farms with turbine heights greater than 150m have a very high site sensitivity

and that 2) analysis and data from the radar and acoustic sensing equipment are inconclusive (results be detailed in a forthcoming supplementary report). the Environment Impact Statement for (8.3.1) says that the long-term cumulative effect for local and migratory birds is LOW.

Had the Government of Canada Impact Assessment Act been the standard for an environmental impact statement, the outcome would have been different.

Section (7) of Impact Assessment Act is called Prohibitions.

- **Section 7 (1) says** the proponent of a designated project must not do any act or thing in connection with the carrying out of the designated project, in whole or in part, if that act or thing may cause any of the following effects:

- (a) a change to the following components of the environment that are within the legislative authority of Parliament:
 - (i) fish and fish habitat,
 - (ii) aquatic species,
 - (iii) migratory birds

The Government of Canada Impact Assessment Act does not talk about a LOW long-term cumulative effect.

It does not talk about SOPHISTICATED RADAR and ACOUSTIC sensing techniques.

The Act does not wait for FURTHER ANALYSIS.

The Act says NO WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT AT EAST POINT.

The question for Council is whether they will follow bylaw 5.33 and hold to

'the higher or more stringent provisions'

The pressure on Council will increase over the coming weeks or even the coming days. The pressure is not about the weather. It is about the construction time frame. Energy Corp.'s schedule calls for land clearing in February so as to avoid clearing during the nesting season which begins mid-April.

Two opinions are given:

From the Environmental Impact Statement:

"During construction particularly during sensitive breeding and nesting periods - disruption of breeding, nesting and rearing can occur due to noise, vegetation clearing and destruction of nests as well as suitable habitat. Mitigation for these effects is summarized in Table 6.1 - most importantly the avoidance of clearing during the sensitive nesting period."

And from a letter by Carl Brothers, Frontier Power Systems to Energy Corp:

"We are assuming that project approval will be received in order for site clearing to be completed before spring. If project approval is delayed and clearing work is

not completed before spring, the nesting period for birds will not be permitted until the summer. This presents the most significant risk to the project schedule as it will result in penalties arising from the delayed component delivery and push the construction period into the fall and winter months when high winds will dramatically increase construction costs."

The ability of Eastern Kings residents to govern themselves as a municipality may again prove to be an irritant.
On August 27, 2019, the Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings issued a Development Permit to Jeff Klein. Section 5.33 of the Subdivision and Development Control By-law requires the wind turbine(s) shall be located a minimum of 1000 m from any dwelling on a neighbouring property.
Any decision by Council to approve wind turbines within 1000 meters of the location of this building permit would be illegal.

Finally, Bylaw 4.5, Special Permit Uses, must be carefully considered by Council.

4.5 says, in part

Special Permit Uses may be permitted if Council is satisfied that the development would not be contrary to the general intent and purpose of **these Regulations, the Official Plan, and to the public interest.**

To Council:

Let our Bylaws guide you and let our Bylaws work in the best public interest of our community.

There are few areas left on Prince Edward Island like East Point, undeveloped and rarely tread upon by humans.

It is a refuge. It is our hinterland.

Let's preserve East Point. And more important, let's preserve our community.

Let's use our Bylaws to do this.

Good evening folks,

I decided to speak at tonight's meeting after hearing the response to a question at the last council meeting.

One of our councillors asked about the impact on the wetland in the development area and the response was very vague. I believe they said I was talking to a geologist friend of mine in government and he said it would be no worse than a cement truck driving down the road.

Now please bear with me, I am not an engineer but after thinking about this I decided to see just how big this cement truck was. Here are some facts I learned from reading the Environmental Impact Assessment a little closer and also a little research on the internet.

The impact area for these turbines is approximately 400 hectares of mostly wetland swamp, marsh and woodland. The make up of this land provides one of the best carbon removal systems on earth. I would assert for us in Eastern Kings this is a valuable resource in fighting climate change locally. By preserving this type of ecologically sensitive area we are contributing to the fight on global climate change in a responsive and natural way. No manufacturing required.

