

Bear Lake Windfarm Correspondence

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Correspondence Date</u>	<u>Meeting / logged</u>
Karen	Prince	2024-03-30	2024-04-09 COTW
Steve	Hart	2024-03-26	2024-04-09 COTW
Anne	Jodrey	2024-04-02	2024-04-09 COTW
Elizabeth	Skelhorn	2024-04-02	2024-04-09 COTW
Andrea	Lynn	2024-04-03	2024-04-09 COTW
Duane and Shirley	Walker	2024-04-04	2024-04-09 COTW
Shirley	Walker	2024-04-07	2024-04-09 COTW
Natasha	Weatherbee	2024-04-09	2024-04-09 COTW
Graham	Sanford	2024-04-10	2024-04-23 Council
Chief & CEO, Membertou		2024-04-11	2024-04-23 Council
Debbie	Spears	2024-04-11	2024-04-23 Council
Phillip Eagles	Eagles	2024-04-12	2024-04-23 Council
Bonnie	Haywood	2024-04-13	2024-04-23 Council
Denise	Forand	2024-04-13	2024-04-23 Council
Karen	Wallace	2024-04-15	2024-04-23 Council
Andrew	Hardman	2024-04-16	2024-04-23 Council
Ellen	Hart	2024-04-16	2024-04-23 Council
Steven	Hart	2024-04-16	2024-04-23 Council
Wagner Forest NS Ltd		2024-04-18	2024-04-23 Council
Jennifer	Dillman	2024-04-19	2024-04-23 Council
Ryan Long	Long	2024-04-19	2024-04-23 Council
Dwight	Lovegrove	2024-04-20	2024-04-23 Council
John MacKinnon	MacKinnon	2024-04-20	2024-04-23 Council

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Elizabeth	Skelhorn	2024-04-21	2024-04-23 Council
Dave	Paddock	2024-04-21	2024-04-23 Council
Ellen	Hart	2024-04-21	2024-04-23 Council
Sheryl	Paddock	2024-04-21	2024-04-23 Council
Patrick and Lucy	Landry	2024-04-21	2024-04-23 Council
Andrew	Hardman		2024-04-23 Council
Jason	Hart	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Karen	Wallace	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Krista	Hart	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Seamus	Marriott	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Steven	Hart	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Mark	Stewart (Bear Lake Engagement Officer)	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Steven	Hart	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Judy	Lynch	2024-04-24	2024-04-23 Council
Keith	Bown	2024-04-22	2024-04-23 Council
Karen	Wallace	2024-05-03	2024-05-14 COTW
Wagner Forestry		2024-06-06	2024-06-11 Council
Morgan	Marsters	2024-07-18	2024-07-23 Council
Geoff	Daniels	2024-07-19	2024-07-23 Council
Christie	Hartlin	2024-07-20	2024-07-23 Council
Kate	Sircom	2024-07-20	2024-07-23 Council
Sumaya	Moore	2024-07-21	2024-07-23 Council
Chief Terry Paul		2024-07-22	2024-07-23 Council

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Louis	Coutinho	2024-07-22	2024-07-23 Council
Reuben	Hennebury	2024-07-22	2024-07-23 Council

From: [Debbie Francis](#)
To: Morgan Marsters
Cc: [WWH Council](#)
Subject: Re: Wind development
Date: July 19, 2024 11:16:37 PM

On Jul 18, 2024, at 12:41 PM, Morgan Marsters wrote:

Caution [External Email]

This email comes from an outside sender. Verify the sender and use caution with any requests, links or attachments.

Hello councilor Francis.

I am writing to discuss wind development in West Hants.

I'm disappointed to hear that wind development may be hindered in our county. West Hants is quickly becoming nothing more than a bedroom of Halifax. We need industrial taxes and investment in order to be a sustainable community. Since the closure of Fundy Gypsum, we really don't have very much at all. We can't thrive off of residential taxes and funding from higher levels of government. We must take the initiative and pay our own way.

It would be nice if we could live in a pristine world, but we can't. We have impacts and require resources. Regardless of where we live, clean energy benefits everyone around the globe. We all share the same carbon in the atmosphere. We have the ability to help the world while benefiting financially. We have to take advantage of that.

