



# MEETING MINUTES

**Subject:** Port Ryerse Wind Farm Community Liaison Committee Meeting 3  
**Date and Time:** October 19, 2016 5:30pm – 7:30pm  
**Location:** Simcoe Recreation Centre Arena (Dogwood Room), 182 South Dr, Simcoe ON  
**Our File:** 16-3802

## Attendees

Asier Ania, Boralex	Larry Glaser, CLC Member
Frédéric Courtemanche, Boralex	Alan Sheppard, CLC Member
Heather Plewes, Boralex	Chris van Passen, CLC Member
Adam Rosso, Boralex	Karla Kolli, Dillon Consulting (Chair and Facilitator)
Jason Weir, Boralex	Michael Seasons, Dillon Consulting (note taker)
Nora Brown, CLC Member	

## Regrets

Wally Faulkner, CLC Member	Samuel Richard, Boralex
Bob Lawrence, CLC Member	

## Notes

- | Item      | Discussion   |
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| <b>1.</b> | <b>Review of Minutes from CLC Meeting 2 (August 9, 2016)</b>   |
| 1.1.      | Minutes from CLC Meeting 2 on August 9, 2016 accepted by the CLC   |
| 1.2.      | <b><i>PREVIOUS ACTION (ONGOING): Boralex to consider posting an information board at each turbine site to indicate company and project name, contact information, site map and description of what is at each site</i></b> |
| 1.2.1.    | Boralex confirmed that some form of signage will be posted but the specific details are still being determined; at a minimum the signs will include company name, project name, contact info                               |
| 1.3.      | <b><i>PREVIOUS ACTION (COMPLETE): Boralex to confirm that relevant local authorities have correct information regarding upcoming component delivery activities</i></b>   |
| 1.3.1.    | Boralex noted that relevant authorities (e.g. local emergency services) were contacted prior to component delivery; all major component deliveries were undertaken with police escorts                                     |
| 1.4.      | <b><i>PREVIOUS ACTION (ONGOING): Boralex to address availability of post-construction environmental monitoring data at final CLC meeting</i></b>   |
| 1.5.      | Boralex confirmed details of information to be presented are still being determined (see <b>Item 3.21</b> )  |

Item	Discussion
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1.6.	<b><i>PREVIOUS ACTION (ONGOING): Boralex to present information on maintenance schedule and scope, and operations information at final CLC meeting. Operational staff to attend.</i></b>
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1.6.1.	Boralex confirmed this information will be available at the final meeting. Jason Weir, Operations Manager was in attendance at this meeting and will also attend final meeting
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1.7.	<b><i>PREVIOUS ACTION (ONGOING): Boralex to consider possibility of site visit during operations phase</i></b>
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1.7.1.	Boralex confirmed this is still being considered, with details (if any) to be determined once construction is completed, ahead of final CLC meeting
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<b>2.</b>	<b>Project Construction Update</b>
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2.1.	Boralex gave an overview of construction progress to date and to come
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***Works Completed to Date***

2.2.	Foundations have been finished and backfilling works have been completed
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2.3.	Substation (E-shed) and collector network have been installed
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2.4.	Component deliveries were completed over the last several weeks
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2.5.	Almost all turbine installation works have been completed, with some finishing work left to do
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2.5.1.	Rotors for 2 turbines lifted today; turbines already up on all 4 bases
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***Works Currently Ongoing***

2.6.	Final turbine installation works to be undertaken over the next several weeks
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2.7.	Interconnection network work is now focussed on connecting the project connected to the provincial distribution grid
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2.8.	Minor remediation works are being undertaken on an as-needed basis (e.g. road entrances)
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***Works to be Undertaken***

2.9.	Minor substation works remain to be undertaken
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2.10.	Minor activities may take place in the new year, depending on weather conditions (e.g. minor site remediation works)
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2.11.	Turbine commissioning outstanding; this will be the last step before operation
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2.11.1.	Demobilization (e.g. moving trailers offsite) will occur following the commissioning phase; construction should be completed in November, dependent on various factors
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### 3. CLC Questions and Discussion

3.1. Boralex addressed the following questions and requests for further information

#### ***Community Liaison Committee***

3.2. **Submitted question:** Why are we not being notified of these meetings directly? Not everyone reads the local paper

3.2.1. Boralex noted that notices for the public to observe the CLC meetings are published in the Simcoe Reformer and posted on the Project website in order to inform the wider community;

3.2.2. Boralex confirmed the CLC sign-in sheet has been modified to allow attendees to indicate their desire to be directly notified of future meetings

3.3. **Submitted question:** Is there a conflict of interest in the CLC (e.g. having participating land owners on the Committee)?

