Barristers and Solicitors

Aird & Berlis LLP

Scott Stoll Direct: (416)865.4703 E-mail: sstoll@airdberlis.com

October 18, 2013

BY COURIER, EMAIL AND RESS

Our File: 111106

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

Dear Ms. Walli:

# Re: Dufferin Wind Power Inc. Stay Motion

Please find attached a Notice of Motion for stay in these proceedings pending the determination of the Divisional Court and the Environmental Review Tribunal appeals related to the Leave to Construct Application in EB-2012-0365 and the Dufferin Power Wind Project respectively.

We would request the opportunity to make formal submissions regarding cost eligibility as the County of Dufferin (the "County") is being directly impacted by the request to expropriate more than 30km of its nature trail. The County submits the Board has the discretion pursuant to section 3.07 of the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. The County would note that the lands under consideration are not a road allowance but rather are a public trail. As such, the County feels there are special circumstances that should be considered in the present case.

Yours truly,

AIRD & BERLIS LLP

Sen Stall

Scott Stoll

SAS/hm

Encl.

October 18, 2013 Page 2

cc: Sonya Pritchard, County of Dufferin Jeff Hammond, Dufferin Wind Power Inc. Jonathan Myers, Torys LLP Crawford Smith, Torys LLP

15597587.1

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**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15, (Sched. B) as amended (the "Act");

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by Dufferin Wind Power Inc. ("**DWPI**") for an Order pursuant to section 99(5) of the Act granting authority to expropriate land for the purposes of constructing, operating and maintaining transmission and distribution facilities that will connect DWPI's planned Dufferin Wind Farm to the IESO-controlled grid.

# NOTICE OF MOTION

# THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF DUFFERIN

#### Introduction

1. Pursuant to the Ontario Energy Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (the "Rules"), the Corporation of the County of Dufferin (the "County") will make a motion to the Board for the matter described herein on a date and at a time to be determined by the Board at the Board's office located at 2300 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario. The County requests this order be heard in writing.

### **Relief Sought**

- 2. THIS MOTION IS FOR an interim order(s):
  - a. Setting a procedure for this Motion;
  - b. Granting a stay of the Application pending a final determination of:
    - i. The Divisional Court appeal of the Board's decision granting leave to construct in EB-2012-0365; and
    - ii. The Environmental Review Tribunal's ("**ERT**") decision in the six appeals of the Dufferin Wind Power Inc. project which includes the transmission line, known as *Bovaird v. Director, Ministry of the Environment*, case nos. 13-070-13-075.
  - c. Such other relief as this Board determines is reasonable.

- 3. The County is bringing this motion because of the multiple proceedings that are currently underway that may impact the proposed transmission line and thereby the rights required for its construction.
- 4. The County understands the local group, Conserve Our Rural Environment ("CORE") has filed an appeal in Divisional Court challenging the Board's decision granting leave to construct. If the appeal is successful, the Board's Decision granting leave to construct could be overturned and/or subject to review and rehearing. A copy of the Notice of Appeal may be found at **Tab 1**. CORE is also in intervenor in this Application.
- 5. Six parties appealed to the ERT the issuance of a Renewable Energy Approval to DWPI.
- 6. DWPI is currently engaged in the appeal hearing with the ERT wherein six appellants (individuals and groups) have challenged the environmental aspects of the proposed wind project including the transmission line. The Ministry of the Environment and the ERT have jurisdiction over the transmission line in respect of the environmental aspects of that line. A copy of the six Notices of Appeal with the ERT may be found at **Tab 2**.
- 7. Some appellants are requesting that the project be discontinued. If successful, that decision would eliminate the need for a transmission line and therefore the easement.
- 8. Further, the County understands that there have been requests that the ERT order the transmission line to be installed underground. If DWPI is required to install the transmission line underground by the ERT, either DWPI would require a variance to the Board's Decision in EB-2012-0365 or would not construct the transmission line. Such a change would impact the construction methods and access rights necessary to install, operate, maintain and decommission the transmission line.
- 9. Given the various proceedings which are currently underway, the County submits the Board should grant a temporary stay in this matter until the other proceedings have been finally determined.

#### MATERIALS

10. The County seeks to rely upon the following materials:

- a. The record from EB-2012-0365;
- b. The pleadings from the Divisional Court Appeal;
- c. The pleadings from the Environmental Review Tribunal; and
- d. Such other materials as this Board may permit.

# ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

# The Corporation of the County of Dufferin

By its Counsel

Scott Stoll & Piper Morley

TO: Torys LLP Suite 3000 79 Wellington St. W. Box 270, TD Centre Toronto, ON M5K 1N2

> Attention: Mr. Jonathan Myers Tel: 416-865-7532 Fax: 416-865-7380 Email: jmyers@torys.com

> > and

Mr. Crawford Smith Tel: 416-865-8209 Fax: 416-865-7380 Email: <u>csmith@torys.com</u>

Counsel for the Applicant

and

- TO: Davis LLP Suite 6000 1 First Canadian Place PO Box 267 100 King St. W Toronto, ON M5X 1E2
  - Attention: David Crocker Tel: 416-941-5415 Fax: 416-777-7431 Email: <u>dcrocker@davis.ca</u>

Counsel to Conserve our Rural Environment ("CORE")

15573252.2



Court File No.: 356/13

# ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (DIVISIONAL COURT)

BETWEEN:

# CONSERVE OUR RURAL ENVIRONMENT (CORE) INC.

Appellant

-and-

#### DUFFERIN WIND POWER INC.

-and-

Respondent

#### **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Respondent

# AMENDED AMENDED NOTICE OF APPEAL

THE APPELLANT, CONSERVE OUR RURAL ENVIRONMENT (CORE) INC. APPEALS to the Divisional Court from the Decision and Order of the Ontario Energy Board, dated July 5, 2013 and bearing Case No.: EB-2012-0365.

