

Whispering Woods Wind Farm

Project Description Report

DRAFT

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Table of Contents

1	PROJECT OVERVIEW	1
1.1	PROPONENT BACKGROUND AND CONTACT INFORMATION	1
1.2	REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS.....	2
2	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	3
2.1	PROJECT STRUCTURES & TURBINE TECHNOLOGIES.....	3
2.2	PROJECT ACTIVITIES	4
2.2.1	<i>Planning</i>	4
2.2.2	<i>Construction</i>	4
2.2.3	<i>Operation and Maintenance</i>	7
2.2.4	<i>Decommissioning</i>	8
2.3	PROJECT LOCATION	9
3	PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES	11
3.1	WATER BODIES & CHARACTERISTICS.....	11
4	DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS	11
4.1	HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	11
4.2	NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES	12
4.3	WATER BODIES.....	12
4.4	AIR, ODOR, DUST	12
4.5	NOISE.....	12
4.6	VISUAL IMPACTS OF WIND FARM	13
4.7	LAND USE AND RESOURCES	13
4.8	PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE	13
4.9	PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY	13
4.10	AREAS PROTECTED UNDER PROVINCIAL PLANS AND POLICIES.....	13
5	CONCLUSION	14
6	APPENDIX A – REFERENCES	15

Table of Tables

Table 1.1:	Municipal and Conservation Authority Permits/Approvals.....	2
Table 1.2:	Provincial Permits/Approvals	2
Table 1.3:	Federal Permits/Approvals	2
Table 2.1:	Description of Construction, Operation and Decommissioning Activities.....	4

Table of Figures

Figure 2.1:	Whispering Woods Wind Farm Project Study Area	10
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1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The *Green Energy and Green Economy Act*, passed in the Province of Ontario in 2009, mandates a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) process under the *Environmental Protection Act, Ontario Regulation 359/09* for specified classes of renewable energy projects. The Whispering Woods Wind Farm is subject to this process, which will evaluate the project's environmental and community impacts and mitigate or avoid them where necessary. M.K. Ince & Associates prepared this Project Description Report (PDR) to meet the requirements of *Ontario Regulation 359/09* and provide a brief overview of the proposed project to stakeholders.

Whispering Woods Wind Farm LP proposes to build the Whispering Woods Wind Farm, an up to 10 MW Class 4 Wind Energy Generation Facility, on privately-owned agricultural lands within the Township of Cavan-Monaghan east of the community of Millbrook (see **Figure 2.1** on p.10 for the project study area). It would consist of up to five REpower MM92 wind turbines of 2 MW each. A Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been acquired for the project under Ontario's Feed-In Tariff (FIT) Program.

The Whispering Woods Wind Farm would generate clean, renewable energy for the local grid and feed excess electricity into the Hydro One grid. This would displace greenhouse gases, air pollution, and toxic wastes produced by traditional energy sources. The natural environment in the municipality, the county and the province would benefit. It would also help the Province of Ontario meet future electricity demand.

Transformers at each turbine would step up the voltage from approximately 0.575kV to 20 kV. Collector lines would run from each transformer to the substation, which would house a metering system, disconnection switch, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system for monitoring, a transformer to step up the voltage to the local distribution voltage of 44 kV, and a transfer trip communication. Overhead and/or underground 44 kV lines would conduct the electricity to the point of common coupling, located less than 10 km from the substation, and then feed it into the M5 Feeder of the Dobbin Transformer Station.

The proposal includes the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of this wind energy project and its associated access roads, substation, distribution lines and poles, and other infrastructure.

The turbine model is current as of the date of this draft report, but may change according to the results of studies completed during the REA process. All connection details are subject to capacity availability and have not been confirmed as of the writing of this document.

1.1 Proponent Background and Contact Information

The proponent of the Whispering Woods Wind Farm project is Whispering Woods Wind Farm LP. M.K. Ince and Associates Ltd. (MKI) is providing consulting services for the project. Contact information is as follows:

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1.2 Required Authorizations

The project will require permits from Federal, Provincial, and Municipal governments. The list below covers the key permits and approvals required to construct the Whispering Woods Wind Farm.

