



**association to protect
AMHERST ISLAND**

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WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ALL OF OUR RIGHTS

October 21, 2014

Hon. Glen Murray
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change
Ferguson Block
11th Floor
77 Wellesley St W
Toronto ON M7A2T5

Subject: The Precautionary Principle and Impact on the Little Family
Proposed Wind Turbines on Amherst Island

Dear Hon. Minister Murray,

Consistent with the law, as well as with the Ministry's Statement of Environmental Values, please use your authority to instruct staff to have regard for the public interest and require Windlectric to make significant changes to the proposed wind turbine project on Amherst Island.

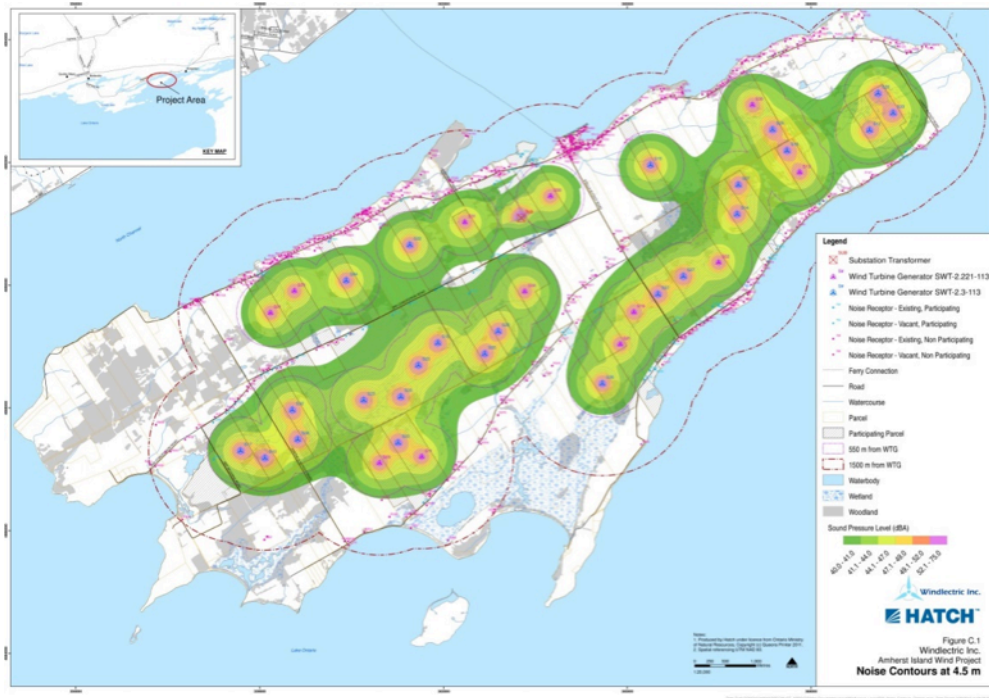
Meet the Little family.



Éva Little has written to you to explain that if the Windlectric REA application for turbines on Amherst Island is approved, her family's home will be unlivable and unsaleable. The Littles moved to 1355 Second Concession on Amherst Island to raise their family in a friendly, peaceful environment.



Then the Ontario Government introduced the Green Energy Act and the Littles' lives changed dramatically for the worse. Not only did Windlectric propose to blanket the Island with wind turbines, the company plans to make life hell, specifically for the Littles.



Windlectric plans to surround the Littles' home identified as Receptor 166 with three 50 storey turbines about 155 m high, identified below in purple as S06, S31, and S34.



As you know each turbine will be the height of the Royal Trust tower in the TD Centre in Toronto. Imagine three 50-storey 155 m industrial structures around your home or indeed by Queen's Park.



If that was not enough, the Red X on the diagram (about 440m from the Littles' home), represents a planned hydro transformer that will generate more noise than a wind turbine. The photo below shows a transformer similar to the proposed 34.5/115 kV transformer that will be connected by massive hydro towers to the submarine cable on the shore.



As you can see in the following extract from Windlectric's construction plan report, the substation comes with cranes, fences, concrete containment, heavy equipment and many trucks.

