**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act,* 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by McLean's Mountain Wind LP for an Order granting leave to construct a new transmission line and associated facilities.

MCLEAN'S MOUNTAIN WIND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP RESPONSES TO MCSEA, LSARC, BAYNICHE CONSERVANCY, WIKWEMIKONG ELDERS, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH, AND MANITOULIN NATURE CLUB APRIL 9, 2012 SUPPLEMENTARY INTERROGATORIES

## **DELIVERED APRIL 19, 2012**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

In Procedural Order No.1 in this matter, issued on January 27, 2012, the Board made the following comments (at pages 4-5) with respect to the scope of its jurisdiction in a Leave to Construct Application under Section 92 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, as amended:

# <u>"Scope of the Board's Jurisdiction in a Section 92 Leave to Construct Application</u>

The Board's jurisdiction to consider issues in a section 92 leave to construct case is limited by subsection 96(2) of the OEB Act which states:

- (2) In an application under section 92, the Board shall only consider the following when, under subsection (1), it considers whether the construction, expansion or reinforcement of the electricity transmission line or electricity distribution line, or the making of the interconnection, is in the public interest:
- 1. The interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service.
- 2. Where applicable and in a manner consistent with the policies of the Government of Ontario, the promotion of the use of renewable energy sources. 2009, c. 12, Sched. D, s. 16.

The Board does not have the power to consider any issues other than those identified in subsection 96(2). Parties requesting intervenor status have indicated a broad range of interests in this proceeding. The Board notes that as a general matter, the following issues are not within the scope of a section 92 leave to construct application: environmental issues, any issues relating to the wind farm itself, the Ontario Power Authority's feed in tariff program, and social policy issues. And while the Government's policies in respect of renewable energy form part of the criteria in section 96(2), the Board does not have the power to

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enquire into the appropriateness of that policy. The Board has further held in previous proceedings that it is not empowered to consider issues relating to the Crown's duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples in a section 92 leave to construct application.<sup>1</sup> Parties are reminded that any interrogatories and submissions to the Board must relate to the issues identified in subsection 96(2). Furthermore, the Board will not award costs in this proceeding for time spent on matters which are outside the scope of this proceeding.

The Board does not have the jurisdiction to determine issues related to environmental and social concerns outside of the scope of section 96(2), and it is important to note that the Project is subject to a separate Renewable Energy Approval ("REA") process. Generally speaking, environmental issues are considered in that process, and parties with an interest in these issues are encouraged to participate in the REA process if they have any concerns. Although the Board has no role in the REA process, any approval of the leave to construct application would ordinarily be conditional on all necessary permits and authorizations being acquired, including a completed REA.

1 Yellow Falls Power Limited Partnership, *Decision on Questions of Jurisdiction and Procedural Order 4*, EB-2009-0210, November 18, 2009. See also, Northgate Minerals, *Procedural Order 2*, EB-2010-0150, July 29, 2010."

This explanation and caution from the Board were repeated in Procedural Order No. 2 when the Board granted intervenor status to the Manitoulin Nature Club and NA-PAW. McLean initially received over 80 questions from MCSEA in the first round of MCSEA interrogatories, many of which were irrelevant to this proceeding or beyond its scope. McLean provided responses to those MCSEA questions that appeared to be relevant and within the scope of this proceeding.

McLean then received 108 "questions of clarification" from MCSEA. The Board (in Procedural Order No. 5) determined that these will be considered a second round of interrogatories, and noted that McLean advised the Board that it was prepared to provide responses to clarifications that are relevant and within the scope of the proceeding. Those responses are set out below. Reasons have been provided where McLean's has refused to provide a response to a question. As a general comment, McLean rejects MCSEA's assertion, made in a number of second round MCSEA interrogatories, that certain replies to first round MCSEA questions were not responsive. As noted above, McLean provided responses to those MCSEA questions that appeared to be relevant and within the scope of this proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question #2

#### Preamble:

The question sought details of MMP/NPI partnership including dates for the formation of the partners and their respective roles. The reply was not responsive.

#### Question 2.1

When was MMP/NPI partnership created? Please produce the documents creating the partnership.

## Response:

With respect to this question, please see McLean's response to Question 6 of the original MCSEA interrogatories. The partnership agreement between MMP and NPI was signed in December 2010.

#### Question 2.2

Who were the representatives of the respective parties when the partnership was created?

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 6 of the original MCSEA interrogatories.

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## Question 2.3

Is MMP, Mnidoo Mnising Power Corporation (MMPC), and Mnidoo Mnising Power LP the same company or partner? If not please explain in detail what each entity is relative to the approvals sought in this case.

# Response:

Please see Paragraphs 1-3 of Exhibit B, Tab 1, Schedule 1 of the Application; Section 1.2 of Exhibit B, Tab 2, Schedule 1; and Attachment 1.2.2 to the Application. "MMP" refers to Mnidoo Mnising Power Limited Partnership. The arrangements between MMP and NPI provide for each to have a 50% Limited Partnership Interest in McLean and a 50% shareholder interest in the Applicant's General Partner, McLean's Mountain Wind GP Inc. MMP's general partner is Mnidoo Mnising Power General Partner Inc., and MMP has six First Nations as its limited partners.

#### Question 2.4

Please provide the time of formation of each of MMP, Mnidoo Mnising Power Corporation (MMPC), and Mnidoo Mnising Power LP.

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 6 of the initial MCSEA interrogatories, and McLean's response to Question 2.3 above.

## Question 2.5

The flow chart in Exhibit B Tab 2 Sch. 1 Attachment 1.2.2 on the next unnumbered page shows that NPI is partnered with MMPLP. Please explain.

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 2.3, above.

Please note that McLean has provided a corrected version of the chart referred to in this question as Attachment 1 to these responses, indicating a 50% interest on the part of each of MMP and NPI in McLean's Mountain Wind GP Inc. ("MMWGPI").

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Reference: Response to Question #3

#### Preamble:

The question sought clarification of the overall project investment responsibility for each of the two 50/50 partners. In addition, the question sought clarification as to the implications of a hypothetical collapse in the partnership. The response failed to respond to the element of the question seeking a summary of the investment requirements.

The response clarified that Northland Power will continue with the project irrespective of the participation of MMP, assuming Northland can meet all the requirements of other approvals.

#### Question 3.1:

Can approvals to be granted without a partner in this application or would a new application be required?

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 3 of the initial MCSEA interrogatories.

#### Question 3.2:

Is the partnership dependant upon REA approval?

#### Response:

The Board has confirmed that the REA process is beyond the scope of this proceeding. As the Board has also indicated in Procedural Order No.1, "Although the Board has no role in the REA process, any approval of the leave to construct application would ordinarily be conditional on all necessary permits and authorizations being acquired, including a completed REA."