Table 1.1: Municipal and Conservation Authority Permits/Approvals

Permit	Responsible Agency	Info
Building Permit	Township of Cavan-Monaghan	Ontario Building Code compliance
Work Permits	Otonabee Region Conservation Authority	Work permits for constructing water crossings and for construction in regulated areas

Table 1.2: Provincial Permits/Approvals

Permit	Responsible Agency	Info
Renewable Energy Approval	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources	Project approval, environmental impact assessment
Connection Agreement	Hydro One Networks Inc., IESO	Process requirements for project grid connection
Transportation Permit	Ministry of Transportation	Highway road traffic and safety
Generator's License	Ontario Energy Board	Interconnection to provincial grid

Table 1.3: Federal Permits/Approvals

Permit	Responsible Agency	Info
EcoEnergy Application	Natural Resources Canada	May trigger a federal environmental screening under CEAA

Navigational Clearances	Transport Canada, NAV Canada	Radar, navigational lighting, blade markings, aeronautical clearance
<i>Navigable Waters Act</i> and/or <i>Fisheries Act</i> permits	Transport Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Transport Canada and/or DFO permits may be required for electrical line crossing of watercourses. Consultation with these agencies is ongoing.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Structures & Turbine Technologies

Wind turbines convert the kinetic energy of surface winds into electrical energy in the form of electricity. There are four major components to a wind turbine including the blades, the shaft, the generator, and the tower, which supports the first three. As the wind travels across the turbine blades, a lift force – similar to that which allows airplanes to fly – causes the blades to turn. The turbine blades rotate around the shaft which is connected to either a direct drive generator or an induction generator, thus producing electricity.

The wind turbine model proposed for the Whispering Woods Wind Farm is the MM92, manufactured by the German corporation REpower Systems AG. This turbine has three (3) fibreglass blades equipped with lightning arrestors. The rotor diameter is 92.5 m and the hub height will be 100.0 m, for a maximum total height of 146.25 m above grade. Each tower will be conical, made of steel and be approximately 4 m in diameter at the base. During operation, the blades rotate clockwise at speeds between 7.8 and 15.0 rpm (revolutions per minute). The blades of the MM92 are pitch-controlled and are designed to cut out when wind speeds exceed 24.0 m/s (86 km/h). The manufacturer's specifications of the MM92 wind turbine will be included in the *Wind Turbine Specifications Report* in the final REA submission.

The base of each turbine will be a poured concrete foundation with reinforcing steel bars. The foundation will contain a mounting ring to which the base of the tower will be attached. The foundation specifications will depend on the results of a geotechnical investigation of the proposed wind farm location.

A step-up transformer at each tower would transform the electricity generated by the turbines from 0.575 kV to 20 kV. From each transformer, overhead and/or underground electrical lines would transfer the electricity to a single common substation. The substation would collect the energy and would house a metering system, disconnection switch, SCADA system, and a transfer trip communication, in addition to the transformer to step up the voltage to 44 kV, matching the local distribution. A 44 kV line would then transfer this electricity to the point of common coupling, located less than 10 km from the substation, and feed it into the M5 Feeder of the Dobbin Transformer Station.

All turbines would be contained within the area between King St E/21 to the North, Zion Line to the South, Duke St/10 to the West, and just east of County Road 28 to the East.

The turbine model is current as of the date of this draft report, but is subject to change according to the results of the studies conducted under the REA process. All connection details are subject to capacity availability and have not been confirmed as of the writing of this document.

2.2 Project Activities

2.2.1 Planning

2.2.1.1 Meteorological tower installation and wind monitoring >12 months

Wind Assessments have been conducted to establish local generation potential.

2.2.1.2 Stakeholder consultations, including planning and permitting authorities

As required under the REA process, two open houses will be held in the community, currently planned for August and December 2010. Notices for the open houses will be published in local newspapers and mailed to local residents, representatives of the municipalities, aboriginal groups, provincial and federal agencies, and other relevant parties. The public meetings will be held in an accessible location at a date and time convenient for the local community to attend. Draft REA documents will be made available for public review prior to the second public meeting, according to the timelines set out in *O.Reg. 359/09*. Every effort to address concerns raised at these public meetings will be made, including response to inquiries made by phone, e-mail, mail, or in-person, when appropriate.

2.2.1.3 Renewable Energy Approval process

The *Notice to Engage in the Project* was published concurrently with the *Notice of Public Meeting* in July 2010 under *Ontario Regulation 359/09*. M.K. Ince and Associates Ltd. is providing consulting services to carry out the environmental studies and prepare the Renewable Energy Approval Application documents.