**THE APPELLANT ASKS** that the Decision and Order of the Ontario Energy Board be set aside and a judgment be granted as follows:

1. An Order that leave to construct approximately 47 kilometres of single circuit 230 kilovolt electricity transmission line and associated facilities should not be

granted to Dufferin Wind Power Inc in accordance with section 92 of the Ontario Energy Board Act;

- An Order that the forms of easement agreements provided in the application of Dufferin Wind Power Inc. should not be approved in accordance with section 97 of the Ontario Energy Board Act;
- 3. An Order that the construction of certain transmission facilities upon, under, or over a highway, utility line, or ditch should not be approved in accordance with section 101 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*;
- 4. An Order certifying the Court's opinion to the Ontario Energy Board and directing that the Ontario Energy Board shall make an order in accordance with this Court's opinions, in accordance with section 33(4) of the Ontario Energy Board Act;
- 5. An Order that costs shall be awarded to the Appellant on a substantial indemnity basis; and
- 6. Such further and other relief as to this Court may seem just.

THE GROUNDS OF APPEAL are as follows:

 On September 21, 2012, Dufferin Wind Power Inc. ("DWPI") applied to the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") pursuant to sections 92 and 96(2) of the Ontario Energy Board Act, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Sched B (the "Act") seeking an order of the Board for leave to construct approximately 47 kilometres of single circuit 230 kilovolt electricity transmission line and associated facilities (the "**Project**"). DWPI also applied to the Board pursuant to section 97 of the Act for an order approving the forms of easement agreements (the "**Agreements**") provided in the application; and pursuant to section 101 of the Act, for an order approving the construction of certain transmission facilities upon, under, or over a highway, utility line, or ditch;

- 2. The Board granted Intervenor status to Conserve Our Rural Environment (CORE) Inc. ("**CORE**") in the hearing of DWPI's application (the "**Application**");
- 3. Upon conducting a written hearing on the Application, the Board granted leave to carry out the work, subject to conditions of approval;

### The Board Erred By Approving the Agreements

- 4. The Board erred in approving the Agreements. The Agreements are unreasonable and unfair, and are not in the public interest;
- The Board must consider the public interest in disposing of applications under section 97 of the Act;
- The Agreements are also not in the landowners' interest, notwithstanding that the Board's statutory mandate in accordance with sections 97 of the Act is to ensure fairness to landowners;
- 7. The unreasonableness and unfairness of the Agreements are evidenced in some of the Agreements by a clause regarding independent legal advice (the "ILA

**Clause**") which is false and misleading, and which distorts the balance of power between DWPI and the landowners to whom DWPI may offer the Agreements;

- 8. It was not in the public interest, as required by the Act, for the Board, a statutory tribunal with jurisdiction over the approval of the Agreements, to countenance the ILA Clause and permit the Agreements to be offered to landowners who may already be in a position of unequal bargaining power;
- The Board therefore erred in law by approving the Agreements containing the ILA Clause;

# The Board Erred In Granting Leave To Construct

- 10. In an application under section 92 of the Act, the Board is not permitted to grant leave to construct until the applicant satisfies the Board that it has offered or will offer to each owner of land affected by the approved route or location an agreement in a form approved by the Board;
- 11. Upon being presented with unsatisfactory agreements, the Board did not have jurisdiction to grant leave to construct pursuant to section 92 of the Act, as satisfactory agreements are a condition precedent to the granting of leave to construct;
- 12. The Board therefore also erred in law in granting leave to construct pursuant to section 92 of the Act;

The Board Erred By Failing to Give Adequate Reasons for the Approval of the Agreements

- The Board erred in law by failing to give reasons supporting its approval of the Agreements;
- 14. The duty of procedural fairness required that the Board give reasons in this case.The Board has failed to comply with this duty;
- 15. It is the Board's practice to give reasons in granting approval of agreements under section 97 of the Act, related to whether there were objections to the proposed agreements, whether agreements have been finalized or are still being negotiated with landowners, and whether the agreements are generally reasonable. The Board failed to give reasons of this nature, or any reasons, for its approval of the Agreements;
- 16. By way of particular example, the propriety of the ILA Clause was a live issue in the hearing. The Board, however, failed to make any findings about the ILA Clause. There is nothing in the Board's reasons that evidences that the Board grappled with the substance of the ILA Clause, and how, in the face of the ILA Clause, it was appropriate for the Board to approve the Agreements;

### The Board Erred By Declining Jurisdiction Over the Approval of the Agreements

17. In the alternative, the Board erred by declining jurisdiction to approve the Agreements in their entirety, and by instead referring any concerns it may have had with the ILA Clause to the Law Society of Upper Canada (the "LSUC");

- 18. Any delegation of decision-making power from a tribunal to another body must be clearly and expressly authorized by statute. The Act does not authorize the delegation of decision-making power by the Board to the LSUC;
- 19. The Board was required to decide the matters before it that were within its jurisdiction to decide, which included that propriety of approval of the Agreements;
- 20. In failing to make a decision about the propriety of the ILA Clause, the Board failed to exercise its jurisdiction to approve the Agreements. The Agreements must be read in their entirety, and a failure to decide on a critical component of the Agreements amounts to a failure properly to consider their approval;
- 21. Sections 33, 92, 96, 97 and 101 of the Act;
- 22. Rules 1.04, 2, 3, 57, and 61 of the Rules of Civil Procedure;
- 23. Such further and other grounds as counsel may advise and this Court may permit;

THE BASIS OF THE APPELLATE COURT'S JURISDICTION IS:

- (i) section 33 of the Act, which provides that an appeal lies to Divisional
   Court from an order of the Board upon a question of law or jurisdiction;
- (ii) the Order appealed from is final;
- (iii) leave to appeal is not required; and

(iv) the above-noted grounds of appeal relate to questions of law or

jurisdiction. There are no other facts relevant to establishing jurisdiction.

THE APPELLANT REQUESTS that this appeal be heard at Toronto.

