

WILLIAMS TREATIES FIRST NATIONS



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

March 27, 2014

Dear Environmental Review Tribunal:

Re: wpd Sumac Ridge Wind Incorporated:

As you are aware, the Curve Lake First Nation has served notice of a constitutional question regarding the approval of the Sumac Ridge Wind Farm and the potential violation of the Curve Lake First Nations Treaty rights recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

The Williams Treaties First Nations is comprised of seven First Nations in Southern Ontario including, the Chippewas' of Beausoleil First Nation, Georgina Island First Nation and the Rama First Nation and the Mississaugas' of Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation and of course, the Curve Lake First Nation.

The Williams Treaties First Nations have a significant historical relationship with one another that endures to this day in ensuring joint efforts are made in protecting and preserving their Aboriginal and treaty rights and interests.

The Williams Treaties First Nations maintain that for consultation to occur in a meaningful way, information must be provided in a culturally sensitive manner that acknowledges First Nations' needs and the lack of capacity that exists for most First Nation communities wanting to participate in environmental advocacy initiatives to steward their lands, waters and air. We understand that meaningful consultation has to date NOT occurred with the First Nation.

It is important to note that the Crown, both provincial and federal, confirmed at October 29, 2012, that the Curve Lake First Nation, as well as the other Williams Treaties First Nations have existing constitutionally protected treaty rights in the area of treaty 20. The Sumac Ridge Wind Inc. project is situated within Treaty 20 and the First Nation has a right to be consulted, particularly in matters where there is a potential impact on their treaty rights.

We urge you to deny or at a minimum suspend the approval process of this project, pending consultation with the First Nation that is most directly impacted. It is important to note that this consultation may involve all seven First Nations

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party to the Williams Treaties and who are entitled to constitutionally protected treaty rights in the treaty 20 area should Curve Lake First Nation not be accommodated.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Williams Treaties First Nation process coordinator, Karry Sandy McKenzie at 8 Creswick Court, Barrie, ON. L4M 2J7, (705) 792-5087 to discuss the matter further and provide any additional updates on the status of the project.

Yours truly,


Chief Roland Monague
Beausoleil First Nation
Portfolio Chief Williams Treaties First Nations