2.2.1.4 Environmental studies

Surveys of local natural heritage features, archaeological assessments, setback assessments, and all other environmental studies required under *O Reg 359/09*, will be completed as part of the project planning process, and made available to the public 60 days before the final open house.

Information on the Whispering Woods Wind Farm will be made public at the proponent's website: www.energyfarmingontario.com and www.zeroemissionpeople.com.

2.2.2 Construction

Turbine construction includes the steps outlined below. These steps will be described in detail in the *Construction Plan Report* to be submitted as part of the REA Application.

Turbine construction will take place in stages. For example, first all roads would be constructed and all sites prepared, and then all foundations would be constructed.

Table 2.1: Description of Construction, Operation and Decommissioning Activities

Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveying and siting • Site clearing • Access road construction/modification • Delivery of equipment • Foundation construction • Tower and turbine assembly and installation • Interconnection from turbines to substation • Turbine commissioning • Site rehabilitation
Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turbine operation • Wind farm maintenance
Decommissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land clearing • Road construction/modification • Removal of turbines and ancillary equipment • Removal of power lines • Site rehabilitation

2.2.2.1 Road Construction/Modification

Non-paved dirt track roads will be constructed to allow access to each individual wind turbine site. Construction of new roads will be kept to the minimum required for project access. These roads will be designed and constructed to support the heavy machinery and trucks that need to reach the turbine locations. The process of constructing roads will include the excavation of topsoil and the possible use of geotextile and/or aggregate material depending on local geotechnical conditions. The new roads will remain private and be maintained privately for ongoing turbine monitoring and maintenance throughout the life of the project. Roads will follow existing pathways, where possible, and be located to minimize the impact on current land use. This activity will take approximately one month for all turbines.

2.2.2.2 Site Clearing

Vegetation and trees on rights-of-way or at turbine sites will need to be cleared. Full details will be included in the *Construction Plan Report*, to be prepared as part of the REA Application.

2.2.2.3 Site Preparation

A 'pad' area of approximately 20 m x 40 m adjacent to each turbine location will be cleared, graded and constructed using geotextile (where appropriate) and aggregate material to support the weight of heavy machinery. This activity will take approximately two weeks.

2.2.2.4 Foundation Construction

Topsoil will be removed and stockpiled before excavating holes for the turbine foundations. The amount of fill removed will depend on the type of foundation to be installed. Where possible, this fill will be used on-site for grading after turbine construction is complete.

Wooden forms will be used to construct the foundations from poured-concrete and reinforcing steel. Mounting hardware for the turbine tower will be attached to the foundation. This activity will take

approximately one month for five turbines. The foundations will cure for a minimum of one month before erecting the towers.

Foundation design, including the foundation type and dimensions, will depend on the results of the geotechnical survey of the turbine locations.

2.2.2.5 Tower and Turbine Assembly and Installation

The wind turbines including towers, blades and nacelles will be assembled and erected using a large crane supported on the 'pad' area adjacent to each turbine site. This activity will take approximately two weeks for ten turbines.

A transformer will be installed at each turbine tower. The size of the transformer (approximately 1 m x 2 m) will be relatively insignificant in relation to the base diameter of the tower (approximately 4 m). This will take approximately one to three weeks for ten turbines and is highly dependent on the scheduling of other construction activities.

2.2.2.6 Electrical Connection System

The proposed wind farm will be connected to the electrical grid via underground and/or overhead electrical lines and a substation. The wind turbines will have 20 kV transformers to step up the voltage for collection at the switching station. The switching station will house metering, line communication, and control devices, and another transformer to step up the voltage to 44 kV for connection to the grid.

2.2.2.7 Switching Station Construction

The switching station site will be excavated to allow for the installation of gravel substrate and the construction of a concrete foundation. The switching station equipment will be grounded to a grounding grid installed in the gravel. Switching station equipment will be mounted on the concrete foundation and connected to the adjacent outgoing distribution line. The switching station will be fenced to prevent unauthorized access.

2.2.2.8 Turbine Commissioning

A series of tests to confirm system suitability and compatibility with the grid will be performed on each turbine. Interconnection to the grid will be the final test. Physical adjustments may be carried out on the turbine at this point. This activity will be scheduled, but will ultimately depend on weather conditions. This activity will take approximately three weeks.

