

Six Nations Community Engagement Report
Boralex Inc – Port Ryerse
&
Prowind Canada – Gunn's Hill Wind Farm

Prepared by: Amy Lickers – Six Nations Community Planner

February 18, 2014

Executive Summary

For the first time, the CAP team decided to combine two projects into one community engagement process. Since both projects were small projects (14 turbines combined) it was felt that it would be the best use of resources and community time to go to the community with both at once.

The participation level for the Boralex (Port Ryerse) and Prowind (Gunn's Hill) engagement process was very low. 27 participants attended 3 meetings and engagement sessions, 5 completed comment cards, and 4 online forms were completed. The online comments were from non-community members living in Port Ryerse. They were all opposed to the project being located in their community and were asking Six Nations for support to stop the turbines from being erected.

Input gathered throughout the process indicates that there is generally support for the projects, although community members would like to see a greater commitment to sustainable employment opportunities and for a higher commitment to education and training initiatives. Community member concerns had to do with the amount of money and benefits being offered. Concerns from non-community members focused on health concerns, property values and impact on animal species.

Community Engagement Team

Six Nations CAP Team:

Matt Jamieson – Director Economic Development

Lonny Bomberry – Director Lands and Resources

Phil Monture – Land Rights Consultant

Paul General – Eco- Centre Manager

Joanne Thomas – Consultation Point Person

Caron Smith – Land Use Officer

Dawn LaForme – Secretary/
Receptionist

Nicole Kohoko – Departmental Assistant

Amy Lickers – Community Planner-
Engagement Lead

Boralex Inc. Team:

Adam Rosso -Project Manager

Annie Callan- Manager, Project
Development

Prowind Canada Team:

Juan Anderson-Vice President

Rochelle Rumney- Environmental
Coordinator

Randi Allan- Consultant

Impact on Rights

Both projects are located within the 1701 Fort Albany (NANFAN) Treaty Lands. The 1701 Fort Albany (NANFAN) Treaty are constitutionally protected (*Section 35(1) of Canada's Constitution Act, 1982*) treaty rights between the Imperial Crown and The Five Nations, which would become Six Nations, upon acceptance of the Tuscarora nation into the confederacy. The Treaty was to ensure the right for Six Nations to freely pursue their economic livelihood utilizing the natural resources within lands that extend throughout central and southwestern Ontario.

Six Nations maintains that rights extend beyond hunting, fishing and gathering for subsistence, as these activities were traditionally a means of economic livelihood as well as community subsistence.

These projects utilize land and natural resources that Six Nations has a treaty entitlement to therefore the economic impact should be shared with the rights holders of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

Methodology

Comment Cards

The comment cards provided a brief summary of each of the projects, the potential community benefits for Six Nations community, a listing of the community engagement sessions, and contact information. The comment cards were created to assist the project team, Six Nations Elected Council and community advocates in creating awareness of engagement process and providing opportunity to capture comments.

5 comment cards, for both projects, were filled in and returned.

Port Ryerse (Boralex)

Gunn's Hill (Prowind)

1 – Support Project

1- Support Project

1 – Oppose Project

2- Oppose Project

The 2 cards supporting the projects focused on the need to bring more employment to community members.

The 3 opposed thought that we needed to get more money from the agreement, that there should be participation from Grand River Employment and Training in negotiation and that there would not be anyone around in 20 years to ensure that the agreement was either updated or the project was decommissioned responsibly.

If you were to merely look at the comment cards alone, it would appear that there is not support for the project. Many participants that attended the sessions would verbally provide comments and support, but did not want to fill in comment cards.

It is important to keep in mind, that there is an emotional response tied to the dollar amount offered through any accommodation that is never going to seem like enough. Community members have an awareness of the loss of land and injustices to the Six Nations over the course of history. Seeking retribution from a single project is unrealistic and will always be an exercise in disappointment.

Prowind is willing to do whatever they can to assure that Six Nations members have access to all employment opportunities associated with the Gunn's Hill wind project. Boralex finds their project (construction on 4 turbines could be 2-4 weeks) too small of a project to make employment a worthwhile community benefit, which was why the training initiative on the solar development was offered as a community benefit.

The future of renewable energy is questionable at this time. The FIT program was currently extended but it is hard to predict the future of this program. The majority of the jobs associated with wind farm development is during the construction phase. Long term jobs would come during the maintenance phase, these opportunities will need to be examined and discussed with proponents of future projects.

Website – www.sixnationsfuture.com

The website was designed to provide all members of Six Nations the opportunity to become educated about the project and involved in the decision making process. The website contained the project information, meeting dates, a link to the projects webpage with the project studies, contact information for the engagement lead and a comment section.