The Energy Corporation wants to erect 7 massive wind turbines into this sensitive area. Each turbine will require a crater 82.5 feet squared to be excavated down to a depth of 10 feet or deeper, depending on where they find competent subsoil. If deeper than 10 feet backfill will be trucked in and compacted to bring the depth of the crater back to its 10 feet.

The Energy Corporation has selected Enercom E138 wind turbine. I could not find the installation details anywhere. I went on line and found on Wikipedia the installation details for the Enercom 126 a sister turbine that has may similar characteristics to the Enercom E138.

Here are the details of the E126

The total weight of the foundation including cement and rebar is 2500 tons. The tower itself is 2800 tons. The machine housing is 128 tons. The generator is 220 tons. The rotor including blades is 364 tons. This brings the total weight 6012 tons for one turbine.

Maybe the Energy Corporation could provide the specifications for the E138 turbines and we could compare the details.

The total weight for all 7 turbines, installed in a wetland, would be approximately 42,084 tons. This has to have some effect on the water table or the aquifer qualities of this wetland. I would think it would be a lot more effect than a cement truck driving down a road.

The crane pads are 35 meters by 44 meters cleared of all woodland and excavated to a depth of 5 feet or deeper depending on when they find competent subsoil. They are then backfilled and compacted with trucked in fill. They will also be unloading pads measuring 10 x 80 meters and another one 25x30 meters for each turbine plus additional lay down areas.

Dave Fisher
349 Lighthouse Rd

Then I looked at the roadway 19,685 feet to be constructed. The roads themselves will be 19 ft wide and excavated to a depth of 1.6 feet or deeper until competent sub soil is reached and backfilled. The clearance needed to move heavy equipment and turbine equipment down these roads necessitates a clearance of a minimum of 65 feet and a maximum of 98 feet wide. We will see a significant amount of forest wetland marshes and bogs impacted by this phase of the development. As was pointed out in Fred Cheverie's presentation this will have a devastating effect on the balance of nature.

My final point is that since the commissioning of the last wind farm I would like to know how many times the Energy Corporation has returned to Eastern Kings to engage with our community about any concerns or obtain feed back from area residents on how they feel about the development. You state in your moving forward document generally levels of concern are declining yet how did you arrive at this conclusion. Where is the data when you never come up to engage with residents except when you want to put another wind farm among us. Where is your concern about the mental health and well being of our community and the division and fracturing you cause.

I get it from the Energy Corporation viewpoint. Their job is to do whatever it takes to get the job done, return to Charlottetown and enjoy the praise from their political masters.

To the council, you have a big decision ahead of you. Just because the Energy Corporation is in a panic to get this project rolling don't let their urgency become your problem. There is so much for you to consider, information to sift through, processes to follow and discussions to have. Just remember these type of community altering decisions are generational in nature because of the projected 25 year plus lifespan. Deep reflection and thorough consideration is required. It's our community, our rural setting where we work, live, play and raise families. It's our environment. It's not the Energy Corporation's commercial development zone.

Thank You

Dave Fletcher

East Point

Good Evening, All,

I have a copy of the cover memo from PEI Energy Corporation for their application to erect a wind farm here in Eastern Kings.

It's interesting that they highlight a sentence that refers to section 5.33 of our bylaws, stating they are meeting all of the requirements, and then fill the next two pages of the three page document listing references of how they will meet those bylaw requirements, as if their application is a simple checklist. I've always been told that, if you have to highlight text, you have not properly composed your argument to make your point, but I believe this particular highlighting was done to falsely indicate that Council has no option but to approve the application.

This seems especially true, as the first paragraph indicates that our Official Plan, Section 3.16 states, and I quote, "the Community of Eastern Kings Official Plan highlights the specificity in which Eastern Kings supports some regional wind development and is regulated by very specific wind related bylaws."

In effect, they have said our Official Plan supports wind development and they will meet the requirements of our bylaws regulating development. All well and good, so we have no choice but to approve this application.