#### Question 3.3:

The Manitoulin Expositor newspaper article Feb 9, 2011 - UCCM, Northland Partner on McLeans Mtn. wind farm quotes the project cost as \$200 million, including related transmission requirements. Please confirm the overall cost of the project.

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In this same article the 1990 lands claim was used to the MMP's advantage. Was the partnership dependant upon an agreement of this claim. Would NPI been able to proceed solely without accommodating

A news interview at the signing of the partnership announcement in Sudbury quotes John Brace that a 50% return is better than nothing. Was this a forced partnership?

## Response:

The overall project cost and the other matters raised in this question are not relevant to this proceeding.

#### Question 3.4:

Please document MMP's capacity to fund its share of the investment. Is the funding confirmed and what is the source of the funds?

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 3.3, above.

#### Question 3.5:

What are the terms and conditions of the REA and all other approvals that bear on a change in proponency?

#### Response:

Matters related to the REA and other approvals are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question #4

#### Preamble:

The question sought to clarify the role of MMP. The answer focused on MMP's lack of operational role.

## Question 4.1:

Is MMP a joint holder of any of the lands rights acquired?

# Response:

The land rights are held by McLean.

## Question 4.2:

Is MMP only providing financial support for the project? What is MMP's role?

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 4 of the original MCSEA Interrogatories, Attachment 1 to these responses and McLean's response to Question 2.3 above. The arrangements between MMP and NPI provide for each to have a 50% Limited Partnership Interest in McLean and a 50% interest in the Applicant's General Partner, McLean's Mountain Wind GP Inc.

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Reference: Response to Question #5

#### Preamble:

Question #5 sought clarification of the nature of MMP but the answer only referred to the composition of MMP.

#### Question 5.1:

Exhibit B Tab 2 Sch 1, reference 1.3.1 requires a Description of Business of each of the Parties. However, MMP has not been described in this section. Please provide clarification of the nature of MMP.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Questions 4 and 5 of the original MCSEA interrogatories, and to Questions 4.1 and 4.2 above. The Applicant in this proceeding is McLean's Mountain Wind Limited Partnership, and not MMP. The nature of MMP is also described at Exhibit B, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Paragraph 3 of the Application.

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Reference: Response to Question #6:

#### Preamble:

Question #6 asked for the representative of each of the First Nations at the time MMP was created and who represented each First Nation at the time of the signing of the partnership agreement between MMP and NPI. The response indicated that "authorization for the creation of the partnership with Northland by each of the First Nations was given by the signing of Band Council Resolutions." Further, the reply states that "the identities of the individuals who represented each of the Bands at the time is not relevant."

## Question 6.1:

Please provide all of the BCR's referred to in the reply to Question #6. If the information is not included in the respective BCRs, please provide the dates the member partner BCR's were signed.

## Response:

Please see McLean's comment following Question 6.4, below.

#### Question 6.2:

MCSEA is concerned by inconsistencies in public reports about the individuals representing the members of MMP at the time the partnership with NPI was signed. Please verify who the signing partners were.

## Response:

Please see McLean's comment following Question 6.4, below.

#### Question 6.3:

When a signing chief member is not re-elected for the next term, is that community still a member partner?

#### Response:

Please see McLean's comment following Question 6.4, below.

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## Question 6.4:

Would a new partnership agreement required in the above circumstance? If so, what would transpire in this situation?

# Response:

With respect to Questions 6.1 through 6.4 above, the Applicant reiterates its response to Question 6 of the original MCSEA interrogatories. The December 2010 partnership agreement creating the Applicant remains in place.

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Reference: Response to Question #7

#### Preamble:

Question #7 asked for details of the involvement of Whitefish River First Nation in MMP at the time this commitment was made. The reply indicated that, "The Applicant confirms that the term of office for chief and council of the Whitefish River First Nation ended on January 7, 2011 and that the election of a new chief and council did not occur until February 12, 2011." Further, the reply indicates that "Prior to the signing of the McLean partnership in December 2011, a Band Council Resolution was signed by the council of the Whitefish River First Nation which authorized the Chief to commit the Whitefish River Nation to MMP."

#### Question 7.1:

Please confirm that Franklin Paibomsai (Shining Turtle) of the Whitefish River FN signed the MMP partnership agreement with NPI. Please provide date of the partnership agreement between MMP and NPI.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 6 of the original MCSEA interrogatories. Additionally, please note that the reference in McLean's response to Question 7 of the original MCSEA interrogatories to December 2011 as the month in which the McLean partnership agreement was signed is a typographical error. As indicated in McLean's response to Question 6 of the initial MCSEA interrogatories and Question 2.1 above, the partnership agreement between MMP and NPI was signed in December 2010.

## Question 7.2:

There is a discrepancy in the reported dates of the signing of the McLean partnership agreement: December 2010 and December 2011--as indicated in responses to Questions #6 and #7, respectively, as well as February 10th, 2011--as indicated in Northland's own media release and February 8, 2011--as indicated in a "Community Announcement " from MMP. Please verify which of these three dates was the actual date for the signing of the partnership and the reason for this discrepancy.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 7.1, above.

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## Question 7.3:

Regarding the election referenced in the reply from McLean, what was the date the election was called?

# Response:

For the Whitefish River First Nation the date for each election is set at exactly 2 years from the beginning of each term. The previous term began January 8, 2009 and so the date for the next election was set at that time for January 7, 2011.

## Question 7.4:

Please confirm that Franklin Paibomsai (Shining Turtle) of the Whitefish River FN signed the BCR. Please provide the date of that signature?

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Questions 6 and 7 of the original MCSEA interrogatories. Please see also McLean's response to Question 6.4, above.

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# Reference: Response to Question #9:

#### Preamble:

Question #9 addressed the relationship of AOK with MMP. McLean statements in response that "support continues from AOK" and "The REA comment period was not extended an additional 60 days"

These two statements appear to conflict with information in the following newspaper articles.

- 1. Manitoulin Expositor Jan 25, 2012 "AOK requests extension of comment deadline for wind turbines. Chief wants community consultation."
- 2. Manitoulin Expositor Feb 22, 2012 "AOK gets permission from MOE to submit late comments concerning Northland Power Wind Project."

# Question 9.1:

How does McLean explain the contradictions between the statements contained in its reply to Question #9 and the information presented in these two articles?

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 9 of the initial MCSEA interrogatories. The REA process is beyond the scope of this proceeding. However, there is no contradiction. The February 22<sup>nd</sup> article stated:

"On February 7, Chief Corbiere received notification from the MOE Environmental Approvals Branch, reiterating that the 60-day public comment period had ended on January 27, but that aboriginal consultation is very important to the MOE.

'We would be happy to receive any comments, questions or concerns that you have about the project,' responded Kristina Rudzki, senior project evaluation with the MOE Enivonmental Approvals Branch."