Date: August <u>2, <u>8,</u> <u>21,</u> 2013</u>

Davis LLP

1 First Canadian Place, Suite 6000 P.O. Box 367 100 King Street West Toronto, ON M5X 1E2

# **David Crocker**

Tel:	416.941.5415
Fax:	416.777.7431
e-mail:	dcrocker@davis.ca

# Laura K. Bisset

Tel:	416.941.5400
Fax:	416.777.7432
e-mail:	lbisset@davis.ca

# Lawyers for the Appellant, Conserve Our Rural Environment (CORE) Inc.

TO:

# Torys LLP

Suite 3000 79 Wellington Street West Box 270, TD Centre Toronto, ON M5K 1N2

# **Jonathan Myers**

Tel:	416.865.7532
Fax:	416.865.7380
e-mail:	imyers@torys.com

# **Charles Keizer**

Tel:	416.865.7512
Fax:	416.865.7380
e-mail:	ckeizer@torys.com

Lawyers for the Respondent, Dufferin Wind Power Inc. AND TO:

**Ontario Energy Board** P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

# Kristi Sebalj

Tel:416.481.1967Fax:416.440.7656e-mail:Kristi.Sebalj@ontarioenergyboard.ca



Roselyn Bovaird 746084 30th Sideroad Mulmur, Ontario, L9V 0X5



13-070

June 25, 2013

**Delivered by hand** 

Secretary Environmental Review Tribunal 655 Bay Street, Floor 15 Toronto, M5G 1E5

Environmental Commissioner of Ontario 1075 Bay Street, Suite 605 Toronto, M5S 2B1

Vic Schroter Director, Section 47.5 Environmental Protection Act Environmental Approvals Branch 2 St. Clair Ave West, Floor 12A Toronto, M4V 1L5

Dufferin Wind Power 161 Bay Street, Suite 4550 Toronto, M5J 2S1

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Grant of Renewable Energy Approval to Dufferin Wind Power Inc. ERB Registry Number: 011-7852 in the township of Melancthon.

## Renewable Energy Approval Number 5460-98BPH8

In reference to the recently granted Renewable Energy Approval (REA) issued to Dufferin Wind Power Inc. to engage in a renewable energy project in respect of a class 4 wind facility consisting of the construction, installation, operation, use and retiring of up to 49 turbines, the undersigned strongly objects to the granting of the REA in question and respectfully requests a hearing by the Environmental Review Tribunal in regard to subject decision. I request a stay of the Approval.

Appellant information

Roselyn Bovaird

746084 30th Sideroad,

Mulmur, Ontario, L9V 0X5

Mailing address :

Roselyn Bovaird

9 Deer Park Crescent #1005

Toronto, Ontario, M5M 2C4

416 48444457 416 5180324

My concerns regarding my appeal of this Approval are as follows:

(a) (i)Engaging in the renewable energy project will cause serious harm to human health

On a personal level I am concerned that the project will cause serious harm to my own and my family's health. I am a retired biologist who purchased my retirement home almost five years ago. My home is approximately one kilometer from the nearest turbine and slightly more to seven other turbines. I have health issues that include tinnitus and atrial arithymia. Although no epidemiological study exists at this time, worldwide studies show that there is sufficient evidence that industrial wind installations located at similar distances can produce serious harm to human health. Additionally, there is general recognition in the scientific and governmental field that there are "some people "or "a non-trivial percentage" who are adversely affected by wind turbines. I do not wish to be the lottery winner in this situation, especially as it is also generally agreed that people with similar health symptoms, may be more susceptible to the affects of noise and other issues related to closeness to Industrial wind turbines. It is also very concerning to my own health to find that the turbines closest to my home are in the most densely populated area of the 49 turbine project. I am distressed that several neighbours are actually closer than the Provincial setback of 550m. It is of great concern that unproven design mitigations to the turbines have been approved that could realistically increase the projected noise levels over the estimated 40dBA which is already at the Provincial maximum. This would cause both serious harm to the owner's health and an inability to for them to live in their home or use their land. It is also of great concern that scientific studies of evaluation and measurement to audible noise and low- frequency sound have not been perfected scientifically. There is still no usable test to measure lowfrequency. It is clear to me and my family that the Federal Government's

announcement in 2012, that it is initiating a wind turbine and health study shows that there is sufficient evidence for all levels of the community to adopt a Precautionary approach to the issue of the safety of the sitting of industrial wind turbines.

(ii) <u>Engaging in renewable energy project will cause serious and irreversible harm to</u> plant life,animal life and the natural environment

In particular I refer to the area near my home. Turbines 1 and 2 are to be within 500m to an area which is designated Protected and Natural Niagara Escarpment and also is in very close proximity to the Noisy River Provincial Park. I am not satisfied that the Natural Heritage Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan dated June 2013, adequately allows for protection for the organisms in this high ridge area. My main concern is that according to the Nottawsaga Conservation Authority who monitor this area, there has been no formal scientific study done on the migratory bats in the adjacent area. The DWPI Environmental Impact Report does identify that five bat maternal roost colonies, in which all contain three species of migratory bats that are classified as endangered; the Little Brown Bat, the Northern Long eared Bat, and the Eastern Pipistrelle. Incredibly, the only pre-construction monitoring that is to be required for this project does not even include monitoring of bat populations. Many scientific studies have shown that bats are more susceptible to death from wind turbines than even ridge dwelling birds as they experience Barotraumas .Mortality of any endangered bats will cause serious and permanent damage to these bat populations and result in serious harm to the biodiversity of all the involved ecosystems. In particular there is great concern for the especially the large numbers of wetlands in the area. My own property contains vast wetlands which have not been evaluated. In discussion with the MNR it will be fifteen year wait to have them officially evaluated as to their designated significance. I have only discussed a few of the vast number of environmental issues of concern in relation to this project .There are many areas of concern and it is necessary to re-evaluate the long term effect of not re-visiting the serious need for more studies .

(b) The following areas of the REA Approval needs re-evaluating.

1. Noise and Vibration and monitoring concerns

2. The number of Turbines already in the area.

3.Impacts on Birds ,Bats and the natural environment ,in particular the areas bordering on the Niagara Escarpment and water bodies.

(c).<u>Relief requested</u>;As the appellant I request the following relief:

I request that the Tribunal revoke the issuance of Approval.