In reality, they have left out some incredibly important statements from our Official Plan. Section 3.16.1 states:

It shall be Council's policy that the Community shall regulate windmill development in the Development Bylaw. Viewscapes of the shoreline will be protected from development of large scale wind turbines. Council will adhere to provincial regulations addressing wind energy production. In addition, it is Council's aim to address opportunities for wind development appropriate in size and scale to the Municipality.

In addition, Policy RR-1, Windmill Policy states:

It shall be Council's policy that windmills, wind turbines or wind energy conversion system may be permitted within the Community for the purposes of electrical power generation, provided they do not pose any significant aesthetic, environmental or public safety threats to the Community residents or the travelling public.

When our current shoreline setbacks were put in the bylaw, I'm sure Council had in mind the height and size of the 10 wind turbines currently situated here, that is, somewhere in the vicinity of 125 metres.

It's my understanding that PEI Energy Corporation's original plan in 2012 was to erect 10 turbines to achieve their 30 megawatt output. As they could not fit 10 turbines into the small area close enough to their current infrastructure to save money, they came up

with a new plan that uses only seven turbines, but on a much larger scale – 50 metres larger, in fact. As my father used to say, they are trying to stuff 10 pounds of potatoes into a 5 pound bag.

East Point Lighthouse is about 19.5 metres high, so picture almost ten East Point lighthouses stacked on top of each other, now picture that structure placed in the pristine forest along East Point Road. Then add another 6 of those structures in the same small area east of Elmira Road, and you will get a sense of the scale of this current proposal.

I don't believe our current setbacks take into consideration the size and scale of this proposal, and need to be reviewed before going ahead with this application, to ensure, as our Official Plan states, **viewscapes of the shoreline are protected**. The development also does not seem to align with **Council's aim to address opportunities for wind development appropriate in size and scale to the Municipality**, which is also part of the Official Plan.

Lastly, the Plan states the wind development should only be permitted **provided they do not pose any significant aesthetic, environmental or public safety threats to the Community residents or the travelling public**.

By definition, **aesthetic** means, pleasing in appearance, or attractive. While some may consider wind turbines attractive, I'm not sure that anyone looking at something looming 60 stories high atop a beautifully forested area would consider it "pleasing in appearance".

As for the **environment**, surely no one can argue that clearing forest, draining wetlands and excavating topsoil is not a threat to our local flora and fauna.

A threat to **public safety** is much harder to prove or disprove, but there are numerous studies that cast doubt as to the health safety of residents that live near the huge rotating blades and/or the high voltage transmission lines. Perhaps a few of you saw Fred Cheverie's short video indicating the electromagnetic field that exists on Elmira Road alongside the current transmission lines. Is it good, or bad? I don't know, but it's certainly not natural.

In summary, although this proposal seems to meet the minimum bylaw requirements, I don't believe it meets the requirements of our Official Plan neither at its current location, nor in its proposed scale.

It should not be approved.

Thank you for your time.

Don Cheverie

East Point

December 4th, 2019

From: Anne Millar

Dear Ms Martin,

I am the owner, with my sister, of a parcel of land at East Point. This land has been in our family for over sixty years.

It is one of the properties under consideration for placement of a windmill.

I have not made any public comment previously voicing my support for the windmill expansion.

My father, Stewart MacIntyre, was one of the people instrumental in bringing electricity to East Point in the 1950s. As a child, I remember him spending many evenings in our neighbour's kitchens, explaining the process and the costs involved. He met a lot of reluctance going forward but was honest and forthright in his arguments that this would benefit the community. It is rather difficult from our vantage point now to understand that reluctance but it did exist. And it was good for our community. I am old enough to remember what life was like pre-electricity.

If my father were alive, he would be appalled, as I am, by the misinformation and scare tactics being used by those who oppose the additional windmills. The Environmental Assessment Report addresses many of the issues raised. Other claims such as saying this project would raise the cost of electricity on PEI are too nonsensical to address.

Now PEI, with its forward thinking on alternative energy, is bringing the Island into the 21st century and is a great role model for other provinces.

I am not arrogant enough to think that my view will sway opinion but felt I owed it to my father to speak up.