No one should support any hinderence or slowdown in wind development by any level of government.

Thanks

Morgan Marsters

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Fwd: Renewable energy in West Hants
Date: July 19, 2024 12:39:36 PM

From: Geoffrey Daniels
Date: July 19, 2024 at 12:19:41 PM ADT
To: Abraham Zebian <AZebian@westhants.ca>
Subject: Renewable energy in West Hants

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Good afternoon

I am writing to show my concern that the West Hantsport Council is considering putting a stop to supporting renewable energy.

I feel that this would be an unbelievably short sighted course of action. Nova Scotia is by far the worst province in the country when it comes to generating energy from renewable sources.

If we have the opportunity to invest in these technologies, then it is our responsibility as stewards of the province. There may be some bumps in the road, and push back from many members of the county. However, looking at the extreme weather events we have seen in the last few years, can we afford to wait?

I myself have invest in solar panels, I am considering an electric vehicle, and I even use a reel mower to save on gas. These investments are not cheap, or convenient in the short term, but they will be worth it in the long term.

My partner and I visited Brighton in the UK, and toured the mega off shore wind farm. That is on a much larger scale, and is paying dividends for that city.

Please do everything in your power to rise above our current climate of political conservatism, and make the correct choice.

Thank you for your time

Geoff Daniels.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paul Morton](#)
To: [WWH Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Renewable Energy
Date: July 20, 2024 7:46:04 AM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Christie Hartlin
Date: July 19, 2024 at 6:54:04 PM ADT
To: Paul Morton <PMorton@westhants.ca>
Subject: Renewable Energy

Caution [External Email]

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Renewable Energy is non-negotiable. It must be high priority. This is no joke and must be treated with the utmost seriousness.

Christie Hartlin

Paul Morton, Councillor
West Hants Regional Municipality

July 19th, 2024

Hantsport NS, B0P 1P0

Dear Paul,

Yesterday I received in the mail a card alerting me to the upcoming vote at the West Hants Regional Municipality regarding the Bear Lake Wind Project. I have to confess that I actually reside in Kings County, but I have been reading and researching about green hydrogen over the past two years and I am really very concerned about this project.

Everwind is advertising a million-dollar investment in clean, renewable energy in Hants County. They are advertising long-term jobs and community programs, and they have even made claims to “reduce CO2 emissions by an estimated 1.91 to 2.33 million tonnes each year (the approximate equivalent of taking 3 out of every 4 cars in Nova Scotia off the road).¹

The problem is that Everwind’s “science” is faulty, their claims are completely unreasonable, and their project has been trashed by a significant number of independent hydrogen scientists and engineers.

The basic problem is that the amount of energy required to convert water to hydrogen, then to transform this to ammonia for transport or storage, and then to convert it back to hydrogen for use is astronomical. Most of the energy from the wind turbines - conservatively, as much as 77% depending on exactly how Everwind plans to do this² - will be lost in the process.

Everwind is proposing to build wind turbines in four areas of Nova Scotia to produce approximately 2.5 gigawatts of power (89 megawatts at Bear Lake, 340 megawatts at Windy Ridge and 98 megawatts at the Kmt nuk Wind project along with a 400-turbine, 2,000 megawatt project in Guysborough County). To put this into perspective, Nova Scotia’s current generating capacity, from all of its generating stations, is just over 3 gigawatts, a third of which comes from burning coal, which has to be phased out by 2030.

So, instead of building wind turbines to feed into the Nova Scotia energy grid to serve Nova Scotia customers now and in the future, Everwind will be siphoning off massive amounts of wind energy for its own, highly inefficient and untested project. It should be noted that this company, unsurprisingly, has no firm purchase agreements anywhere for its hydrogen!

Building wind turbines does not come without environmental costs in the form of lost or fragmented habitat, along with CO₂ emissions associated with the production and transportation of the turbines themselves. Nova Scotia does not have an unlimited number of

sites for wind farms. To waste these for an untested project carried out by an unscrupulous company lured by the prospect of public subsidies would be a colossal mistake.

I invite you to read the following articles detailing the history of the Everwind project and in particular to peruse the website maintained by the Hydrogen Science Coalition.