Sincerely,

Brand

Roselvn Bovaird

DAVIS

LEGAL ADVISORS SINCE 1892

RECEIVED JUN 2 5 2013 **ENVIRONMENT & LAND** TRIBUNALS ONTARIO

13-071

FROM THE OFFICE OF DIRECT LINE DIRECT FAX E-MAIL Laura K. Bisset 416.941.5400 416.777.7432 Ibisset@davis.ca

FILE NUMBER:

81310-00002

June 25, 2013

#### DELIVERED BY HAND

Dufferin Wind Power Inc. 161 Bay Street Suite 4550 Toronto, ON M5J 2S1 Vic Schroter Director, Section 47.5, Environmental Protection Act Environmental Approvals Branch 2 St. Clair Avenue West Floor 12A Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

Environmental Commissioner of Ontario 1075 Bay Street Suite 605 Toronto, ON M5S 2B1 The Secretary Environmental Review Tribunal 655 Bay Street, 15th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1E5

Dear Sirs:

# Re: Notice of Appeal pursuant to s. 142.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act* of Approval for Renewable Energy Project issued to Dufferin Wind Power Inc., on behalf of Conserve Our Rural Environment

We are counsel for Conserve Our Rural Environment ("**CORE**"), an incorporated residents' group in the Township of Mulmur who have an interest in the wind farm proposed by Dufferin Wind Power Inc. ("**DWPI**"), and whose members can be impacted by it.

CORE hereby appeals the June 10, 2013 decision of the Director to issue a Renewable Energy Approval (the "**Approval**" or the "**REA**") to DWPI to engage in a renewable energy project (the "**Project**") in respect of a Class 4 wind facility consisting of the construction, installation, operation, use and decommissioning of a wind facility with 18 2.75 MW wind turbines, and 31 1.6 MW wind turbines with a total nameplate capacity of 91.4MW. We enclose herewith a copy of the Director's decision (the "**Decision**"), being Renewable Energy Approval number 5460-98BPH8.



Page 2 of 6

In accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act* (the "**Act**") and the Rules of Practice and Practice Directions (the "**Rules**") of the Environmental Review Tribunal (the "**Tribunal**"), this Notice contains all necessary Appellant information, the grounds for appeal, and a statement of the relief requested.

CORE intends to seek a stay of the Approval.

#### **Appellant Information**

CORE's contact information is as follows:

Conserve Our Rural Environment (CORE), Inc. c/o Aird & Berlis LLP Brookfield Place, 181 Bay Street Suite 1800, Box 754 Toronto, ON M5J 2T9

N. Jane Pepino Tel: 416.865.7727 Fax: 416.863.1515 email: jpepino@airdberlis.com

CORE will be represented in these matters by David Crocker and Laura K. Bisset of Davis LLP, whose contact information is as follows:

Davis LLP 1 First Canadian Place, Suite 6000 P.O. Box 367, 100 King Street West Toronto, ON M5X 1E2

 David Crocker:

 Tel:
 416.941.5415

 Fax:
 416.777.7431

 email:
 <u>dcrocker@davis.ca</u>

Laura K. Bisset Tel: 416.941.5400 Fax: 416.777.7432 email: <u>lbisset@davis.ca</u>

CORE requests that all notices and other official documents be delivered to the attention of David Crocker and Laura K. Bisset at Davis LLP.

# DAVIS

#### **Sections Under Appeal**

CORE appeals the following portions of the Approval:

Terms and Conditions:

- (a) A General A1, A5, A6 and A8
- (b) C Noise Performance Limits C1, C2, C3 and C4
- (c) D Confirmation of Vacant Lot Noise Receptors D1
- (d) E Acoustic Audit Immission E1, E2 and E3
- (e) F Acoustic Audit Emission F1 and F2
- (f) J Natural Heritage and Pre and Post Construction Monitoring J1 to J17
- (g) O Operation and Maintenance O1, O2, and O3
- (h) P Record Creation and Retention P3
- (i) Schedule A Facility Description
- (j) Schedule B Coordinates of the Equipment and Noise Specifications
- (k) Schedule C Noise Control Measures

### **Grounds for Appeal**

1. Engaging in the renewable energy project in accordance with the renewable energy approval will cause serious harm to human health.

Industrial wind turbines are reported to cause a range of serious health effects in a segment approximately 5-30% of the population, including sleep disturbance, headache, tinnitus, ear pressure, dizziness, vertigo, nausea, visual blurring, tachycardia, irritability, problems with concentration, memory and panic episodes associated with sensations of internal pulsation or quivering when awake or asleep, excessive tiredness, loss of quality of life. These impacts can lead to increased morbidity and significant chronic disease and health effects.

Experts believe that these health effects are most likely the result of exposure to infrasound, low frequency noise, audible noise, visual impact, shadow flicker, stray voltage, and/or electromagnetic fields. These effects are produced by exposure to industrial wind turbines and will be produced by exposure to the industrial wind turbines in the Project.

These health effects occur at sound levels below the level that is permitted by the Approval for the Project. The effects also occur at distances which exceed the setbacks prescribed for the Project.

Page 3 of 6



Page 4 of 6

There are approximately 259 non-participating receptors and 105 vacant lots identified in the vicinity of the Project. If 5-30% of individuals at these points of reception experience the above-noted health effects, the impact of the Project on human health will be serious.

- 2. Engaging in the renewable energy approval will cause serious and irreversible harm to plant life, animal life, or the natural environment.
  - (a) Agricultural Considerations

Industrial wind turbines negatively interfere with agricultural operations, which foster plant and animal life. The success of plant and animal life depends on the natural environment in which it is located, including the component elements of the natural environment such as the soils and groundwater.

The construction, installation, use, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of industrial wind turbines strip significant amounts of land of the soils on which plant and animal life depend, and interferes with the flow of groundwater used for irrigation purposes. In particular, DWPI proposes to remove and/or sterilize hundreds of acres of Honeywood soil for the purposes of constructing, operating, and decommissioning the Project, and constructing turbine footings which will interfere with the flow of groundwater.

Dufferin County, particularly in the Townships of Melancthon and Mulmur, is generously blanketed by Honeywood soils. The Honeywood soils are well drained and have developed in wind-deposited silt loam or fine sandy loam materials which are underlain by calcareous loam till at two to four feet. The materials overlying the till are remarkably uniform, maintaining an average thickness of three feet even where the topography is rough. These soils occur principally on gently undulating topography. The soil surface is usually stone-free. It is friable, easily worked, and contains a good reserve of plant nutrients. These soils drain rapidly and have a sufficiently high moisture holding capacity to supply plants with moisture even during the dry period of the year.

