

Summary of Open House Comments and Questions

Open House #1 – April 19 2006

Question/Comment	Response
Socio-economic features map did not include Valetta Presbyterian Church	The church will be added to the Socio-economic features map.
Some cemeteries are missing from the Socio-economic features map. The Genealogical Society has a complete map. It is available at the Chatham Public Library, along with listings of individual headstones.	The socio-economic features map will be updated to show all cemeteries.
Some village names are in the wrong location on the mapping	The mapping will be corrected to show villages in the correct location.
How do wind turbines compare to European ones?	The wind turbines used in Canada are similar to the European ones. Siemens, a European manufacturer, produces them. They are manufactured to Canadian standards, however.
Concentrations of wind turbines and effect of turbulence on farming/spraying	Turbulence will be 90 to 100 feet above ground. Should not affect crop spraying or seeding*
Very informative presentation	Expressed thanks.
Very informative boards and Public Open House layout.	Expressed thanks.
What will it cost to the farmer to have a turbine on their property?	About 0.5 acres of agricultural land will be lost for the life of the project. There is no monetary cost to the farmer.
Will the turbines be close to the road? What are the setbacks?	The wind turbines are required to be at least 125 metres from a collector road, and 225 metres from an arterial road.
Very happy about the mood of the people at the Open House, liked the format of the meeting, and says he has been scoping the coffee shops etc and has only heard positive feedback about the project (from a councilor)	Good to hear.
What happens when there is no wind?	Ontario's electricity is supplied from a variety of sources. Wind is only one of these sources. When there is no wind, electricity can be supplied using hydroelectric, natural gas, biomass, or nuclear generation. Wind and hydroelectric generation work well together. When there is wind, hydroelectric stations can store water, and release it when the wind dies down.
Is there any setback from the shoreline?	There is no setback from the shoreline per say, but there is a setback requirement from the residences that line Talbot trail (Hwy 3). This creates an effective setback from the shoreline of approximately 300-500 meters.
Are you into solar energy?	No, not at this time.
Has the Historical Preservation Society been made aware of this project?	The project and this open house were advertised in area newspapers, but the Historical Preservation Society has not been contacted directly.
Could I get a copy of the maps?	Yes, please provide your mailing or email address.
Fletcher landfill is closed – being rehabilitated	Will update socio-economic features map to reflect this

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as a wildlife area	
Why is Kruger allowed to subdivide lots along the waterfront, but people wanting to build residences aren't?	Kruger is not allowed to subdivide lots either. No turbines will be placed on the south side of the Talbot Trail because of setback requirements from residences.
How noisy will the turbines be?	There will be little noticeable noise difference at residences. New technology wind turbines are very quiet. At the Huron Wind project, near the Bruce Nuclear Station, you can stand underneath the turbines and carry on a normal conversation.
Will tile drains under access roads be protected?	Yes, the design and construction of the access roads will consider the integrity of the tile drains.
Will there be more turbines in the future?	Yes. Kruger, or other companies, will likely construct more turbines in the area.
Where will the transmission line be located and will it be in the road ROW?	Showed potential locations on map. Indicated that road ROW would be considered for the transmission lines alignment.
What will be the effect on hawks, songbirds, and butterflies?	Took phone number. Left several messages, but no answer.
Where will Kruger locate turbines if more are built?	Most likely in the vicinity of current preliminary turbine locations to take advantage of the transmission line proposed for this project.
Discussion with local MP re: all the environmental and socio-economic data we collected. He was impressed.	Expressed thanks.
How will the turbines be delivered?	The turbines will be delivered by truck to the sites. The route has not yet been decided.
How many jobs will there be for locals?	Addressed in presentation.
How tall are the turbines?	The turbines are about 400 feet with one blade facing straight up.
What VTE species are represented by the boxes on the Natural Features map?	Most boxes along the lakeshore represent Fox snakes. Bald Eagles, and several plant species are also present in the study area.
Would like to be employed by Kruger Energy for wind turbine construction or operation.	Directed to speak with Kruger Energy representative.
Would like to have a wind turbine on property.	Directed to speak with Kruger Energy representative.
What happens 10 years down the road if Kruger Energy goes bankrupt?	Kruger is a large company with excellent financial support. It is very unlikely that Kruger will go bankrupt.