On July 23rd, please vote against the Bear Lake Wind Project.

With sincere thanks and respect for all that you do,

Kate Sircom

¹This claim was made by Everwind in the following new release. It is based on what might happen if Nova Scotians were to switch to burning hydrogen for transportation and heating, which is in *nobody's* net zero plan.

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/everwind-s-leading-canadian-green-hydrogen-and-ammonia-project-will-generate-substantial-economic-amp-structural-benefits-major-study-finds-882096869.html>

²This estimate comes from the Hydrogen Science Coalition, an organization comprised of independent hydrogen scientist and engineers

<https://h2sciencecoalition.com/principles/#hydrogen-vs-elecrification>

The Cape Breton Spectator has published a number of excellent articles on this topic. Sadly, the editor (a good friend of mine) passed away in April.

<https://capebretonspectator.com/2022/05/18/hydrogen-fuel-martin-everwind/>

The Halifax Examiner has published similar stories:

<https://www.halifaxexaminer.ca/environment/climate/not-smart-for-nova-scotia-looking-under-the-hood-of-the-hydrogen-hype/>

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Sumaya Moore
Cc: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Re: In Favour of wind projects in West Hants
Date: July 21, 2024 11:06:22 AM

On Jul 21, 2024, at 10:40 AM, Sumaya Moore

Caution [External Email]

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Good morning,

My name is Sumaya Moore, and I live in Sweets Corner.

I'd like to express my support for Everwind's Bear Lake Wind project as well as Natural Forces Benjamin Mills project.

I've been working as a land agent for the past 7 years, speaking with landowners around the province about their concerns surrounding different energy projects. As part of this work, I review lease agreements with landowners, help them understand the process and financial benefits from leasing.

I have spent hours upon hours listening to landowners concerns and I can understand and have listened to a wide range of the concerns people have. Some concerns have merit, and some are products of misinformation and hear say that feeds off people's fears.

I strongly believe that the benefits of these projects out weight the potential risks.

The benefits of tax revenue and community benefit funds as well as landowner payments will provide a boost to the local economy. At a broader scale, this will help Nova Scotia transition to clean energy. Everwind's potential project will put Nova Scotia in a leadership position in the energy future. Placing Nova Scotia as a major energy producer will promote economic and energy security.

My position is that this is an opportunity we should not pass up!

Thank you,

Sumaya



Membertou
WELCOMING THE WORLD!

July 18, 2024

Mayor and Council
West Hants Regional Municipality
P.O. Box 3000
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
spoirier@westhants.ca

**Re: Large-scale Wind Turbine Setback Proposed Bylaw Amendment - WHMPS/WHLUB
Amendments – Concerns for Renewable Energy Development**

Dear Mayor and Council,

In Membertou, we believe that global action against climate change is needed as the impacts are being felt at the local level. As climate change accelerates, our communities face increasing risks that demand immediate attention and action. Our province is already experiencing the effects of a changing climate - from more frequent and severe storms to coastal erosion along our coasts. We can't tackle climate change without addressing how we power our lives and economy.

Wind energy is a powerful tool in our fight against climate change, allowing us to take direct action to power our homes and decarbonize our economy. By reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, we significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions, mitigating the risks of extreme weather events, changes in precipitation patterns, and addressing climate change at its root.

By including language in your MPS that indicates excessive setbacks or does not support new technologies for renewable energy, you're implementing some of the most stringent setbacks in the country. While we understand the importance of addressing community concerns and ensuring safety, the current proposed bylaw amendments, if implemented, would effectively eliminate the potential for future wind energy projects in West Hants. The restrictive actions would have significant negative implications not only for the municipality but also for Nova Scotia's broader environmental and energy goals.

Impact on Future Wind Projects

The proposed setbacks are excessively restrictive and would make it nearly impossible to find suitable locations for new wind turbines. Given the geography and land use patterns in West Hants, these setbacks would significantly limit land available for wind energy development which, in turn, would deter potential investors and developers who are crucial for advancing renewable energy projects in the region. Across the country, we've not seen a similar municipal bylaw been implemented, therefore making your municipality one of the most strict and unsupportive of wind energy in Canada.