2.2.2.9 Site Rehabilitation and Waste Disposal

Following commissioning, construction crews and equipment will be demobilized and the construction areas rehabilitated. All agricultural lands will be graded, the tile drainage repaired where necessary, and topsoil re-applied. Non-agricultural areas will have topsoil re-applied; they will be re-graded with due consideration to natural drainage patterns and seeded with non-invasive native grasses and herbaceous plants. This activity will take approximately four weeks.

Construction wastes generated may include oil-containing rags, brushes & detergents, scrap metal, construction wood waste, plastics, paper and cardboard, cables, tin and tin cans. All wastes generated

during project construction will be recycled if possible, and if not, disposed of at licensed waste disposal facilities in accordance with all provincial legislation and regulations.

The *Construction Plan Report* to be included with the Renewable Energy Approval documentation will include more detailed information about the construction activities associated with the Whispering Woods Wind Farm.

2.2.2.10 Water-Taking

Water-taking will not be required by the construction, operation or decommissioning of this wind energy facility.

2.2.3 Operation and Maintenance

The operation phase is expected to be carried out continuously over the anticipated project life of 25 years. Further details will be included in the *Design and Operations Report* to be included in the REA submission for the project.

2.2.3.1 Wind Turbine Operation

The daily operation of wind turbines requires almost no human intervention. When winds are sufficient, the turbine blades will rotate at a speed of 7.8 to 15.0 revolutions per minute (rpm). The turbines will not operate in cases of mechanical breakdown, extreme weather conditions and during maintenance. Dedicated supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems will be used to capture real-time turbine feedback and monitor outputs.

2.2.3.2 Wind Farm Maintenance

The wind turbines will be inspected and maintained regularly, including routine oil changes, motor maintenance and lubricant and fluid replacement. Periodically, major components of the wind turbines such as blades or generators may require replacement. This work will be performed with similar equipment and methods as used in the construction phase. Access roads will be cleared, graded and maintained as required for maintenance and emergency personnel. At the end of the useful life of a wind turbine, typically 20 to 25 years, the turbines may be decommissioned.

Typically, each wind turbine requires maintenance four times per year. Each maintenance visit takes one to five days per turbine to complete. Maintenance visits involve changing hydraulic and lubricating fluids, and mechanical and structural inspections of the turbine, tower and transformer.

2.2.3.3 Environmental Monitoring

Post-construction monitoring of environmental impacts, such as impacts to wildlife, will be described in detail in the *Design and Operations Report* and its *Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan*, and be carried out over a period of years to be determined during the forthcoming environmental studies.

The *Design and Operations Report* will also include all relevant information about operational activities associated with the Whispering Woods Wind Farm.

2.2.3.4 Emissions

No emissions will be generated by the operation of this wind energy facility.

2.2.3.5 Sewage and Stormwater Management

No sewage will be generated by the operation of this wind energy facility. Stormwater drainage will not be affected.

2.2.3.6 Waste Management

Waste materials for the REpower MM92 are limited to oils and lubricants which will be replaced during regular maintenance activities, and physical parts that must occasionally be replaced. These wastes will be collected and disposed of in accordance with all relevant legislation and regulations.

2.2.4 Decommissioning

This project's Feed-in Tariff (FIT) contract has a 20-year term from the Commercial Operation Date (i.e. the date upon which the turbines are commissioned). At the conclusion of this term, the decision will be made whether to continue operating the facility – conducting maintenance and upgrades as necessary and selling the electricity through a new power purchase agreement or through the spot market – or to decommission the wind park entirely.

Regardless of any decisions to extend the life of the project, decommissioning will eventually be necessary. The following sections provide an overview of the activities planned in the decommissioning phase of the Whispering Woods Wind Farm. Additional details will be provided in the *Decommissioning Plan Report* to be included in the REA submission package.

2.2.4.1 Land Clearing

As in the construction phase of the project, a 'pad' area, approximately 20m x 40m adjacent to each turbine location, will be cleared, graded and constructed using geotextile and aggregate material support the weight of the heavy machinery required for disassembly. This activity will take approximately two weeks.

2.2.4.2 Road Construction/Modification

Existing roads used during the operation phase of the project will be upgraded as required by the passage of time with geotextile and aggregate material if deemed necessary, based on the geotechnical conditions of each site. This activity will take approximately one month.

2.2.4.3 Removal of Turbines & Ancillary Equipment

The turbines will be disassembled on site and the parts removed, then reused or recycled where possible. This activity will take approximately two months.

