

## **MUNICIPALITY OF HURON EAST**

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January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary, Ontario Energy Board, Box 2319, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2300 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

## RE: Varna Wind Inc. CB-2012-0442

By letter dated January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 I indicated that the Municipality of Huron East would provide written comments and based on the existing status of the application, did not anticipate the need to present oral submissions, although if the process was elevated to an oral hearing, the Municipality may wish to make a presentation.

The interests of the Municipality of Huron East are with respect to the location of the transmission line within two road allowances (Centennial Road and Hensall Road) and specifically the compatibility with existing Hydro One distribution lines in the same road allowances.

Staff from NextEra Energy, in consultation with Huron East staff, have identified areas whereby the relocation and/or burying of Hydro One distribution lines (at the expense of NextEra Energy) would allow a less intrusive installation by NextEra. The Municipality is working closely with NextEra Energy to mitigate damages to existing trees and to improve setbacks from several residences.

It is my understanding that NextEra Energy had a meeting with Hydro One officials this past week and both parties are currently reviewing site specific locations. At this point, it is difficult for the Municipality of Huron East to finalize comments. The Municipality of Huron East is encouraged by recent discussions between the two companies and believes it is in the best interests of all parties to seek agreement on the issues without affecting pricing to consumers or affecting the reliability of existing Hydro One Services.

As negotiations between NextEra Energy and Hydro One will ultimately affect the final position of the Municipality of Huron East, I will endeavour to keep your office advised as negotiations progress.

Yours truly,

\_\_\_\_\_ Brad Knight,

Brad Knight CAO/Clerk.

BK:ja

cc. <u>nicole.geneau@nexteraenergy.com</u> File: NextEra(1338-20) – Leave to Construct