* please see below for an explanation of the effects of wind turbine operation on crop spraying.

Open House #2 – September 7, 2006

Question/Comment	Response
The newsletter was biased and misleading and provided information about Kruger but not enough information about the Project.	Project display boards were created to inform individuals about the Project process and environmental impacts. Will take comments into consideration for the creation of future newsletters.
Must be made aware of the environmental impacts of the Project.	The Environmental Screening Report will address the environmental impacts and the public will have an opportunity to comment on these impacts during the review period.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS – APRIL 19TH OPEN HOUSE

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Concern over environmental noise and viewscape.	A Noise Impact Assessment was completed for the Project and it was concluded that the noise generated from the turbines will not exceed the most restrictive nighttime noise limits that apply for a rural area as defined by the Ministry of Environment. There will be a change to the viewscape of the area however the impacts may be positive, negative or neutral based on an individual's opinion. Viewscape is also assessed in the Environmental Report.
Believes the Project is located on a migratory bird route	One of the siting components included ensuring the Project would not be within a migratory bird route and field studies have confirmed that the Project is not located within a migratory bird route.
Hwy 3 is a highly recreated route along the lake and the turbines should be sited away from this route to ensure fewer impacts on tourist recreation.	There is no setback from the shoreline per say, but there is a setback requirement from the residences that line Talbot trail (Hwy 3). This creates an effective setback from the shoreline of approximately 300-500 meters. These siting considerations shall decrease the impact on tourist recreation and a potential exists that tourism could increase in the area as a result of the turbines.
Very informative boards and Public Open House layout.	Expressed thanks.

Effects of Wind Turbine Induced Turbulence on Crop Spraying

Wind turbines typically generate a conical vortex as wind passes through the blades. The blade shape causes the shape of the vortex. The root of the blade provides little lift, and slightly reduces wind velocity. The mid-section provides most of the lift, thus reducing air velocity significantly. Tip vortices actually reduce lift, and slow the air down little. The action of the blades creates a conical vortex behind the wind turbine, and may cause a reduction in airspeed by as much as 1 metre per second (Magnusson, 1999). Turbulence created by a wind turbine can typically be expected to return to background levels approximately five rotor diameters from the turbine (Hogstrom et al, 1988).

Spray drift is dependent on wind speed, direction, temperature, relative humidity, and the stability of the air at the application site. Spraying while there is little or no wind reduces the likelihood of drift occurring. One document suggests that crops can only be sprayed effectively under wind speeds of less than 20 kilometres an hour (AgraPoint, undated). Spray drift can also be reduced by using a lower spray nozzle height, lower pressure, and increased nozzle size (Hofman and Solseng, 2001).

No studies have been located specifically on the effects that wind turbines have on crop spraying. However, effects are expected to be limited. This is because crop spraying can only occur under low wind speed conditions, when wind turbines do not generate significant amounts of turbulence. Wind turbines also reduce wind velocity, thereby reducing the potential for spray drift. In addition, the conical vortex created by wind turbines dissipates further away from the hub of the turbine. Since the hub is approximately 80 metres above ground level, sufficient distance is available for turbulence to approach background levels by the time the air reaches field height.

1.1 REFERENCES

- AgraPoint. Undated. Reducing Spray Drift. Reviewed May 2006. Available at: http://www.agrapoint.ca/publications/REDUCING_SPRAY_DRIFT.pdf
- Hofman, V. and E. Solseng. 2001. Reducing Spray Drift. Reviewed April 2006. Available online at: <http://www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/ageng/machine/ae1210w.htm>
- Hogstrom et al. 1988. A field study of the wake behind a 2 MW wind turbine. *Atmospheric Environment*. Vol. 22, No. 4. pp 803-820.
- Magnusson, M. 1999. Near-wake behaviour of wind turbines. *Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics*. Vol. 80. pp 147-167.