The optimum soil conditions for potato production are defined in terms of drainage, texture, stoniness, and topography. Honeywood soils "are among the best agricultural soils in Southern Ontario" and are capable of producing all crops adapted to the area, namely potato, cereal grains, hay, silage corn, grain corn, and beans. The Honeywood soils are identified as Class 1 (excellent) for all adapted crops. Potato production in Dufferin County has been concentrated on the Honeywood silt loam in Melancthon and Mulmur townships.

The agroclimatic conditions in the highlands of Dufferin County are the best match in southwestern Ontario to the optimum soil conditions for potato production. The combination of the soil and agroclimactic conditions and the properties of the Honeywood soil, together, combine to make the areas of Honeywood soil in Dufferin County uniquely suited, and special for production of potatoes.

(b) Bats

Three species of bat, classified as endangered by COSEWIC, were identified during site investigation with the potential to occur within the vicinity of the Project: the Little Brown Bat, the Northern Long-Eared Bat, and the Eastern Pipistrelle; as were numerous other bat species. There are Project components, in some cases, located within 5 metres of significant habitat for these species. DWPI does not propose to undertake pre-construction surveys, within certain bat habitat, and no mitigation measures are proposed for those areas. Contingency measures have not been developed to deal with bat mortality.

Page 5 of 6

DAVIS LLP

As a result, these bat species will be subjected to direct serious and irreversible harm from collision mortality as a result of the operation of the Project. And, in the areas where turbines, transmission lines, transformers and access roads will be located which constitute habitat for these species, habitat will be lost and the species displaced. The Project will therefore cause serious and irreversible indirect harm as well.

#### **Issues and Material Facts**

#### Will the Project cause serious harm to human health?

In addition to the above-noted facts, the appellant relies on the fact that previous projects, elsewhere in the Province and the Country, approved under similar terms and conditions of approval, have caused serious harm to human health. The Project will operate at sound levels and at setbacks that will expose receptors to the same conditions as have previous projects, and will cause the same or similar negative health effects.

#### Will the Project's noise modelling accurately estimate the noise impacts of the Project?

The Proponent's noise modelling does not comply with the applicable MOE noise criteria. The predicted noise levels have not been adequately assessed at all receptors.

In any event, previous approvals have demonstrated that the noise model used to estimate the noise impacts of industrial wind turbines in Ontario is inaccurate and underestimates the sound levels produced by the industrial wind turbines. Moreover, previously approved projects, which were estimated to meet Ministry of the Environment criteria, have exceeded approved audible sound levels, in particular as turbines age. The Director has no ability, in respect of this Project, to accurately predict or control exceedances, which will allow for serious harm to human health.

The Director has not considered and is unable to predict low frequency sound and infrasound noise levels. There are no applicable standards for low frequency and infrasound. In the absence of evaluation standards, and any evaluation of low frequency and infrasound, serious harm to human health will be caused by the Project.

The Director has not given adequate consideration to the cumulative impact of the Project, in the context of the nearby TransAlta Melancthon and AIM Plateau wind farms. The turbines associated with these older projects are aging, and emit excessive noise. Combined with the excessive noise that will be generated by the Project, the risk of serious harm to human health will be serious.

Will the Project cause serious and irreversible harm to plant life, animal life or the natural environment?

#### (a) Agricultural Considerations

The appellant repeats and relies upon the facts set out above. The Approval for the Project permits the construction, installation, use, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Project without regard for the natural environment which allows Dufferin County, and particularly the Township of Melancthon, to be the best agricultural land in southern Ontario. The Project, as approved will cause serious and irreversible harm to the agricultural lands of Dufferin County, which in turn will seriously harm plant life, animal life or the natural environment.

# DAVIS LLP

Page 6 of 6

### (b) Bats

The appellant repeats and relies upon the facts set out above. The operation of the project will result in serious and irreversible direct harm to bat species, as well as serious and irreversible indirect harm through the destruction of habitat of bat species.

#### **Relief Requested**

CORE requests that the Tribunal revoke the issuance of the Approval.

Yours truly, DAVIS LLP Per: Laura K. Bisset

LKB/sxo

Encl.

Davis: 14130482.1



DAVIS

LEGAL ADVISORS SINCE 1892

RECEIVED JUN 2 5 2013 ENVIRONMENT & LAND TRIBUNALS ONTARIO

FROM THE OFFICE OF DIRECT LINE DIRECT FAX E-MAIL Laura K. Bisset 416.941.5400 416.777.7432 Ibisset@davis.ca

13-072

FILE NUMBER:

81310-00002

June 25, 2013

#### DELIVERED BY HAND

Environmental Commissioner of Ontario 1075 Bay Street Suite 605 Toronto, ON M5S 2B1

Vic Schroter Director, Section 47.5, Environmental Protection Act Environmental Approvals Branch 2 St. Clair Avenue West Floor 12A Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

The Secretary Environmental Review Tribunal 655 Bay Street, 15th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1E5

Dufferin Wind Power Inc. 161 Bay Street Suite 4550 Toronto, ON M5J 2S1

Dear Sirs:

#### Re: Notice of Appeal pursuant to s. 142.1 of the Environmental Protection Act of Approval for Renewable Energy Project issued to Dufferin Wind Power Inc., on behalf of D&C Vander Zaag Farms Ltd.

We are counsel for D&C Vander Zaag Farms Ltd. ("**D&C Farm**"), the owner of approximately 560 ha of land, based at Lot 22, Concession 2, Melancthon Township, which is actively being farmed. The principals of D&C Farms, David and Colleen Vander Zaag, have their home at that same location.

