

Rhodena Wind Project

June 2023

We would like to give you an update on our Rhodena Wind Project, a collaboration of ABO Wind Canada Ltd. (ABO Wind) and Eskasoni First Nation.

Upcoming Open Houses

ABO Wind invites you to attend an upcoming **drop-in information session** to learn more about the Project:

Tuesday, July 11 - 6pm - 8:30pm
Creignish Community Centre Hall
2061 Ceilidh Trail, Creignish

Wednesday, July 12 - 6pm - 8:30pm
Creignish Community Centre Hall
2061 Ceilidh Trail, Creignish



**ABO
WIND**

The Project

Renewable Energy in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia has one of the most ambitious climate change plans in Canada with a target to close all the coal power plants and reach 80% renewable energy by 2030. These ambitious targets require more renewable energy in our province.

The Green Choice Program (www.novascotiagcp.com) was developed collaboratively between the Province of Nova Scotia, renewable energy developers, Nova Scotia Power, and large energy buyers. It will allow participating customers to purchase up to 100% of their electricity from local renewable energy sources.

About the Project

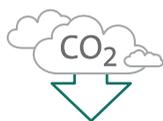
The Rhodena Wind Project (“the Project”) is being proposed by ABO Wind Canada Ltd. (“ABO Wind”) in response to the Green Choice Program. ABO Wind is partnering with Eskasoni First Nation to develop the Project. As a 51% partner, Eskasoni First Nation is actively collaborating with ABO Wind to create capacity building, employment and economic opportunities, and acting as an environmental steward for the land.

The Project would place 15 wind turbines on Crown and private land between Route 19 and Trans-Canada Highway 105. The Project area of interest was initially selected due to world-class wind speeds, an existing network of forestry roads, land topography, grid capacity and the ability to adhere to and exceed company, municipal and provincial setback guidelines.

The Project will:



- Have an expected capacity of 105 megawatts, providing clean energy to the grid, powering local residences and businesses, generating enough energy for 34,000 homes annually.



- Help Nova Scotia achieve its goal to phase out burning coal as an energy source and displacing approximately 5.9 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent during its lifetime.



- Include other associated infrastructure, including a substation, a control building for site maintenance, access roads, underground collector lines, a transmission line, and meteorological towers.

Environmental Studies

Updated information on environmental studies, potential impacts, and mitigation measures will be shared in more detail in the next mailout and open house.

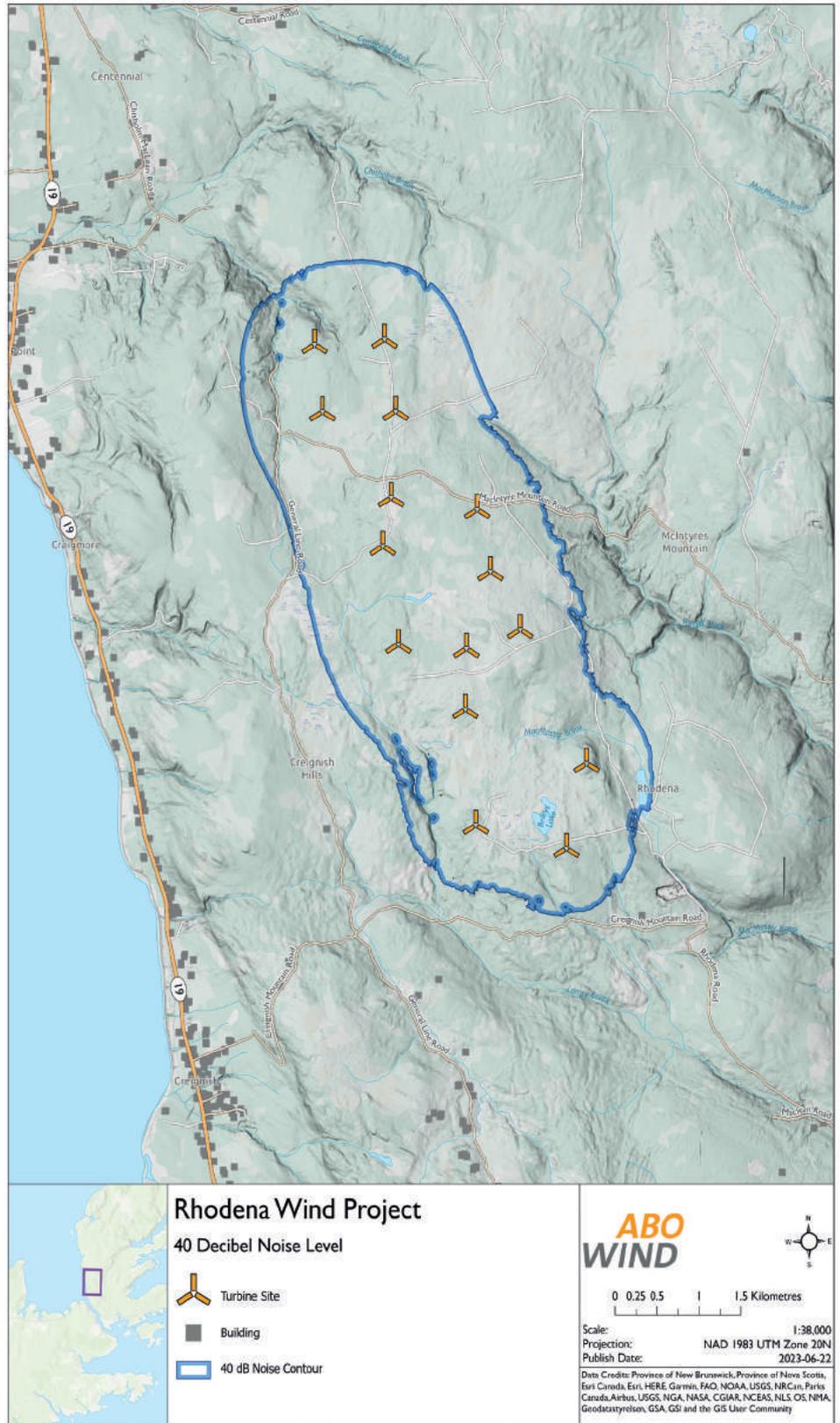
A Mi'kmaq Ecological Knowledge Study (MEKS) was completed by Membertou GIS to understand any historic and current Mi'kmaq land.