Thank you,

Anne Millar

Quispamsis, New Brunswick

#12



Eastern Kings <easternkingspe@gmail.com>

(no subject)

1 message

9022150394@txt.bell.ca <9022150394@txt.bell.ca>
To: easternkingspe@gmail.com

Mon, Dec 2, 2019 at 9:47 PM

Allan Gregory:
To be Read @ Public Meeting

I live at the corner of Elmira rd at the corner of Elmira rd and the east
trantum rd . So I have power lines from the wind farm on 2 sides of my
house and this is just a estimate that in front of my house the power
lines are about give or take 100 feet and on the trantum rd side about
50 feet from my door step. And from all the research I have done they
are to close and harmful . Right now if you stand outside with your
eyes closed you would say it's raining. From the sizzling and frying
from the power lines then when you open your eyes and watch the
power lines you can see fire jumping and it's not real bad tonight. I
have seen it a lot worse then it is tonight. So all I can do it think of what
it's going to be like when the power going though these lines is twice
as much . I have two young boys here out in the yard playing a lot so
yes I am worried to the point of wanting to move . If I open my mouth
about this to the wrong ones in the community it turns them against
you like it has in the past . Some people in the community stand to
make some yearly money off of getting more wind mills with little to no
concern to the rest of us here our mayor included. Another good
reason to move out of here. The only thing I would miss if I left here
would be the opportunity to have our mayor standing in my yard again
all smiles telling me that the people here are her up most important s
she should be ashamed of her self

This message was sent from a Bell mobile phone.



noname.txt
2K

#13

Eastern Kings

Special Public Meeting

December 4th, 2019

Dear Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening. Thank you as well for your time over the past several months and for your careful consideration of the proposed wind development before you. We also wish to thank the community members for their patience and understand there have been challenges in the past and we hope to move forward with you.

Responsible energy development and environmental stewardship can be achieved together and PEI Energy Corporation, through its mandate and experience developing wind energy projects in Prince Edward Island is committed to this approach.

We have been actively studying the proposed development area and the expansion of the Eastern Kings wind farm since the fall of 2018. As we have said in the past, Eastern Kings is the preferred site for PEI's next wind farm due to favorable wind resources, existing transmission infrastructure, as well as the experience we bring from our existing wind farm, which has been in operation since 2007.

An Environmental Impact Assessment was submitted to the Department of Environment on October 23rd and is officially registered as a project the Regulator is evaluating. A special permit application to construct the proposed 30MW wind farm which complies with all municipal, provincial and federal regulations was submitted to the Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings on November 1st, 2019 for consideration.

With a project of this size and complexity, we would like to provide some additional comments and added context.

PEI Energy Corp. #14

The Benefits of the Project are aligned with our Provincial Energy Strategy.

- Reduced GHG emissions, contributing to Canada's goal of reducing national total GHG emissions by 30% by 2030. [Including construction/operation the Project is expected to yield a net reduction in GHG's of over 500,000 tCo₂e].
- Lower dependence on imports of electricity to the Province, making us more self-sufficient.
- Stabilized electricity costs within the Province.
- Economic development benefits to the local area.

Sale of electricity

- Rate Stabilization - Electricity generated by our existing wind farms and the proposed expansion is sold to Maritime Electric through long-term Power Purchase Agreements and is sold at avoided cost so as to not increase costs for the rate payer. While rate payers may not notice decreases in rates, the goal is to stabilize and prevent drastic rate increases.
- Most days PEI's electrical load demand exceeds what we generate and that difference is imported from New Brunswick. There are also instances where our generation exceeds load, which means we export to NB. In either case, the electricity generated by PEI Energy Corporation's wind farms is sold and consumed on PEI.

And I want to stress – all our wind energy stays on PEI for Islanders.

Environmental Impacts and Management plan

Birds

- In 2006, as the first Eastern Kings wind farm was being studied and evaluated, the easternmost portion of the area was identified as having high avian activity when compared to the other sites further inland. The "Red Triangle" was then defined as an area to be avoided for wind development and as such, PEI Energy Corporation adjusted the turbine layouts to avoid this area. We have respected the findings from 2006 and have not considered this area at any point during the proposed expansion.