The majority of comments were received from non- Six Nations members. They were all opposed to the project.

0 – Support

4 – Oppose

4 – Non-community members

Meetings

Prowind Canada and Boralex Inc. staff were in attendance at all three scheduled community meetings.

The two engagement sessions were planned to be “Open House” style, so that members could speak to project team members. It has been recognized that not all members are comfortable speaking at community meetings.

The final community meeting was in the traditional “Town Hall” style, with an opening presentation and questions/comments to follow.

Thursday January 23, 2014 1pm-6pm

Six Nations Tourism – Open House

Attendance: 5

General Attitude: There was no formal presentation for the project, but team members had individual discussions with attendees. Generally the attitude toward the project was receptive. Community members were interested in knowing about the project and being updated on past projects.

Saturday March 1, 2014 11:00am- 3:00pm

Six Nations Community Hall Sports Den – Engagement Session

Attendance: 7

General Attitude: There was no formal presentation for the project, but team members had individual discussions with attendees. Generally the attitude toward the project was receptive. There was some discussion about the engagement process and the belief that people do not know about the sessions.

Wednesday February 12, 2014 7pm-9pm

Six Nations Community Hall – Final Community Meeting

Attendance: 15

General Attitude: The meeting began with a formal presentation that outlined the project details and a question and answer session followed. Questions/concerns revolved around:

- Why is there not an employment commitment?
- Scholarships or education should be in every agreement.
- Concern about rising cost of hydro.
- Where is the energy going?
- Six Nations needs more sustainable employment from these opportunities and not just construction jobs.
- People do not want to have to pay taxes to work on these jobs.
- People were still unclear of why we are having these sessions if projects are outside of the community.

Conclusion and Next Steps

The community engagement session and meetings were poorly attended. Although this is the sixth major community engagement process held, people are still becoming acquainted with the process and what the individual impact is on them.

We are planning a community dinner to educate community members on the duty to consult, the CAP process, update on projects and how these things align with the Global Solutions.

Over the past few projects, we have noticed that participation continues to dwindle. There are assumptions that could be made as to why participation is low. People are generally in agreement which is why they do not participate;

- This theory can be supported by the fact that the one engagement process that had an increased turnout was related to a project that did not have community support.
- Community members still don't know about the project or the process.
- People are busy living their lives and trust the Six Nations Elected Council to make the right decision.

Regardless of the assumption, is it clear that actions need to be taken to determine at what level and how often community members would like to be involved in the decision making process.

While the participation was low, we do know from the five previous projects, that solar and wind energy projects are generally supported by the community.

Feedback given through this process will assist in negotiating the best possible agreement for Six Nations in the future.

Appendix A – comments

It's Our Community's Future,
Let's Talk About It.

Port Ryerse Wind Project

A Project for Discussion by
Six Nations Community Members

Your Comments

There was concerns expressed at the
Previous ~~Project~~ Project community ~~an~~ engagement
session in regards to Employment. At that session
Matt Jamieson admitted there needed to be better
negotiations relating to this ~~st~~ subject. However, tonight's
session ~~an~~ shows no improvement on the Employment
issue. Why is this?

Contact Information

Name [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
City [REDACTED] Postal Code [REDACTED]
Phone [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]

Age [REDACTED]
Sex M

Community Member ☒
Non-Community Member ☐

Do you support this project? ☒ YES ☐ NO

☒ Please contact me regarding other future projects and community engagement sessions.

All comments must be submitted by February 13th, 2014. Please drop off comment cards to the following locations:

Six Nations Economic Development
2498 Chiefswood Rd.
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0

Six Nations Elected Council
1695 Chiefswood Rd.
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0

www.sixnationsfuture.com



It's Our Community's Future,
Let's Talk About It.

Port Ryerse Wind Project

A Project for Discussion by
Six Nations Community Members

Your Comments

No

Get \$

Get GREAT on CAP

Team

Contact Information

Name 

Address 

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Age _____

Sex _____

Community
Member ☒

Non-Community
Member ☐

Do you support this project? ☐ YES ☐ NO

☐ Please contact me regarding other future projects and community engagement sessions.