D&C Farms hereby appeals the June 10, 2013 decision of the Director to issue a Renewable Energy Approval (the "**Approval**" or the "**REA**") to Dufferin Wind Power Inc. ("**DWPI**") to engage in a renewable energy project (the "**Project**") in respect of a Class 4 wind facility consisting of the construction, installation, operation, use and decommissioning of a wind facility with 18 2.75 MW wind turbines, and 31 1.6 MW wind turbines with a total nameplate capacity of 91.4MW, June 10, 2013. We enclose herewith a



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copy of the Director's decision (the "Decision"), being Renewable Energy Approval number 5460-98BPH8.

In accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act* (the "**Act**") and the Rules of Practice and Practice Directions (the "**Rules**") of the Environmental Review Tribunal (the "**Tribunal**"), this Notice contains all necessary Appellant information, the grounds for appeal, and a statement of the relief requested.

D&C Farms does not intend to seek a stay of the Approval, but should another party seek a stay, D&C Farms would likely support the relief sought.

#### Appellant Information

D&C Farms; contact information is as follows:

D&C Vander Zaag Farms Ltd. 5900 County Road 10 Alliston, ON L9R 1V2

Tel: 705.435.3226 Fax: 705.435.8893 email: dave@hjvequip.com

D&C Farms will be represented in these matters by David Crocker and Laura K. Bisset of Davis LLP, whose contact information is as follows:

Davis LLP 1 First Canadian Place, Suite 6000 P.O. Box 367, 100 King Street West Toronto, ON M5X 1E2

David Crocker: Tel: 416.941.5415 Fax: 416.777.7431 email: dcrocker@davis.ca

Laura K. Bisset Tel: 416.941.5400 Fax: 416.777.7432 email: lbisset@davis.ca

D&C Farms requests that all notices and other official documents be delivered to the attention of David Crocker and Laura K. Bisset at Davis LLP.

# DAVIS

#### Sections Under Appeal

D&C Farms appeals the following portions of the Approval:

Terms and Conditions:

- (a) A General A1, A5, A6 and A8
- (b) C Noise Performance Limits C1, C2, C3 and C4
- (c) D Confirmation of Vacant Lot Noise Receptors D1
- (d) E Acoustic Audit Immission E1, E2 and E3
- (e) F Acoustic Audit Emission F1 and F2
- (f) J Natural Heritage and Pre- and Post- Construction Monitoring J1 to J17
- (g) O Operation and Maintenance O1, O2, and O3
- (h) P Record Creation and Retention P3
- (i) Schedule A Facility Description
- (j) Schedule B Coordinates of the Equipment and Noise Specifications
- (k) Schedule C Noise Control Measures

#### **Grounds for Appeal**

1. Engaging in the renewable energy project in accordance with the renewable energy approval will cause serious harm to human health.

Industrial wind turbines are reported to cause a range of serious health effects in a segment approximately 5-30% of the population, including sleep disturbance, headache, tinnitus, ear pressure, dizziness, vertigo, nausea, visual blurring, tachycardia, irritability, problems with concentration, memory and panic episodes associated with sensations of internal pulsation or quivering when awake or asleep, excessive tiredness, loss of quality of life. These impacts can lead to increased morbidity and significant chronic disease and health effects.

Experts believe that these health effects are most likely the result of exposure to infrasound, low frequency noise, audible noise, visual impact, shadow flicker, stray voltage, and/or electromagnetic fields. These effects are produced by exposure to industrial wind turbines and will be produced by exposure to the industrial wind turbines in the Project.

These health effects occur at sound levels below the level that is permitted by the Approval for the Project. The effects also occur at distances which exceed the setbacks prescribed for the Project.

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There are approximately 259 non-participating receptors and 105 vacant lots identified in the vicinity of the Project. If 5-30% of individuals at these points of reception experience the above-noted health effects, the impact of the Project on human health will be serious.

2. Engaging in the renewable energy approval will cause serious and irreversible harm to plant life, animal life, or the natural environment.

Industrial wind turbines negatively interfere with agricultural operations, which foster plant and animal life. The success of plant and animal life depends on the natural environment in which it is located, including the component elements of the natural environment such as the soils and groundwater.

The construction, installation, use, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of industrial wind turbines strip significant amounts of land of the soils on which plant and animal life depend, and interferes with the flow of groundwater used for irrigation purposes. In particular, DWPI proposes to remove and/or sterilize hundreds of acres of Honeywood soil for the purposes of constructing, operating, and decommissioning the Project, and constructing turbine footings which will interfere with the flow of groundwater.

Dufferin County, particularly in the Townships of Melancthon and Mulmur, is generously blanketed by Honeywood soils. The Honeywood soils are well drained and have developed in wind-deposited silt loam or fine sandy loam materials which are underlain by calcareous loam till at two to four feet. The materials overlying the till are remarkably uniform, maintaining an average thickness of three feet even where the topography is rough. These soils occur principally on gently undulating topography. The soil surface is usually stone-free. It is friable, easily worked, and contains a good reserve of plant nutrients. These soils drain rapidly and have a sufficiently high moisture holding capacity to supply plants with moisture even during the dry period of the year.

The optimum soil conditions for potato production are defined in terms of drainage, texture, stoniness, and topography. Honeywood soils "are among the best agricultural soils in Southern Ontario" and are capable of producing all crops adapted to the area, namely potato, cereal grains, hay, silage corn, grain corn, and beans. The Honeywood soils are identified as Class 1 (excellent) for all adapted crops. Potato production in Dufferin County has been concentrated on the Honeywood silt loam in Melancthon and Mulmur townships.

The agroclimatic conditions in the highlands of Dufferin County are the best match in southwestern Ontario to the optimum soil conditions for potato production. The combination of the soil and agroclimactic conditions and the properties of the Honeywood soil, together, combine to make the areas of Honeywood soil in Dufferin County uniquely suited, and special for production of potatoes.

D&C Farms' operations depend on the use of irrigation wells. The irrigation wells it relies on are highly producing wells (2000L/minute) which draw on underground streams in the karst which are shallow and difficult to map. Some of the proposed turbines are within 500 metres of D&C Farms' highly producing wells. DWPI proposes to construct the wind turbines on large-spread footings. The depth of the excavation required to facilitate construction of the turbine bases will be between 2.3 to 4 metres below ground surface. The turbine footings have the potential to interfere with the flow of groundwater through the subterranean environment and into the irrigation wells.

