

April 2, 2013

Marnie Dawson  
Environmental Specialist  
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110-12 Avenue S.W.  
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Dear Ms. Dawson:

**Subject: Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) comments regarding Wolfe Island EcoPower Centre Post-Construction Follow-Up Plan Bird and Bat Resources, Monitoring Report No.7**

Thank you for the opportunity to review the seventh biannual monitoring report for the Wolfe Island EcoPower Centre. MNR has the following comments based on our review of the document:

Direct Effects – Birds

Twenty carcasses of 13 bird species were recorded during the reporting period. The estimated bird mortality rate for the monitoring period was 0.77 birds/MW (1.76 birds/turbine). When combined with the results of the July to December 2011 report, the annual mortality rate was calculated to be 6.3 birds/turbine/year (2.54 birds/MW/year). This is below the annual threshold of 11.7 birds/MW/year as established in the monitoring plan.

Three of the twenty bird carcasses collected during the reporting period were Bobolink. As identified in our previous correspondences, MNR continues to have concerns with the on going mortality of Bobolink on site. At this time we acknowledge receipt of documentation and reports related to those Bobolink mortalities and will continue to work with you directly to ensure that the facility is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Direct Effects – Raptors

Ten raptor fatalities were recorded during this reporting period. When corrected for scavenger removal, this represents an approximate mortality rate of 0.36 raptors/turbine or 0.16 raptors/MW for the reporting period. When combined with results from the July to December 2011 reporting period, the annual mortality for raptors was calculated to be 0.44 raptors/turbine/year (0.19 raptors/MW/year). This is above the annual threshold of 0.09 raptors/MR/year as established in the monitoring plan.

## Direct Effects - Bats

Considering correction factors, the 8 bat carcasses, of 5 species reported, represents an approximate mortality rate of 0.73 bats/turbine or 0.32 bats/MW for the reporting period. When the results of the monitoring period are combined with the estimated mortality for the July to December 2011 monitoring period the annual mortality rate for bats was calculated to be 1.23 bats/MW (2.8 bats/turbine). This is below the annual threshold of 12.5 bats/MW as established in the monitoring plan.

## Additional Comments

MNR has finalized the 'Bat and Bat Habitats Guidelines for Wind Power Projects (July 2011)' and the 'Bird and Bird Habitat: Guidelines for Wind Power Projects (December 2011)' which all new wind power projects subject to the MOE's Renewable Energy Approvals regulation are required to follow. Should any additional post construction monitoring activities be implemented for the Wolfe Island EcoPower Center, MNR recommends that they be completed in accordance the those guidelines.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions.

Sincerely,



Eric R. Prevost  
Renewable Energy  
Planning Ecologist  
Peterborough District

cc Rob Read, Environment Canada  
Mathieu Leblanc, Natural Resources Canada  
Karen Bellamy, District Manager, Ministry of Natural Resources