



December 3, 2024

**Meghan Rafferty**  
**Environmental Assessment Officer**  
Policy Division, EA Branch  
Nova Scotia Environment & Climate Change  
PO Box 442  
Halifax, NS, B3J 2P8

Dear Ms. Rafferty,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Melvin Lake Wind Project Environmental Assessment documents.

Based on the information you have provided; the Municipality of East Hants has the following comments:

- Visual impacts from Mount Uniacke are missing from the EA. In order to help East Hants Council to make an informed decision on whether to support the Melvin Lake Wind Project it would have been beneficial to have completed a visual assessment from Mount Uniacke. As part of the project, there are 23 turbines being erected, 12 of the turbines are located in East Hants. Seven of the proposed wind turbines are located within close proximity to Highway 101 and may be able to be viewed by residents of Mount Uniacke. Yet, there are no images from East Hants showing the Visual Simulation Location. In turn, there are four images showing the Visual Simulation Location and a completed review of the Visual Impacts in Halifax Regional Municipality. Section 10.3 of the EA should also include visual impacts from East Hants.
- Table 10.7: Summary of Sound Level Regulations and Guidelines, refers to the Municipality of West Hants and does not mention the Municipality of East Hants. East Hants does have regulations related to noise. The East Hants Land Use Bylaw regulates noise as part of the wind energy regulations. Appendix E: Requirements and Application for Large Scale Wind Developments requires the completion of a noise impact study. This error should be corrected in the EA.
- It is not noted in the EA documentation, but in addition to NSECC, East Hants also has setbacks from lakes and watercourses which must also be adhered to. This includes no disturbance setbacks where the existing vegetation is to be maintained.

- East Hants is supportive of the Municipal tax benefits that will be used towards the continued development of the Municipality.

In general, East Hants Council is supportive of the Melvin Lake Wind Project and feel that the project will help support the Provincial goal of producing 80% renewable energy by 2030. East Hants recommends that the errors identified in the study are corrected and the visual impacts from Mount Uniacke are considered.

Please contact the undersigned at John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development at 902-883-6120, if more information is required from the Municipality in the evaluation of the Environmental Assessment.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Roulston  
Warden