Corn is an integral part of D&C Farms crop rotation. It is now recommended that fungicide be sprayed on corn when it is at full height to enhance and protect crop yields. When corn is at full height, the only practical way to spray fungicide is aerially. Aerial spraying cannot be done safely, if at all, when there are

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industrial wind turbines in proximity to the area to be sprayed, in particular at the densities proposed for this project.

#### Issues and Material Facts

#### Will the Project cause serious harm to human health?

In addition to the above-noted facts, the appellant relies on the fact that previous projects, elsewhere in the Province and the Country, approved under similar terms and conditions of approval, have caused serious harm to human health. The Project will operate at sound levels and at setbacks that will expose receptors to the same conditions as have previous projects, and will cause the same or similar negative health effects.

#### Will the Project's noise modelling accurately estimate the noise impacts of the Project?

The Proponent's noise modelling does not comply with the applicable MOE noise criteria. The predicted noise levels have not been adequately assessed at all receptors.

In any event, previous approvals have demonstrated that the noise model used to estimate the noise impacts of industrial wind turbines in Ontario is inaccurate and underestimates the sound levels produced by the industrial wind turbines. Moreover, previously approved projects, which were estimated to meet Ministry of the Environment criteria, have exceeded approved audible sound levels, in particular as turbines age. The Director has no ability, in respect of this Project, to accurately predict or control exceedances, which will allow for serious harm to human health.

The Director has not considered and is unable to predict low frequency sound and infrasound noise levels. There are no applicable standards for low frequency and infrasound. In the absence of evaluation standards, and any evaluation of low frequency and infrasound, serious harm to human health will be caused by the Project.

The Director has not given adequate consideration to the cumulative impact of the Project, in the context of the nearby TransAlta Melancthon and AIM Plateau wind farms. The turbines associated with these older projects are aging, and emit excessive noise. Combined with the excessive noise that will be generated by the Project, the risk of serious harm to human health will be serious.

#### Will the Project cause serious and irreversible harm to plant life, animal life or the natural environment?

The appellant repeats and relies upon the facts set out above. The Approval for the Project permits the construction, installation, use, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Project without regard for the natural environment which allows Dufferin County, and particularly the Township of Melancthon, to be the best agricultural land in southern Ontario. The Project, as approved will cause serious and irreversible harm to the agricultural lands of Dufferin County, which in turn will seriously harm plant life, animal life or the natural environment.

# DAVIS

Page 6 of 6

# **Relief Requested**

D&C Farms requests that the Tribunal revoke the issuance of the Approval.

Yours truly, **DAVIS** LLP Per:

Laura K. Bisset LKB/sxo

Encl.

Davis: 14190095.1



Kathleen Kurtin 124 Wells St Toronto, M5R 1P4

June 24, 2013

RECEIVED JUN 2 5 2013 ENVIRONMEN TRIBUNALS ONTARIO

13-073

Re: EBR Registry # 011-7852, Duffern Wind Power REA approval

#### To whom it may concern:

I would like to request a hearing to appeal the decision on the recent Renewable Energy Approval issued to Dufferin Wind Power Inc. for a Class 4 wind facility for the following reasons:

- 1. The impact of flickering on up to 13 houses, as stated by Dufferin Wind Power in a public meeting last fall, along with their failure to post those findings on their information web site, as promised in two public meetings is problematic. Their failure to disclose the information is concerning on two fronts: one, a failure to live up to commitments made, and two, residents being unaware that their homes will be impacted by flickering and of the possible health risks associated with flickering. Preliminary studies I had done suggest that my property may be one of the properties impacted by the flickering. Flickering can cause headaches and nausea. Nausea is one of the triggers for the form of epilepsy I have, and so will result in a significant medical impact for me, personally. This will result in my being unable to use my property whenever it is exposed to flickering. Germany, which has a longer history with wind turbines, now regulates exposure to flickering.
- 2. The failure to await the outcome of the federal government's study, due in 2014, on the impact of industrial wind turbines on human health is irresponsible considering the mounting body of evidence around the impact of infrasound on the health of people living in close proximity to industrial wind turbines. Infrasound from large industrial wind turbines in excess of 2 MW increases significantly over that produced by the smaller wind turbines that were the norm when the legislation was put in place, calling into question the distance limitations currently in place.

The T1 and T2 2.75 MW turbines in the proposal have an immediate impact on my country property at 558655 Mulmur Malancthon Townline, Mulmur. I currently use the property 2 to 3 days a week and post retirement, am planning to spend up to 5 days a week in the country. If the project proceeds, I will be unable to use my property as a result of the infrasound and possible flickering. This results in a significant hardship to me personally.

Consequently, I would likeT1 and T2 deleted from the project at a minimum, and the total project cancelled as an optimum solution. If neither is possible, I expect my property to be purchased by either the Ontario Government or Dufferin Wind at fair market value.

As a tax payer, I find the lack of rigor in the application of the Green Energy Act very concerning. The province's eagerness to move forward with a financially flawed project that has been challenged by the province's own auditor and will impact the health and well-being of its citizens unconscionable. I urge you to reconsider this decision.

Yours Sincerely Kathleen Kurtin

**Appellate Body:** Secretary Environmental Review Tribunal 655 Bay Street Floor 15 Toronto M5G 1E5 **Environmental Commissioner of Ontario:** Environmental Commissioner of Ontario 1075 Bay Street Suite 605 Toronto Ontario M5S 2B1 **Issuing Authority:** Vic Schroter Director, Section 47.5 Environmental Protection Act Environmental Approvals Branch 2 St. Clair Avenue West Floor 12A Toronto Ontario M4V 1L5

Proponent: Dufferin Wind Power Inc. 161 Bay Street, Suite 4550 Toronto, Ontario M5J 2S1

ccs Kathleen Wynne, Bob Chiarelli

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# RECEIVED 1 JUN 2 5 2013 1 ENVIRONMENT & LAND TRIBUNALS ONTARIO

#### To whom it may concern:

This is to request a hearing by the Environmental Review Tribunal regarding the Decision on 13-074 EBR Registry Number: 011-7852 (Dufferin Wind Power Incorporated REA).