The public comment period was not extended. This is consistent with McLean's response to Question 9.

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#### Question 9.2:

Please verify that a meeting by NPI and MMP representatives met with AOK following the publication of the February 22, 2012 article.

## Response:

As confirmed by the Board in Procedural Order No. 1, the Board "is not empowered to consider issues relating to the Crown's duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples in a section 92 leave to construct application." This question is beyond the scope of this proceeding. However, McLean can confirm that NPI and MMP representatives met with AOK, at a meeting that welcomed all registered Band Members, on Feb 27, 2012 to discuss the project.

#### Question 9.3:

Please verify AOK's position in relation to the project right now.

## Response:

Please see McLean's responses to Questions 6 and 9 of the original MCSEA interrogatories and Question 6.4 above. AOK is a limited partner in MMP.

## Question 9.4:

Please verify that the original signing of the partnership between MMP and NPI was done without the knowledge or support of this community.

#### Response:

McLean rejects this assertion. AOK is a limited partner in MMP. McLean's extensive community and stakeholder consultation is addressed at Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 2 of the Application. Additionally, please see McLean's response to Question 11 of the original MCSEA interrogatories.

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# Question 9.5:

Please provide the AOK BCR that supports the project.

# Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 6 of the original MCSEA interrogatories.

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## Reference: Response to Question #11:

#### Preamble:

Question #11 asked for details on the role of UCCMM chiefs in the formation of MMP.

#### Question 11.1:

Please provide all BCR's in support of the MMP partnership.

# Response:

Please see McLean's responses to Questions 6 and 11 of the original MCSEA interrogatories.

#### Question 11.2:

Please provide evidence that community meetings were held in all member communities.

## Response:

Please see McLean's responses to Questions 11 and 14 of the original MCSEA interrogatories.

## Question 11.3:

Does McLean contest the statements in the following two articles claiming that consultations did not take place in the member communities identified below?

Reference Manitoulin Expositor articles;

Feb 9,2011 - UCCM, Northland Partner on McLeans' Mtn. wind farm "Chief Hare noted that "we had discussion at the council level" on the issue of the UCCMM partnership with Northland, while admitting that 'we didn't go to the community," in part because there is already a process in place in which Northland is required to hold public consultations.

Feb 16,2011 - UCCM, Northland deal earns higher rate by 1.5 cents/kwh "Even if we were consulted and accommodated to the fullest extent, I'm sure there would be people who would say no," Chief Endanawas said".

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# Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 9.4, above. McLean's extensive community and stakeholder consultation is addressed at Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 2 of the Application. To the extent that this question relates to the duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples in a Section 92 leave to construct application, it is beyond the scope of the proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question #13

#### Preamble:

Question #13 asked for information on the nature of the land title for the lands proposed to be used by the applicant.

## Question 13.1:

Does McLean recognize that the Provincial land in the North Channel that McLean is proposing to occupy is currently subject to a disputed land claim initiated by the Wikwemikong First Nation?

# Response:

The Applicant stands by its original response to this question and has no additional information to provide.

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Reference: Response to Question #15

#### Preamble:

Question #15 asked for specifics on lands required for easements for the proposed transmission facilities. Specifics were not provided.

## Question 15.1:

MCSEA requests information of what easements are being applied for and their exact location. We are not requesting evidence of ownership.

## Response:

Please see Exhibit G, Tab 1, Schedules 1-3 of the pre-filed evidence for a discussion of Land Matters and the forms of the documentation for affected lands. The only other land required by the project is for Goat Island. A lease agreement is currently under negotiation. Please see Attachment 2 to McLean's responses to Board Staff interrogatories for the proposed routing of the transmission line on Goat Island.

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Reference: Response to Question #16

## Preamble:

Question #16 asked for details on road use agreements.

#### Question 16.1:

Did NEMI council request a sign off from the MOE and MNR in regards to approval of the road users agreement with McLean? Has this been done? If so, please provide documentation.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response following question 16.7.

#### Question 16.2:

Who are the parties to the road use agreement with NEMI?

## Response:

McLean and NEMI are the parties to that agreement.

#### Question 16.3

Is there a road use agreement with UCCMM? Please provide the details.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response following question 16.7.

#### Question 16.4:

Verify that a road use agreement is mandated by the Province. What process would apply should the township or municipality not agree to have a road use agreement?

## Response:

Please see McLean's response following question 16.7.

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#### Question 16.5:

Verify that the NEMI council informed the public that the road user agreement was a requirement of the GEA and should an agreement not been reached then the province would set the road use agreement which may not be in the best interest of the municipality.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response following question 16.7.

## Question 16.6:

Please detail any financial arrangements associated with the road use agreement, including but not limited to the payment amounts, the payment schedule, the term, the payee, associated approvals, assignment rights, and applicable conditions.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response following question 16.7.

#### Question 16.7:

Please detail the setback requirements in the road use agreement for any structures from the fence lines or other ROW boundaries. What is the process in the event that variations are required relative to the requirements of all road use agreements that the project requires?

# Response (Questions 16.1 – 16.7):

The Applicant stands by its original response to Question 16 which directs the reader to Exhibit G, Tab 1, Schedule 3 of the Application. That Schedule includes the form of the Road User Agreement between McLean and The Corporation of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and The Islands. There are no other road use agreements required for this project.

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Reference: Response to Question #17

#### Preamble:

Question #17 asked for details on the locations of poles 72 and 73.

## Question 17.1:

Please confirm that the pole locations 72 and 73 are not consistent with the REA Submission as prefiled.

# Response:

Pole locations 72 and 73 are on Part Lot 21, Con 12 where the overhead line transitions to underground. The REA application anticipated a transition station closer to the water's edge. Please see McLean's response to Question 42 of the original MCSEA Interrogatories for additional information.

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Reference: Response to Question #18

#### Preamble:

Question #18 asked for details about the accommodations required to deal with intersections with 44 kV systems.

#### Question 18.1:

Please confirm the pole heights required for all 44 kV crossings. What process is McLean proposing in the event that the pole heights as reflected in the current application turn out to be inconsistent with the pole heights required?

## Response:

The pole heights required for all 44 kV crossings will be determined through detailed engineering which is to be completed later. Pole heights will be designed in accordance with CSA requirements for 44kv crossings. The crossing structures have not been finalized and the survey of the existing HONI 44kV structures and line has not yet been performed.

The final crossing design of the 115kV transmission line will comply to CSA 22.3 No.1 Table 13 and HONI Overhead Distribution Standards DL6-102, DL6-103 & DL6-107.

## Question 18.2:

Are any other types of materials considered other than wood poles as identified in this application?

## Response:

Steel poles may be utilized if required for free standing structures.

# Question 18.3:

Are wood poles the structure material type identified in this application?

# Response:

Yes.