Bats

- With the recent white nose syndrome and increased concerns over bat populations, we echo many of the same comments as with the bird population. We are committed to protecting the bat populations in the development area and understand the need for increased awareness and putting measures in place to protect them.
- For resident bats (including the little brown bat), collision risks are low because bats generally forage below a 25m height, which means they are well below the lowest blade sweep of the turbines [34m]. With respect to migrating bats, recent surveys indicate the Project area is not an important migratory route for bats. Consequently, Project impacts on migratory bats are considered to be minimal to nonexistent.

- The red triangle area was identified through the environmental studies related to the first wind farm and over the years, we have generated a great deal of useful data regarding bird populations in the area. We are committed to continuing these studies while in operation as was done in Herranville where bird studies continued for two years following start-up of the wind farm. Habitat displacement as well as mortality events were the primary focus of the studies, with results showing increased activity over time as well as very low mortality rates. According to a 2013 study published by Environment Canada [Calvert et al. (2013)], annual bird deaths due to anthropogenic (man-made) sources were estimated at 269 million, of which just 16,700 are from wind turbine collisions [140 million from cats; domestic cats were responsible for almost 10,000 times more bird deaths than wind turbines]. Further, Zimmerling et al. (2013) reported that mortality rates of birds at wind farms in Canada were not sufficient to cause population-level effects. Nonetheless, it is recognized that prior to wind farm construction, proper consideration must be given to ensure that important habitats and migration corridors are avoided to the extent possible.

Wetlands

- There has been some discussion around the new wetlands that were identified as a part of the environmental studies. We are committed to the Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation and the underpinned commitment to "no net loss of wetland function". This may be accomplished by restoration or enhancement of degraded or low function wetland or outright creation of wetland habitat. One reason that we map wetlands is so that we may avoid them in our project design.
- In general, we must comply with all municipal, provincial, and federal regulations and we are committed to mitigating the impacts to the affected wetlands in the development area. First by avoiding sensitive environmental components, and then by minimizing unavoidable impacts. (Japanese knotweed example)

Property Values

- We have no evidence to suggest there was a drop in property values with the construction of the first wind farm in Eastern Kings and feel our compensation structure benefits landowners in proximity to the proposed expansion. Municipal and Provincial setbacks are in place to protect the general public beyond this.

Health

- Transmission lines and EMF is one particular topic we need to provide context and clarity on. With respect to the concerns surrounding the transmission lines on Elmira Road, they were constructed to recognized standards and the EMF levels are well below safe exposure limits.
- We have provided a specific document to Council to address the process of moving transmission lines and added detail around safe exposure limits of high voltage transmission.
- Studies from Health Canada and the World Health Organization have shown that the average person experiences higher exposure to EMFs within their own household due to appliances such as washing machines, sewing machines, toasters and power drills than from nearby transmission lines.

We have been working actively with Council and landowners in the immediate development area and have over 40 private landowners signed up to the project of whom 70% live year round in the area. While at times quiet in a public setting, there is strong support for wind development in the area and given the setback restrictions, it would not have been possible to site the proposed seven turbines without their support.

We are committed to fairly compensating landowners with turbines, secondary (<175m), and tertiary landowners (<700m). We have brought forward a project which complies to very specific municipal bylaws, will provide landowners and the community with stable long term compensation and will benefit all Islanders as we reduce our GHG emissions and develop renewable energy generation with due consideration to the environment.

A great deal of time has been spent discussing the recent history of wind energy development in this area. Since the proposed expansion in 2012, your community has developed very specific policy and bylaws regarding wind development and their efforts should be recognized. The Municipal policies clearly support wind development in the area, while the development bylaws put some boundaries on it. We have been able to work within these boundaries with our proposed project.

It is worth repeating: responsible energy development and environmental stewardship can be achieved together and we are excited to show the world what a small Canadian province can achieve with the tremendous opportunities we have.

Thank you very much for your time. As a reminder, the deadline to have comments (both positive and negative) and questions about the proposed Project into the Department of Environment is December 19th, 2019 11:59pm. We will be here to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Safe Travels and enjoy the Holidays.

Heather MacLeod
PEI Energy Corp.