2.2.4.4 Foundation Removal

The removal of the turbine foundations will depend on the type of foundation used and will likely involve the use of heavy machinery to remove foundations to a depth of one metre below ground surface. This activity will take approximately three weeks.

2.2.4.5 Removal of Power Line

Any above-ground distribution lines and poles will be removed from the site and recycled, reused or disposed appropriately. Below-ground wires buried at a depth of greater than one metre do not present a significant hazard to the environment if left in place; removal of the buried wires may create more disturbance to the local environment and agriculture due to required excavation. The decision to remove the cables from the ground or leave them buried will be made in consultation with the landowners.

2.2.4.6 Site Rehabilitation and Waste Management

The disturbed portions of the site will be remediated and re-vegetated. Topsoil stripped during decommissioning will be re-applied. Agricultural areas will be returned to agricultural use. All damaged tile drains will be fixed. Re-vegetation will use native non-invasive grasses and herbaceous plants. This activity will take approximately two weeks.

The *Decommissioning Plan Report* to be included with the Renewable Energy Approval documentation will include all relevant information about the decommissioning activities associated with the Whispering Woods Wind Farm.

All wastes generated by the decommissioning of this project will be disposed of at licensed waste management facilities in accordance with all provincial legislation and regulations.

2.3 Project Location

The Whispering Woods Wind Farm is being proposed for the area east of Millbrook in the Township of Cavan-Monaghan, Ontario. According to the 2006 census, Cavan-Monaghan has a population just under 9,000. The Township is largely a rural and agricultural community.

Figure 2.1 below shows the study area and approximate project location for the project.