Having reviewed the Decision, I feel it was seriously flawed in a number of critical areas of concern, especially regarding human health (including impacts from electro-magnetic fields), noise & vibration, impacts on natural environments & wildlife, visual impacts, setbacks, and property values.

The Decision ignored solid research and mounting evidence of the harm to human health from the electro-magnetic fields, low-frequency noise and vibrations from wind turbines (inaudible infrasound), and shadow flicker.

The Decision was dismissive of the impact of the wind turbines on natural environments and wildlife, as well as the considerable visual impact and degradation of the Niagara Escarpment.

The Decision was naïve in their acceptance of the dubious setbacks provided by the applicant for the location of the turbines in relation to existing dwellings, and the criteria they used to determine those setbacks has already been rendered inadequate by countries with considerably more experience with wind turbines.

The Decision was completely inconsistent with third party research regarding diminished property values for properties abutting the wind farms.

If the Dufferin Wind Power project is allowed to proceed, my family's property, which is currently a tranquil and valuable piece of nature, will be rendered uninhabitable and unmarketable.

In terms of relief, I would like to see the complete termination of the project. If that cannot be achieved, then as a minimum I am seeking the elimination of the most offensive of the turbines, T1 and T2, each 448 feet tall. If that is not possible, then the applicant, or the province of Ontario, should be required to purchase the properties adjacent to T1 and T2 (including the property of which I am co-owner) for fair market value.

Sincerely,

Nazine

John Maguire

Address of property in question: 825498 Melancthon-Nottawasaga Town Line Request for a hearing by the Environmental Review Tribunal re: Decision on EBR Registry Number: 011-7852 (Dufferin Wind Power Incorporated REA)

Date: June 24, 2012.

From: John Maguire

2905-33 Lombard Street Toronto, ON M5C 3H8 Phone: 416-938-2905 Email: j.maguire@sympatico.ca

#### To: Appellate Body:

Secretary Environmental Review Tribunal 655 Bay Street Floor 15 Toronto M5G 1E5 Phone: (416) 212-6349 Fax: (416) 314-4506

#### **Environmental Commissioner of Ontario:**

Environmental Commissioner of Ontario 1075 Bay Street Suite 605 Toronto Ontario M5S 2B1 Phone: (800) 701-6454

### **Issuing Authority:**

Vic Schroter Director, Section 47.5 Environmental Protection Act Environmental Approvals Branch 2 St. Clair Avenue West Floor 12A Toronto Ontario M4V 1L5 Phone: 416-314-8573

#### **Proponent:**

Dufferin Wind Power Inc. 161 Bay Street, Suite 4550 Toronto, Ontario M5J 2S1



ERT Case No. 13-075

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JUN 2 5 2013

**ENVIRONMENT & LAND** 

TRIBUNALS ONTARIO

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# ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TRIBUNAL

BETWEEN:

**DENNIS SANFORD** 

- and -

# DIRECTOR, MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

# NOTICE OF APPEAL

June 25, 2013

ERIC K. GILLESPIE PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 10 King Street East, Suite 600 Toronto, ON M5C 1C3

Eric K. Gillespie Tel.: (416) 703-6362 Fax: (416) 703-9111 Email: egillespie@gillespielaw.ca

Solicitors for the Appellant

# (i) Contact Information

# (a) Name and contact information of the Appellant

Dennis Sanford 398132 - 5<sup>th</sup> Line Melancthon, Ontario L9V 1R7 Tel: 519-925-5556

# (b) Name and contact information of the Appellant's Representative

Eric K. Gillespie Eric K. Gillespie Professional Corporation 10 King Street East, Suite 600 Toronto, ON M5C 1C3 Tel.: (416) 703-6362 Fax: (416) 703-9111 Email: <u>egillespie@gillespielaw.ca</u>

# (ii) Renewable Energy Approval Being Appealed

1. The Appellant is appealing the decision of the Director to issue a Renewable Energy Approval to Dufferin Wind Power Inc. (the "Proponent") to engage in the Dufferin Wind Power Project in respect of a Class 4 wind facility consisting of the construction, installation, operation, use and retiring of a wind facility consisting of 49 wind turbine generators with a total name plate capacity of 99.1 MW in the Township of Melancthon, Town of Shelbourne and the Township of Amaranth, County of Dufferin, Ontario (the "Project").

2. A copy of the instrument decision notice under appeal is attached, being Renewable Energy Approval Number 5460-98BPH8, issued June 10, 2013 to the Proponent - EBR Registry Number 011-7852, posted to the Registry on June 10, 2013.

# (iii) Portions of the Renewable Energy Approval being Appealed

3. The portions of the Renewable Energy Approval that the Appellant is appealing are the

contribute to negative health impacts.

6. The precise mechanism(s) that cause these health effects have not been determined. However, these mechanisms either individually or in combination cause these health effects. These effects are produced by exposure to IWTs and will be produced by exposure to the IWTs in the Project.

7. These health effects occur at sound levels starting at approximately 30 dbA, which is lower than the levels permitted by the Renewable Energy Approval for the Project. These effects are also known to occur at distances of up to 10 kilometres, which is much greater than the set-backs prescribed for the Project.

8. If between 5% and 30% of individuals at points of reception experience the health effects enumerated above, the impact of the Project on human health will be very serious.

#### (v) Issues and Material Facts

#### (a) Issues

*Issue* #1: *Will the project as approved cause serious harm to human health?* 

Sub-issue #1(a) - Will the project as approved cause serious harm to human health of non-participants?

Sub-issue #1(b) - Will the project as approved cause serious harm to human health if the Approval Authority is unable to properly predict, measure or assess sound from the facilities including audible noise, low frequency noise and infrasound?

#### (b) Material Facts

#### Issue 1(a) – Serious Harm to Human Health

9. The Appellant repeats and relies upon the material facts set out in paragraphs 1 through to and including paragraph 8 above.

16. The Appellant requests that the Environmental Review Tribunal revoke the decision of the Director to issue a Renewable Energy Approval to the Proponent to engage in the Project.

# (vii) The Appellant Will Seek a Stay

17. The Appellant will be seeking a stay of the decision.