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Reference: Response to Question #22

## Preamble:

Question #22 requested details on First Nation land, road allowances, and land claim areas in relation to the ROW and distances from conductor swing.

## Question 22.1:

Please provide a more detailed map as previously requested.

# Response:

The Applicant stands by its original response to Question 22 and has no additional information to provide.

#### Question 22.2:

Lot 11 and 12 of Conc 6 are owned by First Nation members and not identified on the map. Please confirm.

## Response:

The Applicant confirms that these lots are owned by First Nation members and are not specifically identified on the map as being owned by First Nation members.

#### Question 22.3:

Please identify Sheguiandah First Nation ceremonial lands in proximity to the proposed facilities.

## Response:

The Applicant stands by its original response to Question 22. The Sheguiandah First Nation is a partner in MMP and is aware of the location of the proposed facility and its proximity to their ceremonial lands, which are over 4 kilometres from the nearest components of the transmission facilities that are the subject of this Application.

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## Question 22.4:

Please identify the areas that the 1990 lands claim was referenced in the Manitoulin Expositor Feb 9, 2011 - UCCM, Northland Partner on McLeans Mtn. wind farm.

# Response:

The Applicant stands by its original response to Question 22 and has no additional information to provide.

#### Question 22.5:

Please confirm whether the possible unsettled shoreline marine allowance land claim for the submarine cable crossing was discussed with your First Nation partner, who the individuals representing the First Nation were and what was the agreement reached in respect to this possible land claim.

## Response:

The Applicant stands by its original response to Question 22 and has no additional information to provide.

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Reference: Response to Question #23

#### Preamble:

Question #23 sought details on the impact of proposed facilities on official OFSC snowmobile trails and notice to snowmobile interests. The response refers to a requirement for a detailed plan.

#### Question 23.1:

Please provide the most current plan referred to in the response, drawn to scale with all required information.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Board Staff Interrogatory #4, which included a copy of the REA Application on CD. The Construction Plan Report which is part of the REA Application provides descriptions of the construction activities of the facilities that are the subject of this Application.

Please see Exhibit E, Tab 1, Schedule 5 for drawings of the overhead transmission infrastructure.

Additional information on this work and the detailed plan will be available prior to construction as required under the Road User Agreement.

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Reference: Response to Question #24

#### Preamble:

Question #24 sought assurances from the applicant that the quality of electricity service to facilities neighbouring the proposed transmission facilities. McLean did not provide assurances that electrical services to existing consumers will not be impacted.

#### Question 24.1:

Please provide detail on the electrical mitigation practices and plans to address any issues that could affect the clean energy currently being supplied.

## Response:

An induction study will be performed during the final transmission line design phase to ensure compliance with all applicable codes and standards.

#### Question 24.2:

Will an underground counterpoise, sky wire or shield wire be installed for the length of the 115 kV circuit as practiced by HONI?

## Response:

Yes. An underground counterpoise, sky wire or shield wire will be installed for the length of the 115 kV circuit as practiced by HONI.

#### Question 24.3:

What is the grounding plan for the proposed transmission system?

## Response:

This will be determined during the detailed design phase.

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## Question 24.4:

Will the proposed transmission facility be bonded to the grounding on the HONI system?

## Response:

Yes. The proposed transmission facility will be bonded to the grounding on the HONI system.

#### Question 24.5:

NPI sought to purchase three feet of land inside the road allowance along lot 3 conc 7. This purchase request was denied by the landowner. There is an existing 45 foot transformer pole at 342 Morphets' Side Road at this lot location. Please explain what measures will be required to abide by the line separation requirements set out in CSA C22.3 in this region of the proposed transmission line.

## Response:

As stated earlier the Applicant will comply with all the requirements of CSA C22.3.

Please confirm that the applicant can meet all its requirements without expropriating any private land. Should the line separation distances not be achievable in accordance with CSA C22.3 with the line routing limited to just the road allowance on Morphet's Side Road, would the use of private land be required?

## Response:

Please see McLean's responses to Question 31 and Question 38 of the original MCSEA interrogatories.

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## Question 24.6:

Will the electricity quality at the transformer station match the system requirements?

# Response:

The Applicant stands by its original responses to MCSEA Questions 24 through 26 and has no additional information to provide.

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Reference: Response to Question #25

#### Preamble:

Question #25 sought details on over-currents and trickle voltage related to the project.

## Question 25.1:

What measures and assurances are provided by the applicant to alleviate these concerns? Will capacitors and over-current protection be installed on the existing LDC or secondary lines? If so, is the upgrade the responsibility of HONI or the applicant?

# Response:

Please see McLean's response to MCSEA Questions 24 and 25. McLean has no additional information to provide.

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Reference: Response to Question #27

#### Preamble:

Question #27 sought details on the land use plans for road allowances. The answer was not responsive.

#### Question 27.1:

There are two criteria for determining road allowances. One is the the township plan. However, where the fences are not on the road allowance boundaries, a measurement can be taken from the centre of both existing fences to the centre of the road and a road width determined from the center of the road. Please identify which method to be used for the line location proposed.

## Response:

The original Township plan is always considered in determining the best available evidence for the location of road allowances laid out in the original survey. There is a hierarchy to be considered in re-establishing corners and boundaries laid out in the original survey. To simplify the following would apply to this situation:

- #1) monuments planted during the course of the original survey in their original positions (and by extension newer monuments that are documented to have replaced original monuments);
- #2) fences erected when the locations of said original monuments were most likely still known;
- #3) measurements from the original survey and field notes.

No original monuments were found as they were all wooden posts planted 140 years ago. In some areas post and/or iron bars were found for which the surveyor has documentation to support the fact that they replaced original posts and were therefore accepted in their locations.

In the absence of posts or bars, the surveyor used fencing to re-establish the original road allowance. While the splitting of fences is an acceptable method in the majority of circumstances, there are times when there is evidence to support that the fence on one side of the road allowance is more reliable than the one across from it due to apparent age; erratic nature of its alignment; etc.

Regardless of the method used to determine the location of the road allowances, the original survey was always a criteria in evaluating the reliability and validity of both fencing and survey monuments.

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Reference: Response to Question #28

## Preamble:

Question #28 sought details on changes to fence lines.

## Question 28.1:

Please identify what fences will be required to be relocated.

# Response:

This will be determined during the detailed design stage.

#### Question 28.2:

In the event that cedar rail fences are to be moved, will cedar rails of equal or greater quality be replaced by the applicant?

## Response:

Yes. Should cedar rails need to be replaced as a result of the fence being moved or damaged the Applicant will replace these with cedar rails of equal or greater quality.

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Reference: Response to Question #31

#### Preamble:

Question #31 asked for details on proposed ROW and line clearances. The answer provided assumes that all facilities will be located on existing municipal ROWs.