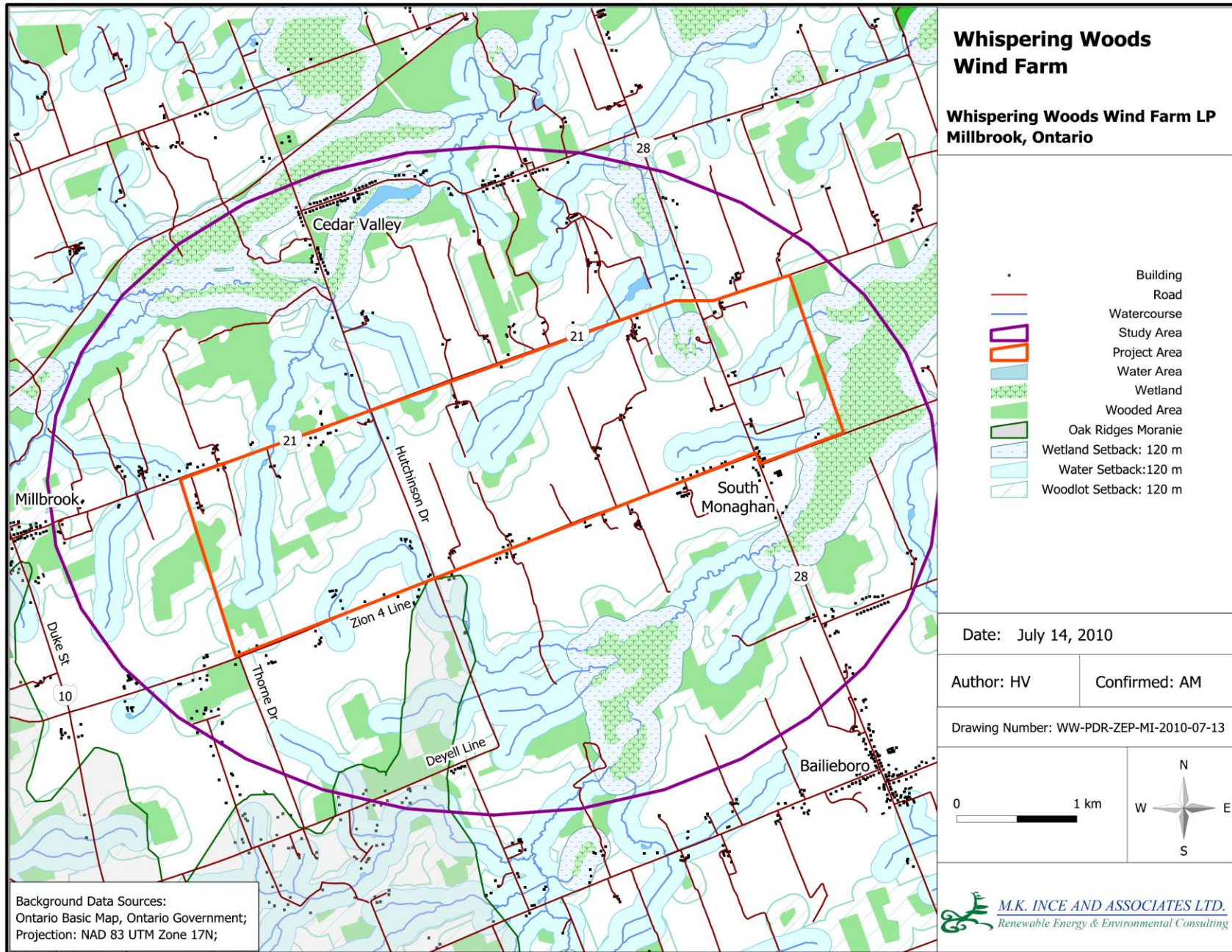


Figure 2.1: Whispering Woods Wind Farm Project Study Area

3 PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

Ontario Regulation 359/09 contains several setbacks for noise receptors, cultural heritage features, and natural heritage features such as woodlands, wetlands, water bodies, etc. A selection of these have been reflected on the above map. The Whispering Woods Wind Farm will comply with all setbacks as contained in the regulation or, where setbacks cannot be adhered to and the possibility of exceptions exist, will complete all additional required assessments and reports, as indicated in the relevant sections under **S. 4, Description of Environmental Effects**, below.

There are no known significant sites immediately adjacent to the study area; the Whispering Woods Wind Farm study area is surrounded by agricultural land. Nearest significant sites to the project area include:

- Cavan Till, located 1.3 km from the project site boundary.
- Ganaraska Forest West, a Life Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), located 3.7 km from the project site boundary.
- Cavan Creek Wetlands, a Life Science ANSI, located 4.5 km from the project site boundary.
- Ganaraska Forest East, located 6.0 km from the project site boundary.
- Cavan Creek Headwaters, a Life Science ANSI, located 6.4 km from the project site boundary.
- Sand Point Marsh, a Life Science ANSI, located 6.4 km from the project site boundary.
- Garden Hill Outwash, located 7.3 km from the project site boundary.
- Bethany Crevasse Fill, located 8.5 km from the project site boundary.
- Bewdley Marsh, a wetland, located 9.8 km from the project site boundary.

3.1 Water Bodies & Characteristics

Only one named water body exists on the project study area: Squirrel Creek, which runs into the Otonabee River to the north-east. Two small unnamed creeks and two small unnamed lakes also exist in the project study area. These water bodies are protected by setbacks under *Ontario Regulation 359/09*. Setbacks will be calculated for all project components, and described in the *Natural Heritage Evaluation of Significance Report* and *Water Bodies Report*, to be submitted as part of the REA application.

4 DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

4.1 Heritage and Archaeological Resources

A Stage I Archaeological Assessment of the project area will be commissioned. Significant archaeological and cultural heritage resources will be avoided and so will not be affected by the construction or operation of this wind energy facility.

4.2 Natural Heritage Features

A records review and site visit to ascertain the presence of natural heritage features on site will be coordinated as part of the REA application. Such features may include wetlands, water bodies, Areas of Scientific and Natural Interest (ANSI), parks and conservation areas; REA-mandated setbacks from these features will be established for all wind park components. Further details will be available in the *Natural Heritage Evaluation of Significance Report* to be submitted as part of the REA application.

Impacts to natural heritage features may involve some loss of vegetation and/or habitat. Where project components exist within REA-mandated setbacks, the appropriate assessments and reports will be completed to mitigate those impacts. We do not anticipate significant residual impacts as a result of this project.

The project area will also be evaluated for site sensitivity for bats. If hibernacula or maternity roosts are determined to exist nearby, pre-construction bat monitoring activities will be conducted in consultation with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Acoustic bat monitoring has already been conducted at the site during the peak migration period. If the site is deemed to be low sensitivity, no additional pre-construction monitoring will be conducted. Post-construction monitoring will be conducted in accordance with the OMNR's *Bats and Bat Habitats: Guidelines for Wind Power Projects* (March 2010 Draft) and will be described in further detail in the *Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan (EEMP)* submitted as part of the *Design and Operations Report* in the REA Application.