3.3.1. Boralex noted that the purpose of the CLC is to facilitate communications between Boralex and the CLC members with respect to issues relating to the construction, installation, use, operation, maintenance and retirement of the facility

3.3.2. Boralex noted that members of the public and other stakeholders were invited to join the CLC as a diversity of perspectives is viewed as being important, and that each member of the CLC has a perspective to share

3.3.3. Boralex noted that participation by corporate representatives is a requirement of the REA

3.4. A member of the public suggested that the public, especially neighbours of the Project, be notified by mail of any upcoming meetings

3.4.1. **ACTION: Boralex to consider modifying notification process for the final CLC meeting.**

#### ***Construction Issues***

3.5. **Submitted question:** Why has construction occurred outside of normal hours

3.5.1. Boralex noted that the Project obtained permission from Norfolk County to temporarily operate outside of normal hours (as relates to the noise by-law) various times during the project for specific reasons. For example, to avoid high temperatures for concrete work and to avoid high winds during turbine installation.

3.5.2. Boralex noted that construction updates on the Project website included notice(s) that work would be undertaken outside of normal hours

3.6. A member of the CLC asked why concrete work couldn't continue during high temperatures

3.6.1. Boralex noted that the specific work conditions (i.e. concrete pit) presented a health and safety risk for concrete and steel workers, thus the Norfolk County by-law committee agreed that the relaxation was necessary

- 3.7. A member of the CLC inquired how Boralex was able to obtain an exemption from the relevant noise By-law, especially considering Boralex is not a local company
  - 3.7.1. Boralex noted that anyone can make an application for an exemption to the operating hours under the noise by-law, and that such applications are reviewed by a staff committee
- 3.8. A member of the public noted that the construction works outside of normal hours were disruptive to local residents
  - 3.8.1. Boralex recognized that construction is disruptive and reiterated their overarching interest in having the least impact on the local community as possible during construction. They noted that they do not foresee any further need for work outside the hours stipulated in the zoning by-law
- 3.9. A member of the public asked whether the exemption allowing for extended working hours is required in each instance or if it applies as a blanket exemption
  - 3.9.1. Boralex confirmed that such exemptions are specific to the works being performed and thus a new request must be submitted each time there is a need for work outside normal hours
- 3.10. A member of the CLC noted his desire to see construction end as quickly as possible as incidents of trespassing and vehicular traffic have increased on his property, noting that construction vehicles frequently seemed lost
  - 3.10.1. Boralex noted that remaining works on the substation (e-house) are limited to electrical commissioning, and that Borea (General Contractor) had advised Boralex that construction activities should be finished within the next 2 weeks, approximately
- 3.11. A member of the CLC asked what can be done about repeated incidences of trespassing
  - 3.11.1. Boralex noted that site security has been engaged as needed, Boralex noted that they will deal directly with landowners and look into trespassing issues if/when they arise
- 3.12. A member of the CLC noted that a member of the public had asked him to raise the issue of damage to private property and promises of a buffer to be placed during construction
  - 3.12.1. Boralex confirmed that any damage to the specific property would be discussed directly with the landowners involved
- 3.13. A member of the CLC noted that construction trucks have been seen on Gilbert Road, that it appears a stop sign at Gilbert Road and Woolley Road was damaged but that it had been repaired, as seen on the day of meeting., Also, a load of topsoil may be needed to bring the intersection of Woolley Road and Port Ryerse Road up to grade
 