#### Question 31.1:

Please confirm that no lines, poles, anchoring, guying, or other encroachments be located outside the existing municipal ROW.

## Response:

The Applicant confirms that where it is using the municipal ROW for the transmission line that it has no plans for lines, poles, anchoring, guying, or other encroachments outside of the municipal ROW. During the detailed design phase the Applicant is willing to consider alternate designs should additional private lands be made available that improve the design of the transmission line.

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Reference: Response to Question #32

#### Preamble:

Question #32 addresses the applicant's land use plans for Morphet's Side Road, particularly the planned use of the populated north side, as opposed to the unpopulated south side.

#### Question 32.1:

The existing fence lines are very close to the ROW boundaries. Please provide a detailed map showing any deviation as claimed.

## Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 28.1, above.

#### Question 32.2:

What are the guying and anchoring requirements for switching sides of the road? If guying and anchoring is required, please provide drawings showing the guying and anchoring including the land requirements.

## Response:

This will be determined during the detailed design stage. Please also see the Applicant's response to Question 31.1.

#### Question 32.3:

The map provided in attachment 1 of Tab 1 (the Board Staff responses) shows the transmission line on the south side of Morphet's side road and two deviation angles on lot 7 conc. 6 to line up with the road allowance. This is not consistent with the line routing described in overhead line site plan and plan and profile drawings. Please explain.

## Response:

Any inconsistencies will be addressed and reconciled during the detailed design stage. The map provided as Attachment 1 to the Applicant's responses to Board Staff interrogatories is correct.

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**Question 32.4:** [This was numbered as a second Question 32.3 in the MCSEA document, and McLean has renumbered it as 32.4 to avoid confusion.]

In attachment 1 there is a vacant lot east beside the construction staging area that fits the description of a receptor. Please explain why the 550 noise receptor setback is not identified at this location. Please identify all vacant lot receptor locations as per attachment 1 and include 550m noise receptor setback.

# Response:

This question is beyond the scope of this proceeding, and McLean will not respond to it.

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Reference: Response to Question #36

#### Preamble:

Question #36 addressed alternative transmission routes. The response makes various claims, including the claim that the proposed route only crosses the existing 44 kV system once.

#### Question 36.1:

Please verify in your statement that the proposed route only crosses a 44 kV system once.

## Response:

In its original response to this question the Applicant mistakenly indicated that the proposed route crosses the 44 kV lines once. In fact the proposed route crosses the 44 kV lines 3 times.

#### Question 36.2:

Please provide drawings on all alternative routes considered by the applicant or proposed by the public. Include all roadways, receptors, and existing rural and sub-transmission circuits.

## Response:

Drawings of alternative routes cannot be prepared within a short time with reasonable effort. It is the route proposed by McLean that is before the Board, and the alternatives raised by MCSEA are not relevant. The alternative route was discussed in response to MCSEA Question 36, as requested in that question. The request for drawings is not a clarification of Question 36 or McLean's response thereto, and McLean will not prepare them.

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Reference: Response to Question #38

#### Preamble:

Question #38 asked for the applicant's plans with respect to expropriation.

#### Question 38.1:

Does McLean agree that lands will be required where no current lease arrangements have been made?

#### Response:

This question essentially repeats Question 38, which has already been responded to by McLean. Please see McLean's response to MCSEA Question 38.

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Reference: Response to Question #39

#### Preamble:

Question #39 related to the route of the submarine section of the proposed facility. The reply indicates that negotiations between CP and McLean are continuing.

#### Question 39.1:

What is the expected date of MNR approval for the submarine component?

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Board Staff Interrogatory #5. The subject matter of this question, namely matters related to other approvals, is beyond the scope of this proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question #40

#### Preamble:

Question #40 addressed the implications of changing the submarine route.

#### Question 40.1:

Have the MOE, MNR, and Transport Canada been informed of a change in route and submarine cable exit points?

#### Response:

The subject matter of this question, namely matters related to other approvals, is beyond the scope of this proceeding, and McLean will not respond to it.

#### Question 40.2:

Who determines whether additional public comment is warranted or not?

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 40.1 above.

#### Question 40.3:

What changes would be required to warrant additional public comment?

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Question 40.1 above.

#### Question 40.4:

In the event that OEB approval is received but the route is subsequently changed, what is the applicant's position on the applicability of the original approval? Who determines whether resubmission is required or not?

#### Response:

The route being proposed for approval is as set out in the Application subject to

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the revisions shown in the Applicant's responses to Board Staff interrogatories. The Applicant is not prepared to speculate on the implications of a change in the route subsequent to Board approval.

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Reference: Response to Question #41

#### Preamble:

The Board noted in PO #1 that "any approval of the leave to construct application would ordinarily be conditional on all necessary permits and authorizations being acquired, including a completed REA."

#### Question 41.1:

Please indicate when each of the required approvals relevant to this leave to construct application are expected to be received?

#### Response:

Please see McLean's response to Board Staff Interrogatory #5.

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Reference: Response to Question #43

#### Preamble:

Question #43 asked for a resolution of inconsistencies in various drawings purporting to show transition station location on the Manitoulin side of the submarine cable route. One of the maps prefiled confused the transition station for a substation.

#### Question 43.1:

Please clarify the purpose and location of the facilities presented in E/Tab1/Sch.3 Drawing #Q1010E201 revision D.

#### Response:

This is the layout of the Connection/Switching Station to be located on Goat Island.

#### Question 43.2:

Please provide an updated general plan from Exhibit E, tab one Sch,4 that does not show a substation at the submarine cable entry point.

#### Response:

This drawing will be updated later as part of the detailed engineering phase.

#### Question 43.3:

Please verify that no changes in routing were done at the Harbour View Road since the application submission.

#### Response:

The route of the transmission line along Harbour View Road and across the shore road allowance has not changed since the submission of this Application.

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Reference: Response to Question #44

#### Preamble:

Question #44 related to routing on Harbour View Road approaching the water's edge.

#### Question 44.1:

There are private structures built in and along the Harbour View road allowance. Will these be required to be moved or demolished?

#### Response:

Questions 44.1 through 44.4 are not requests for clarification of the Applicant's response to Question 44. That question was as follows:

Is the Transition Station location on the NEMI TWP road allowance? MM01 shows buried cable entering substation station along shore line. Is this a correct depiction? Where does this cable originate from?

The Applicant provided a complete response to Question 44. Questions 44.1 through 44.4 appear instead to be new questions relating to the possibility of structures in the road allowance.

The Applicant is aware of a cottage structure located within the road allowance near the water's edge. It is not the Applicant's intention to have the structure moved or demolished. The final location of the line in the road allowance in the area of the cottage will be dealt with in the detailed design phase.

#### Question 44.2:

Please provide updated detailed mapping showing all structures (including dwellings), road allowance boundaries and the transition station in relation to the proposed route along this road allowance.