All comments must be submitted by February 13th, 2014. Please drop off comment cards to the following locations:

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www.sixnationsfuture.com



Nicole Kohoko

From: webmaster@sixnationsfuture.com
Sent: January 21, 2014 6:22 PM
To: Amy Lickers
Subject: Grand Renewable Energy Park Comment Form

Contact Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
Postal Code: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Age: [REDACTED]
Sex: Female
Comments: To whom it may concern:

This is my last letter to summarize all the reasons NOT to industrialize our villages, our wetlands, woodlands, our beautiful landscapes and waterscapes which are:

1. We are an attraction to tourists who come to this area from Port Dover down to Long Point, an UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, all part of our inner bay and one of the most beautiful and historic areas of Upper Canada that remains unblemished to date (except for the horrible mess created to the east of Port Dover with all the ugliness of wind turbines already added there and blemishing the vista looking east).
2. It has the largest number of human receptors of ANY Wind project, approx. 400 humans surrounding the four proposed.
3. Port Ryerse has Blandings turtles in the immediate area and the MNR have NOT done a comprehensive study on the private land that the rest of the humans in the area cannot study as it is private land.
4. Port Ryerse has 2 species at risk bats and 3 of the proponent farms have barns that they nest in.
5. Avalon Rd is the ONLY entrance/exit to 30 homes and the use of this road either during rebuilding of it or during construction of the turbines endangers the lives and homes of the people living there as there is no infrastructure locally to put out fires and even the water has to be trucked in.
6. The proposed turning lane construction at the intersection of Wooley and Port Ryerse Rd. HAS NOT had the required species at risk studies done that are required by a FIT contract and HAS NOT had the required archeology studies done that are required by a FIT contract. This area is also a permanent wet land directly attached to the Hay Creek conservation area and should not be disturbed.
7. Avalon Rd is the ONLY entrance/exit to 30 homes and the proposed rebuilding of this road endangers the wildlife that uses this road as access to its winter cover in the trees near the lake. This includes but is not exclusive to deer, fox, coyote, and raccoons. This area is in the Long point Bay biosphere catch basin species are varied and tend to be some of the species at risk. (Peregrine falcon counted in Norfolk Bird count Christmas day.)
8. This area is a heritage site with an historic village of Port Ryerse with 220 years of history, including a historic Church with designation of a United Empire Loyalist Settlement founded by Colonel Ryerse and all lands given to him by Great Britain after the American Revolution, also the site of battles during the War of 1812, as well as the site of the

Underground Railroad saving many African Americans from slavery. The church has a cairn to acknowledge the burial of many of them in the churchyard which was dedicated this past year by the members of the Brown family who grew up and thrived in this community peacefully and safely. There is also much built heritage through that time with the home and barn of Colonel Ryerse's family and even the original hotel, now a family home called the Idyllwyld. There are many others in the village such as the home of Dr. Rolph next to me who was one of the earliest leaders in Medicine and government in Upper Canada.

9. The site is also yet to be designated but has all of the requirements to be deemed a Cultural Heritage Landscape with scenic vistas for miles around both on land as well as the Lake and Inner Bay of Long Point.

10. This area is a thriving industry for many kinds of Tourism which would be impacted by the industrialization of wind turbines. It is used by drivers, cyclists, campers, fishermen, migratory birds along with the bird watchers, Bird Studies Canada and Nature Conservancy groups who study wildlife in the woodlands and wetlands nearby and on the site. Many have recently been stopping and taking pictures of a very large eagle's nest right on the site itself. Boaters also launch from the area or sail by for the breathtaking views of the "Cliffs of Dover" seen even from the Port Dover pier and Turkey Point, several miles down the lakefront.

11. The cliff itself is very volatile and there has been no one to guarantee that there will be no impact to the water drainage for the surrounding wells of the homes in the area and the damage to the cliff itself, the homes and the people living on the edge who live in fear of erosion daily because of its nature made up of glacial till which is subject to storms, and the drainage which is called "perching" when it creates huge fissures in the clay and breaks apart, sometimes acres at a time as we have seen throughout the history of the area.

12. Real Estate in this area is the most valuable in Norfolk County. Already impacts are being seen where the once treasured area is losing its value with the threat of wind turbines coming here. My home on my MPAC statement has already lost \$60,000. of value because of the lower values of homes sold recently as the market has crashed in all areas where wind turbines have been erected in Ontario. It started in our County in 2003 in Clear Creek. This loss of value here impacts the tax base for all of Norfolk County impoverishing the municipality to do repairs on the roads, bridges and other infrastructure needs.

In conclusion anyone who thinks this is still just a farm area "purely surrounded by agricultural land" (as was written on the original application for the FIT contract and the permit application in Norfolk County), had better look again. THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE CANCELED IMMEDIATELY! This process should never have started in the first place here as it was based on lies from the start by UDI Renewables and the lack of appropriate screening in giving out FIT contracts by the OPA. THIS PROJECT VIOLATES ALL OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HERITAGE CONCERNS OF THE GREEN ENERGY ACT ITSELF AS WELL AS ALL OF THE SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES FOR GREEN ENERGY AS STATED IN THE GREEN ENERGY ACT.