***ACTION: Boralex to investigate the intersection of Woolley Road and Port Ryerse.***

  - 3.13.1. Boralex noted that they take use of the designated haul route very seriously and have disciplined specific truck drivers upon receiving evidence of any infractions to date
- 3.14. A member of the CLC noted that Boralex, Borea and associated contractors have been considerate and have generally done a good job, despite the inherently disruptive nature of turbine construction

### ***Project Operations***

- 3.15. ***Submitted question:*** Who do we call if we have complaints during operations?
- 3.15.1. Boralex noted that any complaints or questions should be submitted using the following contact information (with any change posted to the Project website):  
Project phone: 855-363-6319  
Project email: portryersewind@boralex.com
- 3.15.2. Boralex noted messages are currently dealt with by Asier Ania, but once the Project is operational such messages will be dealt with by Jason Weir in his role as Operations Manager; all complaints are recorded and logged for submission to the MOECC, in accordance with the requirements of the REA
- 3.15.3. Boralex confirmed a general commitment to acknowledge messages within 48 hours of their receipt; resolving the issue may take additional time
- 3.16. A member of the CLC asked what Boralex intends to do in the event of costly repairs being needed for equipment, given the decline in Provincial subsidies, and whether such eventualities would see the removal and decommissioning of turbine equipment
- 3.16.1. Boralex noted that the price paid for the energy generated will not be decreasing; ongoing maintenance and repairs to turbine equipment would be covered under warranty or be paid for by the operating and maintenance budget Boralex has allocated for this project.
- 3.16.2. Boralex noted that the Project would not have gone ahead if it wasn't able to show with reasonable certainty that the turbines would be kept in good repair
- 3.17. A member of the CLC asked whether the lights on the turbines are required and why they are not put on the blades
- 3.17.1. Boralex confirmed that the lights are required (for 3 out of the 4 Turbines) under Transport Canada regulations for the purposes of aviation safety (Regulation 621), and that it is clear that these lights are to be placed on the turbine nacelle. Regarding the height of the blade above the nacelle, it is understood that NAV CANADA will publish Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) so that pilots are aware of the location of turbine towers and the appropriate separation distance from the lights
- 3.18. A member of the CLC asked if there is a wind speed limit beyond which the turbines must be shut down
- 3.18.1. Boralex noted that 3 limit parameters apply: instantaneous gust of 37 m/s; 2 minute average wind speed of 35 m/s; and 10 minute average wind speed of 27 m/s; once any of these parameters are exceeded, the turbines automatically go into a "storm control mode" and will yaw or pitch the turbine blades as needed to reduce structural stresses, at which point the turbine blades are allowed to "freewheel" (i.e. moving freely without generating power) so as to avoid any static damage

- 3.19. A member of the CLC asked where local residents get power from, in situations involving turbine shutdown, assuming power generation remains in-situ
  - 3.19.1. Boralex confirmed that the turbines supply power to the local distribution grid and this distribution grid supplies power to residents from various sources so it would not be affected with a turbine shutdown.
- 3.20. A member of the public asked if the Project has a medical doctor on staff, and how Boralex would address health concerns stemming from wind power projects
  - 3.20.1. Boralex noted that they do not have a medical doctor on staff
  - 3.20.2. Boralex noted that regulations for turbine siting are followed, and the large-scale studies conducted by Health Canada have shown no causal link between proximity to wind turbines and symptoms associated with what was referred to as “wind turbine syndrome”
  - 3.20.3. Boralex noted that if a complainant experiences an apparent health-related issue, Boralex would deal with every complainant directly and the Operations Department would collect information on the symptoms being experienced in an effort to correlate that information with operational data to see if there is any link
- 3.21. A member of the public asked who would be responsible for monitoring avian impacts (e.g. bird strikes)
  - 3.21.1. Boralex noted that they have commitments as part of the REA to conduct post-construction monitoring with a professional biology services firm which will involve the monitoring of bird and bat species (including bald eagles) for 3-5 years; this company will also manage the collection and removal of avian casualties
  - 3.21.2. Boralex confirmed that monitoring information will be made available on the project website, but that this will not include information on species designated as Species-at Risk due to legal restrictions barring them from posting such information
- 3.22. A member of the CLC asked whether Boralex would make in-service acoustic testing data publicly available
  - 3.22.1. Boralex noted that they may be able to conduct post-construction acoustic audits if specific properties are eligible under the terms of the REA, and that those who are unsure whether they qualify for such audits can submit a request to the Project contact for more information
- 3.23. A member of the CLC asked whether the Project’s turbines will be shut down ahead of other generating sources in times when base generating capacity are producing a surplus, given the changing political climate wherein Provincial support for renewable power has seemingly eroded
  - 3.23.1. Boralex noted for clarity that the member’s question refers to the Province suspending the LRP II qualification process, which applies only to future projects being considered for approval