4.3 Water Bodies

A records review and site visit to ascertain the presence of water bodies and watercourses on site will be conducted as part of the REA Application. Any water bodies and streams in close proximity to proposed infrastructure will be noted, and an assessment of REA setbacks from these environments undertaken. Further details will be available in the *Water Bodies Assessment Report* to be submitted as part of the REA application.

Impacts to water bodies may include sedimentation, impacts to aquatic habitats and fish or other aquatic species, or erosion. Where project components are sited within REA-mandated setbacks, a *Water Bodies Impact Assessment Report* will be completed to assess and mitigate any resulting impacts. We do not anticipate significant residual impacts as a result of this project.

4.4 Air, Odour, Dust

Wind energy is a clean form of electricity generation. No air emissions or odours will result from wind farm operation. Mitigation measures for air, odour, and dust emissions related to project construction and decommissioning phases can be found in the *Construction Plan Report* and *Decommissioning Report* to be included with the REA documentation.

4.5 Noise

The Whispering Woods Wind Farm will use modern, quiet wind turbine technologies. Setback distances between turbines and potential noise receptors will be established during the forthcoming environmental studies. Noise from any source can be a source of annoyance if it is protracted or at an unreasonable volume. In recognition of this, predictive noise modeling will be conducted to assess turbine-related

sound levels at nearby receptors under worst-case conditions and ensure compliance with the Ontario Ministry of Environment's *Noise Guidelines for Wind Farms* (October 2008). As these guidelines mandate a limit of 40 dBA at the nearest noise receptors, noise impacts from this wind energy facility will be negligible.

4.6 Visual Impacts of Wind Farm

The visual impact of a wind farm depends considerably on the local community. While some consider turbines to be an eyesore, others enjoy them and the alteration they make to the local landscape. Photomontages illustrating how the final turbine layout will appear will be prepared using detailed computer modeling and included in the REA Application reports. Turbine lighting will be constructed in accordance with Transport Canada's requirements for aeronautical safety.

4.7 Land Use and Resources

The lands in the project study area are currently designated as agricultural under the Municipality of Cavan-Monaghan Zoning By-laws, with some Environmentally Sensitive Areas along local watercourses. Project planning will take Environmentally Sensitive Areas into account so as to avoid impacts. The operation of a wind energy facility will therefore not negatively affect land use and resources in the project study area.

4.8 Provincial and Local Infrastructure

Construction of large projects involves large and often heavy machinery sometimes operating on roads not designed for them, which can cause damage to such infrastructure. The volume and size of construction traffic can also inconvenience local residents. However, we expect minimal impacts to provincial and local infrastructure as a result of the Whispering Woods Wind Farm, and increases to traffic volume will be limited in extent and duration. A *Construction Plan Report*, to be submitted as part of the REA Application documents, will elaborate on these impacts and fully describe appropriate mitigation measures.

4.9 Public Health and Safety

Impacts to public health and safety from the wind Farm are expected to be minimal. Detailed assessment of potential health and safety impacts including turbine icing, electromagnetic fields, and health concerns will be included in the *Design and Operations Report* to be included with the REA Application documents.

4.10 Areas Protected under Provincial Plans and Policies

The project study area overlaps a portion of the Oak Ridges Moraine; no project components including turbines, transformers, substations, connection lines and access roads, are planned for any part of the Oak Ridges Moraine. Areas. A full setback assessment will be conducted as part of the environmental work for the project, and all project activities and components will fully comply with the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act*. As such we expect no impacts to any areas protected under provincial plans or policies.

5 CONCLUSION

The Whispering Woods Wind Farm, proposed by Whispering Woods Wind Farm LP, will have a nameplate capacity of up to 10 MW, consisting of up to 5 REpower MM92 wind turbine generators of 2 MW capacity. It will be constructed on privately-owned agricultural lands east of the community of Millbrook in the Township of Cavan-Monaghan (see **Figure 2.1** on p. 10 for the project study area). The Whispering Woods Wind Farm has received a contract under Ontario's Feed-In Tariff programme. Under Ontario's *Green Energy and Green Economy Act*, this wind energy project is subject to the Renewable Energy Approval process per *Ontario Regulation 359/09* under the *Environmental Protection Act*. Environmental studies carried out under the REA process will ensure that Whispering Woods produces clean, emissions-free electricity while minimizing negative environmental effects.

6 APPENDIX A – REFERENCES

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