#### Response:

As noted above, this is not a question of clarification. Please see the Applicant's response to Question 44.1, above. Mapping showing structures will be prepared as part of the detailed design phase.

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#### Question 44.3:

Should the route proposed on the record of this proceeding not be acceptable due to private structures, is there an alternate route available? If so what easements would be required for the alternative?

#### Response:

The Applicant does not anticipate requiring an alternative route.

#### Question 44.4:

Should the route be in the road allowance, what are the distances to the existing structures?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to Question 44.2.

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Reference: Response to Question #45

#### Preamble:

Our original Question #45 contained an error by referring to a substation (following the exhibit E/Tab1/Sch4) when we intended to refer to a transition station.

#### Question 45.1:

Please provide the characteristics of the fenced off transition station including land rights, noise studies, fence height, dimensions and location of this station in relation to Harbour View Road, road allowance.

#### Response:

Please see drawing Q1010E301 in Exhibit E, Tab 1, Schedule 3 for a plan view of the transition station which includes dimensions. The station is located adjacent to the Harbour View Road Allowance on Part Lot 21, Concession 12. The Applicant will own the land for this facility. With respect to noise studies, please see the Applicant's response to MCSEA Question 34. The facility will be fenced, but the height will be determined at the detailed design phase.

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Reference: Response to Question #46

#### Preamble:

In the application no ballast system was to be used for the submarine cable crossing. In the response to interrogatories there is a ballast system now planned.

#### Question 46.1:

Please confirm the ballasting plan.

#### Response:

The Applicant's original response to Board Staff Interrogatory No.8 was incorrect. No ballasting system is required.

#### Question 46.2:

When was this decision made to use a ballast system?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to Question 46.1 above.

#### Question 46.3:

What type of ballast system will be used to anchor the submarine cable?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to Question 46.1 above.

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Reference: Response to Question #47

#### Preamble:

Question #47 related to the submarine section of the facilities.

#### Question 47.1:

What is the height of the ballast system?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to Question 46.1 above.

#### Question 47.2:

Please verify the ownership and purpose of the two existing submarine cables referred to in McLean's response.

#### Response:

The Applicant understands that there are two submarine communication cables. The first immediately to the south east of the swing bring and the other crosses from a point of land near Boyle's Marina to Goat Island, west of the bridge. The ownership of these lines is irrelevant to the subject matter of this proceeding.

#### Question 47.3:

Please verify that the two existing submarine cables referenced cross the north channel at or very near the bridge.

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to Question 47.2, above.

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Reference: Response to Question #57

#### Preamble:

Question #57 asked for details on various issues including a "detailed map of the 115 kV line leaving Harbour view road including property lines, road allowance, transition substation, marine allowances, sub cable route and entry point to North Channel." The applicant's reply was not responsive.

#### Question 57.1:

Please provide a detailed map (without identifying the specifics of land ownership) showing transition station location in relation to the overhead line and complete submarine cable route from the transition station to submarine cable entry point including property lines, road allowance, and existing structures in close proximity.

#### Response:

The Applicant's answer to Question #57 was fully responsive.

The Applicant stands by its original response to this question and has no additional information to provide.

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Reference: Response to Question # 60

#### Preamble:

Question #60 sought an updated project development plan. The reply provided an updated Gantt chart.

#### Question 60.1:

Please identify where the REA, OEB and all other approvals are located on the applicant's current Gantt chart plan.

#### Response:

Question 60 did not seek an updated project development plan. It specifically requested "a detailed breakdown of proposed construction schedule in Exhibit F". That was provided in the modified Gantt Chart included as Attachment 1 to the Applicant's responses to the MCSEA interrogatories. Please see the Applicant's response to Board Staff Interrogatory #5 for an updated list of required permits and their status.

#### Question 60.2:

Please explain the significance of the "limited notice to proceed" and "notice to proceed" shown on the chart, including the type of work that is enabled by each notice.

#### Response:

Limited notice to proceed and notice to proceed are internal milestones the Applicant uses for planning purposes. The specifics of each are beyond the scope of this Application and the Applicant will not provide additional details.

#### Question 60.3:

As per the revised Gantt chart, what work was completed on LNTP #1 and LNTP #2 and who authorized this?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to Question 60.2, above.

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Reference: Response to Question # 61

#### Preamble:

Question #61 sought an explanation for the applicant's timing in filing the current leave to construct application.

#### Question 6.1:

Do the applicant's current FIT contracts for MMWF have an expiry date or date that requires a project to be commenced by? If so, please provide details on the contractual implications should the FIT projects now under contract for MMWF be delayed.

#### Response:

The Applicant stands by its original response to this question and has no additional information to provide. The FIT contracts for MMWF pertain to the Wind Farm and are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question # 66

#### Preamble:

Question #66 sought information on the reliability implication for consumers reliant on Hydro One's 115 kV circuit S2B connecting at Goat Island.

#### Question 66.1:

In the event of a transmission line failure or variable wind conditions, when the project is producing generation, will the HONI system not require to have backup reserve readily available? How will this be controlled?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response following Question 66.11, below.

#### Question 66.2:

What protection systems are in place should the S2B go offline?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response following Question 66.11, below.

#### Question 66.3:

How quickly can dropped load from this project be compensated to manage voltage issues to Manitoulin T.S. customers in close proximity and those distant where line regulators have slower response times?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response following Question 66.11, below.

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#### Question 66.4:

Regulators and relays take some time to compensate. What is an acceptable voltage drop and how quickly can it be compensated for?

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response following Question 66.11, below.

#### Question 66.5:

Have all the requirements of the SIA Notification of conditional Approval been met? Please identify any requirements outstanding.

#### Response:

Matters related to other approvals are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

#### Question 66.6:

Please correct SIA Addendum Figure 1: Proposed Connection Arrangement drawing on page 8. The location directions of Espanola TS and Manitoulin TS in relation to the proposed station seem reversed.

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response following Question 66.11, below.

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#### Question 66.7:

In the SIA Addendum under Revision R4. Hydro One Protection Impact Assessment. The Executive summary states it is feasible for Maclean's Mountain Windfarm to connect the proposed 60 MW generation at the location in Figure 1 as long as the proposed changes have been made. Have the proposed changes been made? If not when is the date of changes expected?

#### Response:

The Applicant will enter into a Capital Cost Recovery Agreement (CCRA) with Hydro One at a later date but prior to construction of the facility. The CCRA will address all items required of the Applicant as a result of the SIA and also the schedule of when this work will be performed.

#### Question 66.8:

Revision R4; Telecommunications, when is the expected date of new communications between McLean's Mountain Windfarm and Martindale TS?