- 3.23.2. Boralex noted that current IESO projections, which show a decreasing need for new generation inputs, are based on a number of variable assumptions which could easily change; therefore, the IESO has decided to put new renewable energy generation programs on hold until long-term planning efforts are completed (i.e. Long Term Energy Plan)
- 3.23.3. Boralex confirmed that the Project's turbines will not be shut down as IESO curtailment efforts will only apply to IESO-regulated market projects which connect to the bulk transmission network, whereas power generated by this Project enters the local distribution grid (meeting local demand)
- 3.24. A member of the CLC noted that a member of the public had asked how Boralex will maintain local employment once construction is completed
  - 3.24.1. Boralex noted that Siemens will be responsible for hiring during the operations phase and may be looking to engage local staff
  - 3.24.2. Boralex advised that any parties interested in employment with the Project once it is in the operations phase should submit a request to the Project contact

#### ***Project Decommissioning***

- 3.25. ***Submitted question:*** When will the turbines come down?
  - 3.25.1. Boralex noted that the turbines are expected to be in service for the duration of the 20 year Project contract; following the end of that term, a decision would be made as to whether the life of the facility should be extended or if it should be decommissioned; if/when the Project is eventually decommissioned, the decommissioning plan would be implemented (decommissioning plan report can be found on the Project's website at <http://www.boralex.com/projects/portryerse>)

#### ***ACTION: Boralex to confirm decommissioning agreements with landowners***

- 3.26. A member of the CLC asked how funding for decommissioning efforts is allotted, and whether Boralex would still exist as a legal entity after the life of the Project and what that might imply for decommissioning efforts
  - 3.26.1. Boralex noted that the turbines have a design life beyond 25 years, therefore the Project could very well be extended beyond its contractual 20-year term; power can be sold at wholesale prices once the original contract term ends
  - 3.26.2. Boralex noted that they have been in business for 20 years and plan to stay in business; financial modelling done as part of the Project planning included specific line items for decommissioning funding
- 3.27. A member of the public asked if there is an inflation clause in the Project's contractual agreement(s) which would apply to decommissioning costs
  - 3.27.1. Boralex confirmed that 20% of the power purchase agreement rate is escalated over time to account for inflation, and that this escalation forms part of the financial planning for decommissioning

3.28. A member of the public asked what happens to the fibreglass present in turbine blades following decommissioning (e.g. is it buried or ground up?)

3.28.1. Boralex noted that specific details of fibreglass management have not yet been determined as the technical options available in 20 years may be radically different than those available to industry now; companies are currently researching various methods to recycle/reuse fibreglass materials (e.g. use in cement production)

**4. Next Steps**

4.1. Boralex suggested that the final meeting should be held during the operations phase of the Project

4.1.1. CLC members agreed to set the next CLC meeting for a date following at least one month of operations, possibly in February

***ACTION: Boralex to confirm CLC 4 meeting date***

*The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.*



## **Project Contact Information**

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### **Port Ryerse Wind Farm LP**

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Asier Ania, Project Manager, Development  
Boralex Inc.  
1-855-363-6319  
Email: portryersewind@boralex.com

### **General Project Information**

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Toll free: 1-855-363-6319  
Project email address: portryersewind@boralex.com  
In addition, Project information is posted to the Project website:  
**[www.boralex.com/projects/portryerse](http://www.boralex.com/projects/portryerse)**

### **CLC Facilitator**

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## **Errors and/or Omissions**

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These minutes were prepared by Michael Seasons who should be notified of any errors and/or omissions.