Please put an end to the nightmare for all who live here, migrate here or come to visit and see the wealth of natural and human habitat we have. WE ARE NOT WILLING HOSTS TO THIS DESTRUCTION OF OUR HOMES, OUR LAND AND OUR WILDLIFE!

The residents of Port Ryerse ask that you do NOT support this project which will only bring harm to the land and the wildlife we have tried to protect since further development was abandoned 200 years ago after the War of 1812 and the wildlife, eagles, falcons, osprey, turkeys, deer have returned who flourish here.

Community Member: No
Project: Port Ryerse

I support this project: No
Contact about future meetings: Yes

Nicole Kohoko

From: webmaster@sixnationsfuture.com
Sent: January 23, 2014 1:24 PM
To: Amy Lickers
Subject: SixNationsFuture.com Feedback Form - Port Ryerse

Contact Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
Postal Code: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Age: [REDACTED]
Sex: Male
Comments:
Community Member: No
Project: Port Ryerse
I support this project: No
Contact about future meetings: Yes

Nicole Kohoko

From: webmaster@sixnationsfuture.com
Sent: January 24, 2014 9:38 AM
To: Amy Lickers
Subject: SixNationsFuture.com Feedback Form - Port Ryerse

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Age: [REDACTED]

Sex: Female

Comments: We will have all open spaces filled with these horrible windmills and yet they will not have truly been of benefit. I am afraid it will go the way of the solar park???? Why did we not continue with that, oh it ran out of money. Remember Denmark is 20% percent solar powered and guess what nobody has to look at them they have been placed out in the ocean. And again it is still only 20% power for a small country, the other is coal supported. I get no warm fuzzies this will even begin to supply the power it should for the price it takes of ruining our landscape forever. YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED YOU ARE RUNNING TO THE INDIAN LANDS. I WONDER WHY?????

WORDS CANNOT DESCRIBE THE DUBIOUS WAYS THAT EVEN THOUGH THE PUBLIC DOES NOT WANT THESE WINDMILLS IT WILL STILL HAPPEN. Oh to have money and no care for the people. Again shame on you

Community Member: No

Project: Port Ryerse

I support this project: No

Contact about future meetings: Yes

Nicole Kohoko

From: webmaster@sixnationsfuture.com
Sent: January 26, 2014 8:16 AM
To: Amy Lickers
Subject: SixNationsFuture.com Feedback Form - Port Ryerse

Contact Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]
Postal Code: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Age: [REDACTED]
Sex: Male

Comments: Please do not support this project. You don\\'t need to support this action and the community does not need this type of activity. I have been an ardent supporter of the Six Nations peoples through supporting their businesses. I ask that you reciprocate and support us in our fight with against this wind farm.

Community Member: No

Project: Port Ryerse

I support this project: No

Contact about future meetings: Yes

It's Our Community's Future,
Let's Talk About It.







Gunn's Hill Wind Farm Project

A Project for Discussion by
Six Nations Community Members

Your Comments

A worthy project. It appeared ~~to~~ to be unclear ~~to~~ to audience that the presenters are not directly connected to jobs. It would be better if it was explained better that this session is about the project in general. They contract the jobs out. They give contracts to contractors to build the structures who hire their own people. For jobs Six Nations ~~will~~ needs to negotiate with both developers & contractors.

Contact Information

Name 
Address 
City  Postal Code 
Phone 
Email 

Age 

Sex M

Community
Member ☒

Non-Community
Member ☐

Do you support this project? ☒ YES ☐ NO

☒ Please contact me regarding other future projects and community engagement sessions.


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Gunn's Hill Wind Farm Project







A Project for Discussion by
Six Nations Community Members

Your Comments

Why are we getting such a small amount
of money, considering the money it will generate

Who is making this deal with you. Who expects
to be here in twenty years to see that we are
treated fairly in the return of our land if we don't
want to renew your lease,

Contact Information

Name 
Address 
City  Postal Code 
Phone 
Email 

Age 

Sex Female

Community
Member ☒

Non-Community
Member ☐

Do you support this project? ☐ YES ☒ NO

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Gunn's Hill Wind Farm Project

A Project for Discussion by
Six Nations Community Members

Your Comments

No

Get \$

get GREAT

on CAP
feds

Contact Information

Name 

Address 

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Age _____

Sex _____

Community
Member ☒

Non-Community
Member ☐

Do you support this project? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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