



Melvin Lake Wind Project

June 2023

We would like to give you an update on our Melvin Lake Wind Project, a collaboration of ABO Wind Canada Ltd. (ABO Wind) and Acadia First Nation.

Upcoming Open House

ABO Wind invites you to attend an upcoming information session to learn more about the Project:

Thursday, July 13 - 6pm - 8:30pm (drop-in)
Estabrooks Community Hall
4408 St Margarets Bay Rd
Lewis Lake



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The Project

Renewable Energy in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia has one of the most ambitious climate change plans in Canada with a target to close all the coal power plants and reach 80% renewable energy by 2030. These ambitious targets require more renewable energy in our province.

The Green Choice Program (www.novascotiagcp.com) was developed collaboratively between the Province of Nova Scotia, renewable energy developers, Nova Scotia Power, and large energy buyers. It will allow participating customers to purchase up to 100% of their electricity from local renewable energy sources.

About the Project

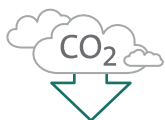
The Melvin Lake Wind Project (“the Project”) is being proposed by ABO Wind Canada Ltd. (“ABO Wind”) in response to the Green Choice Program. ABO Wind is partnering with Acadia First Nation to develop the Project. As a 51% partner, Acadia First Nation is actively collaborating with ABO Wind to conduct environmental assessments, develop capacity building, employment and economic opportunities, and acting as an environmental steward for the land.

The Project would place 15 wind turbines on Crown and private land south of Highway 101 and west of Pockwock Lake. The Project area of interest was initially selected due to low grid connection cost and proximity to Halifax, favourable wind speeds, an existing network of forestry roads, land topography, grid capacity and the ability to adhere to and exceed company, municipal and provincial setback guidelines.

The Project will:



- Have an expected capacity of 105 megawatts, providing clean energy to the grid, powering local residences and businesses, generating enough energy for 25,000 homes annually.



- Help Nova Scotia achieve its goal to phase out burning coal as an energy source and displace approximately 2.2 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent during its operational lifetime.



- Include other associated infrastructure, including a substation, a control building for site maintenance, access roads, collector lines, a transmission line, and meteorological towers.

Environmental Studies

Updated information on environmental studies, potential impacts, and mitigation measures will be shared in more detail in our next mailout and at our open house.

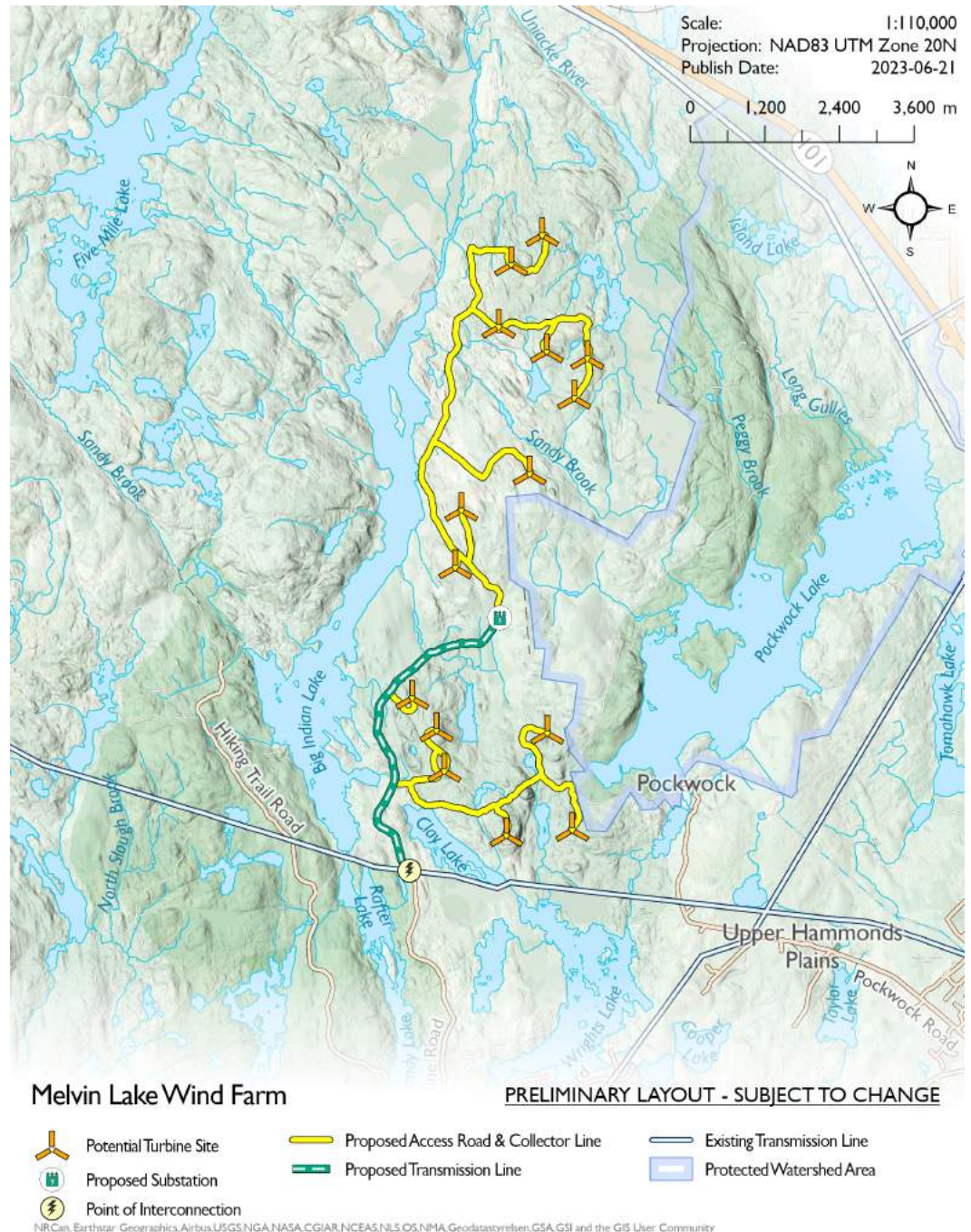
ABO Wind is working with local third-party experts to complete the required technical and environmental studies needed to support the siting of wind turbines. Studies include analysis of shadow flicker, visualizations/renderings of turbine locations, expected sound levels, and more. This information will be incorporated into an environmental assessment (“EA”) submission to the Provincial government this year. Some of the study results include:

- Wildlife surveys, including targeted Mainland moose surveys, identified a variety of species including White-tailed deer, Eastern coyote, Snowshoe hare and Bobcat. Although no evidence of Mainland moose was observed, potential habitat has been identified and documented.
- Identification of old growth stands and lichen species at risk to avoid, including blue felt lichen.
- Wetland and watercourses were mapped throughout the site and incorporated into Project design to minimize direct impacts.






- Avian (bird) assessments included year-round surveys to highlight species presence on site, as well as radar surveys to document large-scale migratory events and avian activity within the airspace of the Project.

A Mi'kmaq Ecological Knowledge Study (MEKS) is being completed to understand any historic and current Mi'kmaq land and resource use.

Field studies have already resulted in adjustments to turbine locations, informed by the mainland moose recovery plan, and to avoid old growth forest and wetlands. Our Project continues to be informed by ongoing input from the community, regulators, and environmental and technical experts.



Benefits to Community

	An estimated \$20-25M in property tax to municipalities over the life of the Project that can be used for local services and infrastructure.
	Short-term and long-term jobs and contracts in site clearing, road building, electrical, construction, concrete work, and ongoing maintenance – including 75 to 125 local jobs during construction, and several permanent jobs for operations and maintenance.
	Revenue to local businesses – during the construction period, tens of millions of dollars in materials and services could come from local businesses, including construction subcontracts, accommodations, restaurants and catering, and other amenities.
	Benefit funds will go to the community hosting the Project, for community-level initiatives and regional investment.
	Revenue to local landowners from leases signed.

Ongoing opportunities for feedback

Ample opportunities remain to ask questions, make comments, and provide input throughout 2023 as ABO Wind continues to consult the community and proceed with our project planning. ABO Wind will continue to provide updates through the Project website, open houses, mail-outs, meetings, and correspondence. ABO Wind's objective is to facilitate open, honest, and respectful discussion with all those interested in the Project.

Timeline

Ongoing	ABO Wind's team is working on engagement with local community groups and businesses, First Nations, government, and other relevant organizations in the region. Consultation will continue throughout the life of the Project.
Summer 2023	Open House information session on July 13, 6pm-8:30pm, Estabrooks Community Hall, Lewis Lake.
September 2023	The Project's EA will be submitted to the Provincial government for review and approval. The EA process provides additional opportunities for citizens to share feedback on the Project.
December 2023	The Project will be submitted for the Green Choice Program.
March 2024	Anticipated Green Choice project award.
2024	Construction begins with tree and road clearing.
2026	Commissioning – The Project is producing clean energy.

Questions and additional information

If you have any questions or concerns ABO Wind invites you to reach out to Heidi Kirby, Communications Coordinator at the Halifax office: **heidi.kirby@abo-wind.com or (902) 329-9907**. ABO Wind is open to meet virtually or in person. Many of the questions already asked by the public have responses available at **www.melvinlakewind.ca**

ABO Wind Canada acknowledges that the proposed project is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral, unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are grateful for the Treaties of Peace and Friendship with the Mi'kmaq people, which set out long-standing promises, mutual obligations, and benefits for all parties involved.

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