Contribution to Nova Scotia's Renewable Energy Goals

Nova Scotia has set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas and wind energy plays a pivotal role in achieving these targets. According to Nova Scotia power, independent power producers will add up to 1,500 megawatts of wind energy to the grid. Currently, wind energy accounts for approximately 11% of the province's energy capacity. West Hants has a unique position to enable the province to maximize efficient use of the grid and lower power prices. By imposing restrictive setback regulations, West Hants would be unable to contribute effectively to these provincial goals, thus hindering a more sustainable energy grid for all Nova Scotians.

Economic Benefits

Wind energy projects bring numerous benefits to local communities. They create jobs, both during the construction phase and for ongoing operations and maintenance. Renewable energy projects also provide additional revenue streams for landowners through lease agreements and contribute millions of dollars to the local tax base which could be allocated to building more climate resilient communities through direct infrastructure investment. Wind energy is now one of the cheapest sources of energy generation, keeping power prices low for ratepayers.

Addressing Community Concerns

We acknowledge a level of community concern regarding noise, visual impact, and potential health effects associated with wind turbines. It is important to note that turbines are strategically sited to minimize their impact on residents and to ensure they meet or exceed the accepted industry. Effective community engagement and proper site planning can address many of these concerns. For instance, adequate consultation processes can ensure that turbines are placed in locations that minimize visual and noise impacts on nearby residences.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we strongly urge your council to reconsider the proposed bylaw setback amendment. Instead, we recommend maintaining the current setbacks, which align with global standards and balance the need to protect community interests while also supporting renewable energy development. By doing so, West Hants can play a crucial role in Nova Scotia's transition to a sustainable energy future, while also benefiting from the economic and environmental advantages that wind energy projects bring. Thank you for considering our concerns on this important issue. We look forward to your thoughtful deliberation and leadership in setting a pathway that benefits both our communities and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Terry Paul".

Chief Terry Paul, O.C
Chief & CEO, Membertou

From: Louis Coutinho
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Bear Lake Wind Project
Date: July 22, 2024 9:29:52 AM

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Mayor Zebian and Members of Council:

I have read with interest the Bear Lake renewal energy project being proposed for the Regional Municipality. It is a comprehensive and bold project for our region.

As I am unable to attend the meeting on July 23, 2024 in person, I wanted to register my support for this project based solely on the information in the public domain. I know that Council and staff may be privy to more detailed information and I respect the decisions Councils make when it serves the public good.

I was impressed with the consultation efforts of the developers and the responses they have provided to queries that have been raised. It provides a level of transparency that is refreshing.

I urge members of council to support green renewal projects provided they meet a complete and comprehensive Provincial Environmental Assessment review and provided such projects meet or exceed setbacks from existing homes and communities. The reality is that if our community does not consider such projects, they will locate to communities that will. The result of that is the loss of a sizable revenue stream that would add to our coffers through municipal taxes, electricity subsidies for the community, other funds to support community projects and scholarships.

The world is moving in the direction of renewable energy projects that include wind turbines, solar power and tidal power. Our Regional Municipality will (we hope) make a decision that is informed, based on scientific evidence and good governance.

Sincerely,
Louis Coutinho


Windsor NS

From: [Debbie Francis](#)
To: Reuben Hennebury
Cc: [WWH Council](#); [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Re: July 23 vote
Date: July 22, 2024 11:34:26 AM

On Jul 22, 2024, at 10:57 AM, Reuben Hennebury wrote:

Caution [External Email]

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Morning,

Reuben Hennebury, district 4 in Ellerhouse. In writing today, I would like to voice my opposition to the vote to stop supporting Renewable energy development in West Hants.

Not only will this increase employment and money to the area, but more importantly it's a step forward in the right direction. Placing more stringent restrictions on new renewable developments is simply a step backwards.

I realize there has been much opposition to the wind farms in certain areas, via (nimby) Not in my backyard ,but this opposition is not shared with all the general public. As you can see, not just Canada is moving towards green energy, but is a worldwide movement that has to be taken seriously.

Please vote against stopping energy development on July 23 and let's keep looking forward to a cleaner or sustainable future.

Kindest regards

Reuben Hennebury