#### Response:

Questions related to the Wind Farm are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

#### Question 66.9:

According to the SIA Revision R4, when S2B is supplied from Algoma TS, the McLean's Mountain Windfarm will need to be taken offline. In the last 5 years, what fraction of the time has S2B been fed from Algoma?

#### Response:

Questions related to the Wind Farm are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

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#### Question 66.10:

Will McLean be financially compensated for bottled generation at McLean's Mountain Windfarm during these events in future?

#### Response:

Questions related to the Wind Farm are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

#### **Question 66.11:**

What is the future projected supply source from Algoma TS to the S2B?

#### **Response (Questions 66.1 – 66.11):**

The Applicant stands by its original response to this question and has no additional information to provide. The questions set out above are not requests for clarification of the Applicant's response to Question 66. That question dealt with setbacks of wind generators from the proposed transmission line, and how "ice throw, blade failure to turbine collapse [would] be addressed in relation to transmission line impacts". The Applicant provided a complete response to Question 66. In addition, to the extent that these questions pertain to the Wind Farm and/or other approvals, they are beyond the scope of this proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question # 68

#### Preamble:

Question #68 addressed a public presentation made by a representative of Northland Power to the North Eastern Manitoulin and the Islands council. The applicant responded that it "did not provide slides at the August 4, 2009 meeting."

#### Question 68.1:

Please confirm that NPI representative John Brace distributed presentation materials to NEMI council and the public on August 4, 2009. Please provide a copy of these presentation materials.

#### Response:

The Applicant has reviewed its records and has located presentation materials used during the August 4, 2009 meeting. A copy of those materials accompanies this response as Attachment 2. However, they are not relevant to this proceeding. To the extent that they relate to a wind farm, they are beyond the scope of this proceeding. To the extent that they relate to transmission lines, there is nothing in them that has not been addressed in the prefiled evidence in this proceeding.

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Reference: Response to Question #70

#### Preamble:

Question #70 sought surveying reports on the proposed facilities.

#### Question 70.1:

Please provide any existing survey reports in relation to this proposed transmission line.

#### Response:

Question 70 did not request surveying reports on the proposed facilities. However, the Applicant stands by its original response to this question and has no additional information to provide.

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#### Tab 4

Reference: Response to Supplementary Question #9

#### Question 9.1:

Compass directions are incorrect in response. Please correct.

#### Response:

The Applicant sees no mistakes in the compass directions. For additional clarity please see Exhibit D, Tab 2, Schedule 2 which clearly shows the route.

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#### Reference: Response to Supplementary Question # 13

#### Question 13.1:

The landowners for lot 3 concession 7 objects to the removal of any trees including cedar, pear, apple and other fruit bearing trees as they provide the buffer between the road and house location. Please explain why the transmission line cannot be extended further east on the south side of Morphet's sideroad where no other residences are and cross the road east of this lot.

#### Response:

The exact location of the transmission line on Morphet Side road will be determined during the final detailed engineering phase.

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Reference: Response to Supplementary Question # 14

#### Question 14.1:

Please provide all Aboriginal and non Aboriginal consultation after July 24, 2010 including EBR postings and public notices.

#### Response:

Please see the Applicant's response to MCSEA's original Supplementary Question 14. As noted in that response, McLean held its final Public Information Centre, which included details on the transmission facilities that are the subject of this Application, on May 18, 2011. The REA material on the CD provided in response to Board Staff Interrogatory No. 4(2) includes copies of material provided to the public after July 2010 and into September 2011.

Additionally, McLean published regular columns in the Manitoulin Expositor (titled "Manitoulin Wind News") to inform the public, including First Nations, on matters related to the project. Those columns, which ran weekly from December 2010 into late 2011 and have continued on a less frequent basis into 2012, invited the public to contact the Applicant to discuss matters of interest and/or concern. Copies of the columns published between December 2010 and September 2011 can be found in the REA documentation provided on the CD, at Appendix E to the Consultation Report.

Please see also McLean's response to Question 9.2, above.

#### Question 14.2:

Please provide the distance poles 72 and 73 are off the road allowance.

#### Response:

Pole 72 is approximately 7.5m from the road allowance. Pole 73 is approximately 11m from the road allowance.

McLean's Mountain Wind Limited Partnership

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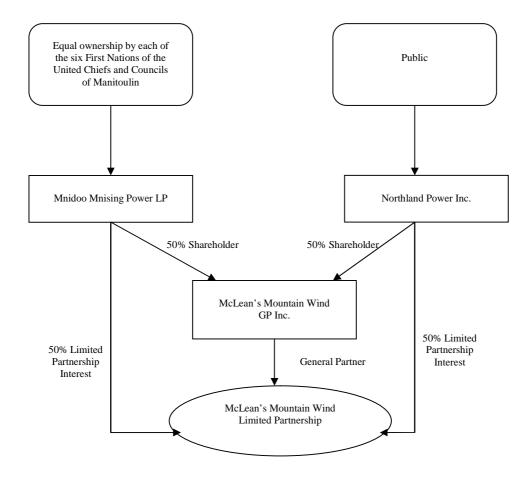
Attachment 1

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# ATTACHMENT 1 TO MCLEAN'S MOUNTAIN WIND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP RESPONSES TO MCSEA, LSARC, BAYNICHE CONSERVANCY, WIKWEMIKONG ELDERS, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH, AND MANITOULIN NATURE CLUB APRIL 9, 2012 SUPPLEMENTARY

**REFERENCE: QUESTION 2.5** 

**INTERROGATORIES** 



McLean's Mountain Wind Limited Partnership Responses to MCSEA, LSARC, Bayniche Conservancy, Wikwemikong Elders, Community and Youth, and Manitoulin

Nature Club April 9, 2012 Supplementary Interrogatories Attachment 2

Attachment 2 Delivered: April 19, 2012

# ATTACHMENT 2 TO MCLEAN'S MOUNTAIN WIND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP RESPONSES TO MCSEA, LSARC, BAYNICHE CONSERVANCY, WIKWEMIKONG ELDERS, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH, AND MANITOULIN NATURE CLUB APRIL 9, 2012 SUPPLEMENTARY INTERROGATORIES

**REFERENCE: QUESTION 14.1** 

# Northland Power Speaks Up

Presentation to NEMI Council

August 4, 2009

McLean's Mountain Wind Farm

# Northland Power

- A developer, owner and operator of green and clean power generation
- In business since 1987
- Operating power plants:
  - Cochrane, Ontario biomass, natural gas
  - Kirkland Lake, Ontario biomass, natural gas
  - Iroquois Falls, Ontario cogeneration, natural gas
  - Kingston, Ontario cogeneration, natural gas
  - Murdochville, Quebec wind
  - Brandywine, Washington cogeneration, natural gas
  - Eckolstadt, Germany wind
  - Kavelstorf, Germany wind
- Power plants under construction:
  - Thorold, Ontario cogeneration, natural gas, landfill gas
  - St. Ulric/St. Leandre, Quebec wind
- Power projects under development
  - Natural gas, wind, solar, water power

