

204 High Street, Box 1492 Southampton, Ontario N0H 2C0

Telephone: (519) 483-4000

Fax: (519) 483-4002

Email: <u>nicole.geneau@nexteraenergy.com</u>

Email: klui@mccarthy.ca

January 18, 2013

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
27th Floor, 2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

RE: Board File No. EB-2012-0442 Application by Varna Wind Inc. for Leave to Construct Withdrawal of Request for Intervention Letter of Comment of the Historic Saugeen Métis

Pursuant to our letter of January 3, 2013 requesting intervenor status, we hereby withdraw our request for intervenor status.

The Historic Saugeen Métis would like to submit to the Board Members this letter of comment.

Comments of the Historic Saugeen Métis

The Historic Saugeen Métis have had an opportunity to consider the notice of application by Varna Wind Inc. (hereinafter "NextEra") for the above-noted proceeding.

We would like to bring to the attention of the Board Members that the Historic Saugeen Métis have <u>not</u> been adequately consulted by NextEra nor by the Crown with respect to the proposed transmission line and facilities.

Our community has spent an inordinate amount of time and resources engaging in discussions with NextEra on receiving capacity funding so that the community can learn about the project and its potential impacts. There has not been any discussion to date on the potential impacts of the transmission line and related facilities on our constitutionally-protected Aboriginal rights and interests.

We understand that the Board has taken the view that issues relating to adequacy of consultation are more appropriately addressed in the REA process and as such, we will raise those issues in that forum.

In the meantime, we seek the Board's assistance in ensuring that the Crown's duty to consult will be discharged appropriately and the honour of the Crown upheld. We would request that if the Board decides to approve NextEra's leave to construct application, any such approval be conditional on NextEra obtaining all the necessary approvals and permits, including a REA approval, and any other conditions the Board deems appropriate for ensuring that consultation will be engaged in a meaningful and good faith manner by NextEra.

Should any of the Board Members have any questions with respect to our comments above or would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The Historic Saugeen Métis can be reached at:

204 High Street Box 1492 Southampton, ON N0H 2L0

Attention: Archie Indoe, President

Telephone: 519.483.4000

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Email: saugeenmetisadmin@bmts.com

Yours very truly,

Archie Indoe, President

Cc: Nicole Geneau (Via Email)

NextEra Canada, ULC 390 Bay Street, Suite 1720

Toronto, ON M5H 2Y2 nicole.geneau@nexteraenergy.com

Kerri Lui (Via Email) McCarthy Tetrault LLP Toronto Dominion Bank Tower 66 Wellington St. W. Toronto, ON M5K 1E6 klui@mccarthy.ca