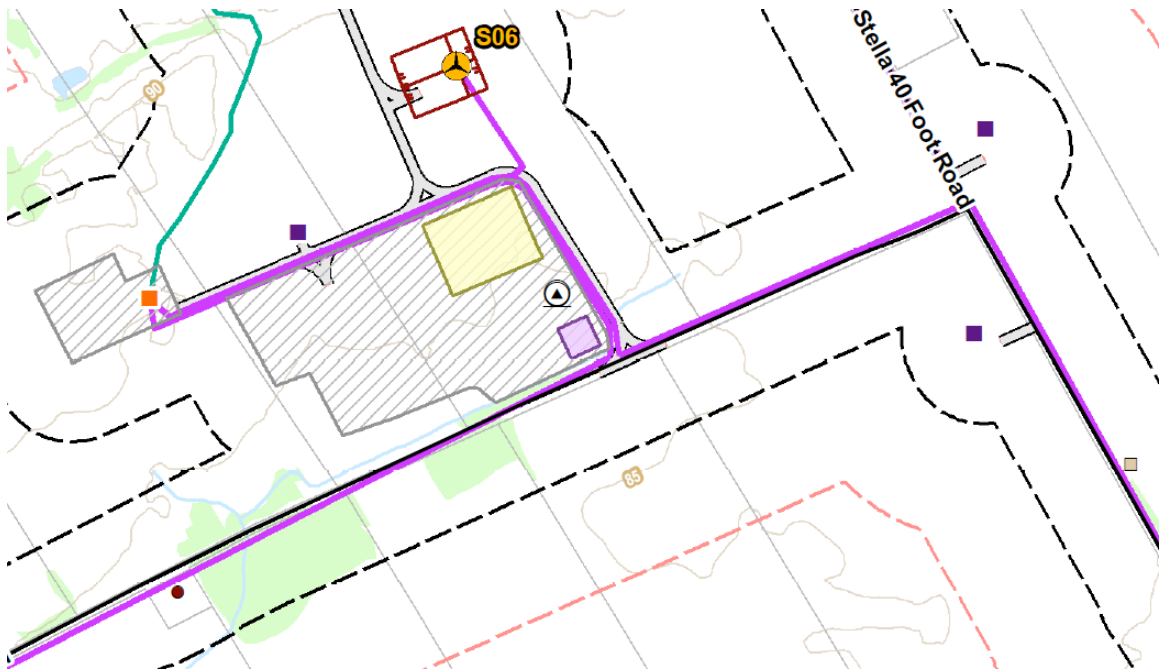
Substation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The substation will consist of a prepared area of approximately 80 m x 100 m in size. • Surface material will be stripped, stockpiled and reused to the extent possible during site landscaping. • A chain link fence will be installed to enclose the substation. • A grounding grid will be built within the fenced area. • Cranes would be used for transformer and switchgear placement. • A concrete containment foundation with an oil/water separator will be installed around the transformer that will be large enough to hold any insulating fluid that may leak from the equipment. • A sound attenuation wall will be installed around three sides of the transformer to minimize the escape of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dozer • Dump truck • Gravel truck • Concrete truck mixers • Excavator • Grader • Backhoe • Roller • Cranes • Flatbed truck • Compactor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineered fill and crushed stone • Concrete • Chain link fence • Sound attenuation wall • Grounding Grid • Electrical transformers & spill containment • Formwork • Rebar • Transformer • Switchgear
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According to the Windlectric design and operation report, the substation will be surrounded on three sides by a 6 m high acoustic wall. Any transformer generating noise over 100 decibels should be at least as far away as the 550m required for turbines.

Furthermore, just to the east of the transformer station, Windlectric plans to construct a cement batching plant similar to the one in the photo below.



In the diagram below, the cement batching plant is shown in yellow, the transformer is shown in red, a maintenance building is shown in purple, a laydown and staging area is shown with diagonal lines and the black dot on the lower left indicates the location of the Little's home.



Mr. Murray Beckel, Director of Planning and Development for Loyalist Township has this to say about the cement plant in a report endorsed by Council and submitted to the Ministry as part of the Municipal Consultation Form in April 2013:

Compatibility

The proponent is proposing a concrete batching plant during the construction phase, to be situated approximately 750-800 metres south west of the Amherst Island Public School. While the Province has been addressing wind farms as energy approvals, they are actually a land use and should be treated as such to address compatibility, or as the Ministry describes as managing adverse effects.

If the batching plant needed planning approval under the Planning Act, the municipality would analyze the various operational aspects of the plant to determine compatibility. In particular, the municipality would use the Ministry of Environment Land Use Guideline called "D6 Compatibility between Industrial Facilities and Sensitive Land Uses". In this guideline, a batching plant would likely be deemed to be a Class 3 industry with an influence area of 1,000 metres. A Class 3 industry facility means:

"A place of business for large scale manufacturing or processing characterized by: large physical size, outside storage of raw and finished products, large production volumes and continuous movement of products and employees during daily shift operations. It has frequent outputs of major annoyance and there is a high probability of fugitive emissions."

Fugitive emissions may include noise, odor, vibration and particulate such as dust. Typically a proponent would have to prepare various reports outlining the potential compatibility issues and any adverse effects and determine a mitigation strategy and whether this strategy could be effectively implemented or not. Such technical information is not provided.

Mr. Minister, we write today in full support of Éva Little. It is outrageous and unconscionable that she and her family should be expected, by those who support Windlectric's plans, to live under the onerous conditions described above. To make matters worse, the family cannot move, for those same conditions will render their home unsaleable. No one will want to live there. Their equity will be lost and they will not be able to afford to move elsewhere.

Please intervene to help the Little family. Their daily lives and financial stability will be shattered unless the Windlectric proposal is rejected or fundamentally altered.

Honourable Minister, surely the precautionary principle and the Ministry's Statement of Environmental Values must apply.

Please direct MOECC's technical review team to reject approval of this ill-conceived project.

Sincerely,

Peter. G. S. Large P. Eng.
President, APAI

cc

Mr. Paul Evans, Deputy Minister, MOECC
Mayor Bill Lowry and Members of Council, Loyalist Township
Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health
Dr. Bob Bell, Deputy Minister of Health
Mr. Randy Hillier, MPP
Mr. Elliot Ferguson, Kingston Whig Standard