ABO Wind is working with local third-party experts to complete the required technical and environmental studies to support the siting of wind turbines. Studies include analysis of shadow flicker, visualizations/renderings of turbine locations, expected sound levels, and more. This information will be incorporated into an environmental assessment ("EA") submission to the Provincial government later this year. Some of the study results include:

- Over 86% of access roads utilized by the Project are existing roads to minimize the footprint of new disturbance.
- Turbine generated noise levels during operations will not exceed 40 dBA at residences closest to the Project, according to noise modeling (shown in the outlined blue area on the map).

This sound level is similar to a quiet library or a suburban area at night and falls within Nova Scotia's EA requirements for Wind Power Projects. A typical quiet rural area has a sound level of about 35 dBA.

Noise Contours



Benefits to Community



- An estimated \$20-25M in property tax to the municipality over the life of the Project that can be used for local services and infrastructure.



- Short-term and long-term jobs and contracts in site clearing, road building, electrical, construction, concrete work, and ongoing maintenance – including 75 to 125 local jobs during construction, and several permanent jobs for operations and maintenance.



- Revenue to local businesses – during the construction period, tens of millions of dollars in materials and services could come from local businesses, including construction sub-contracts, accommodations, restaurants and catering, and other amenities.



- Benefit funds will go to the community hosting the Project, for community-level initiatives and regional investment.



- Revenue to local landowners from leases signed.



- Wind energy provides community health benefits by offsetting emissions that would otherwise be emitted through the burning of fossil fuels. The Project will generate electricity without emitting greenhouse gases or air pollutants or any use of freshwater.

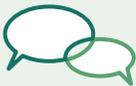
Ongoing opportunities for feedback

Timeline



Ongoing:

ABO Wind's team is actively engaging with local community groups and businesses, First Nations, government, and other relevant organizations in the region. Consultation will continue throughout the life of the Project.



Summer 2023:

Open Houses on July 11 and 12 (see details on front of pamphlet). ABO Wind will work with community members to identify those willing to participate on a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) for the project.



September 2023:

The Project's EA will be submitted to the Provincial government for review and approval. The EA process provides additional opportunities for citizens to share feedback on the Project.



December 2023:

The Rhodena Wind Project will be submitted for the Green Choice Program.

March 2024:

Anticipated Green Choice RFP award.



2024:

Construction begins with tree and road clearing.

2026:

Commissioning – The Project is producing clean energy.

Ample opportunities remain to ask questions, make comments, and provide input throughout 2023 as ABO Wind continues to consult the community and proceed with our project planning. ABO Wind will continue to provide updates through the Project website, open houses, mail-outs, meetings, and correspondence. ABO Wind's objective is to facilitate open, honest, and respectful discussion with all those interested in the Project.

Questions and additional information

If you have any questions or concerns ABO Wind invites you to reach out to

Heidi Kirby, Communications Coordinator at the Halifax office:

heidi.kirby@abo-wind.com or (902) 329-9907.

ABO Wind is open to meet virtually or in person. Many of the questions already asked by the public have responses available at **www.rhodenawind.ca**.

We acknowledge that the proposed project is in Unama'ki, the ancestral, unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are grateful for the Treaties of Peace and Friendship with the Mi'kmaq people, which set out long-standing promises, mutual obligations, and benefits for all parties involved.

ABO
WIND