# Northland Power

- Is a good corporate and community citizen, e.g.
  - Free heat to the Cochrane community centre (pool, ice rink, meeting areas)
  - Major contributor to the Polar Bear refuge
  - Kirkland Lake hockey hall of fame
  - Local sports teams
  - Local charities
  - Community funds
  - Tourism support

# Manitoulin Project Background

- The province of Ontario has recognized that there needs to be a major increase in the amount of green power generation
- Green power will replace coal generation and reduce acid rain and greenhouse gas production
- Green power allows Ontario to help solve global warming
- Wind power is an important component of the suite of green power technologies; the others being solar, biomass and waterpower
- Wind farms need to be installed in windy areas
- 8 years ago Northland began to look for suitable locations in Ontario and started to negotiate land leases and collect wind measurement data. Many of the land leases have been in place for 7-8 years
- The government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Energy and through the Ontario Power Authority has run a number of process for the procurement of power from new wind projects – Northland has participated or prepared for participation in all of them

# Manitoulin Project Background (continued)

- Manitoulin Island is one of the best spots in Ontario for wind power
- Northland is following the provincial government process for the permitting of a wind farm. It entails:
  - Determination of Category under Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (Category B)
  - Preparation of Environmental Screening Report
  - Release of Report to the public for 30 day review and comment
  - Depending on results of the screening studies and public comment, elevation to an individual Environmental Assessment may occur
- A number of accusations have been made against Northland Power and the McLean Mountain project
- We will address each one in turn

# Community Benefits

# Accusation

 Northland Power is an unethical business that will not return financial benefits to the community and Northland should be charged a higher tax since it is destroying scenery. Northland will be stealing Manitoulin's wind resource and returning nothing

- The wind does not belong to anyone
- Northland will be bringing substantial benefits to the community
- Hundreds of direct construction jobs and 9-10 direct long term operations and maintenance jobs
- Land taxes are transparent and are determined by the provincial government. They will total over \$2,000,000
- Payments to local landowners will total over \$7,500,000
- Local labour, goods and services during construction and operations will total over \$15,000,000

# Noise

### Accusation

Wind turbines are noisy

- Wind turbines are not noisy
- The provincial government sets strict noise limits for all types of human activities, including wind turbines
- Noise limits at "receptors" (residences) are generally equal to or less than the background noise that already exists
- For wind turbines a limit of 40 dB applies 40 dB is very quiet
- McLean's Mountain Wind Farm
  - Noise at receptors is substantially less than 40 dB
  - All turbines are at least 550 m away from residences
  - 37 of the 43 turbines are at least 700 m from residences
  - The average distance to residences is 1,200 m

# Noise (continued)

### Accusation

 Northland wants to destroy properties and people will not be able to build on their vacant properties after the wind farm is built because they will be too close to the turbines

- The setbacks and noise limits established by the Ministry of Environment are used to determine where wind turbines can be built in relation to existing residences so as to not change noise
- The Ministry of Environment has confirmed that property owners are not prevented from building closer to the turbines once they have been erected – they would have imposed restrictions if there were a health hazard issue
- Studies on wind farms have shown that property values in their vicinity have increased faster than in comparable areas

# **Power Lines**

### Accusation

- Northland has no right to use Morphets Sideroad to locate a section of the power line used to transmit the electricity generated into the provincial grid
- The transmission line will use huge ugly towers

- The Ontario Electricity Act clearly establishes the right for electricity generators to use municipal rights of way to transmit/distribute their power
- Northland has offered to evaluate and use alternative routes for the power line that are technically and financially feasible and is continuing to try to find such alternatives (to date project opponents have proposed alternative routes that are uneconomic and come with strings attached)
- The power line will be of single wooden pole style

# **Project Size**

### Accusation

 Northland has all of a sudden tried to build a huge wind farm when it used to be small project

- The McLean Mountain Wind Farm has been developed at different sizes over the years as government wind power procurement programs have changed
  - 2004 54 MW 30 turbines at 1.8MW each
  - 2005 100 MW 60 turbines at 1.65 MW each
  - 2007 36 MW 4 projects for 36 MW, 24 turbines at 1.5 MW each
  - 2009 77 MW 43 turbines at 1.8 MW each
- It has never been a 3 7 turbine project as asserted by some

# Community Involvement

### Accusation

Northland has never communicated with the public before now

- Northland has held official open houses in 2004, 2005 and 2009.
   The time and location of the meetings were advertised and open to all who wished to come. Proposed turbine layouts were presented and information on bird and other environmental matters were presented
- Northland has presented to NEMI council in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2009

# Lighting

# Accusation

Northland will light up the night sky with lights on the turbines

- The lighting of some turbines is mandated by the Transport Canada and Navigation Canada
- Some turbines around the perimeter of the wind farm and the highest turbine are to have one blinking light on top
- It is expected that about 15 turbines will have to be lit and that most people will be able to see, at most, a few

# De-Commissioning

### Accusation

 At the end of the project Northland will leave turbines and power lines all over the countryside to rust away

- Over 90% of the project is on private land
- The leases with the landowners establish strict rules by which de-commissioning and dismantlement are covered

# Harmful Chemicals

# Accusation

 Northland will release harmful chemicals into the environment by spraying to control vegetation growth under power lines

### Facts

Spraying will not be used for vegetation control

# Bankruptcy

### Accusation

 If the project or Northland goes bankrupt Manitoulin will be left with a wind farm that will rust away

- Before the project is built, the project's bankers undertake detailed and exhaustive due diligence to assure themselves that it will be financially viable over the short, medium and long term
- Even if the project or Northland goes bankrupt, the wind farm is a valuable asset that someone will obtain and continue to run

# Important Issues

# Accusation

 A recent petition asserts that Northland is ignoring important environmental, human health, visual impacts and aesthetics

- The permitting process is meant to capture and evaluate all important issues from a scientific and public point of view
- The Environmental Screening Report ("ESR") publishes the results of wide-ranging studies. The level of work done was actually consistent with the more comprehensive Environmental Review requirements:
  - Air quality and noise; surface and groundwater; land uses; human and ecological health; vegetation; wildlife and birds; soils; social and economic conditions; natural and cultural conditions; visual
- If citizens feel that important issues were not addressed or if measures proposed by Northland are inadequate they can make their views known to the Ministry of Environment

# Summary

- Unfounded accusations are being made about the McLean's Mountain project and about Northland
- We have encouraged and continue to encourage concerned citizens to review the ESR and to contact us and/or the Ministry of Environment with issues so that they may be discussed and addressed in a cooperative manner

# McLean's Mountain Project

# Northland Power

Contact Rick Martin 1-705-271-5358

website: www.northlandpower.ca