



**Stantec**

**OSTRANDER POINT WIND ENERGY PARK  
CONSULTATION REPORT**

File No. 160960369  
May 2011

Prepared for:

**Gilead Power Corporation**  
440 Passmore Avenue  
Scarborough ON M1V 5J8

Prepared by:

**Stantec Consulting Ltd.**  
70 Southgate Drive, Suite 1  
Guelph ON N1G 4P5



## Executive Summary

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Gilead Power Corporation (“Gilead”) is an Ontario-based private, renewable energy development company dedicated to providing renewable energy for Ontario. In response to the Government of Ontario's initiative to promote the development of renewable, pollution-free electricity in the province, Gilead is proposing to develop the Ostrander Point Wind Energy Park in Prince Edward County, Ontario.

The basic components of the Project include nine (9) GE xl 2.5 MW wind turbine generators with a total installed nameplate capacity of 22.5 MW, transformers included within each turbine, one on-site substation including transformer and electrical collector lines. This system will transport the electricity generated at the wind farm to Hydro One Networks Inc.'s (Hydro One's) Distribution Network. The Project also includes an existing 60 m high meteorological testing tower (MET tower), roads to access the turbines for on-going maintenance as well as electrical equipment and systems required for interconnection to the Hydro One grid. The Project will be situated exclusively on Crown land, known as the Ostrander Point Crown Land Block.

Gilead retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to conduct the necessary studies and prepare a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) application, as required under Ontario Regulation 359/09 - Renewable Energy Approvals under Part V.0.1 of the Act of the *Environmental Protection Act* (O. Reg. 359/09). This Consultation Report is one component of the REA Application for the Project, and has been prepared in accordance with O. Reg. 359/09, the Ministry of the Environment's Technical Bulletin Five, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' (MNR's) *Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects* (September 2009), in addition to the requirements of O. Reg. 116/01 - the Electricity Projects Regulation (as this is a transitional project).

Specifically, with respect to the requirements outlined in O. Reg. 359/09 and the technical bulletin, the following table summarizes the documentation requirements of the REA application and the applicable section reference within this document which addresses the requirements.

**Consultation Report Requirements (as per O. Reg. 359/09 – Table 1)**

Requirements	Completed	Section Reference
Set out information relating to consultations conducted in respect of the renewable energy project, including the following: 1. A summary of communication with any members of the public, aboriginal communities, municipalities, local roads boards and Local Services Boards regarding the project.	✓	2.0, 3.0 and Attachments A through L
2. Evidence that the information required to be distributed to aboriginal communities under subsection 17 (1) was distributed.	✓	2.2.5, 3.5 and Attachment K

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**Consultation Report Requirements (as per O. Reg. 359/09 – Table 1)**

Requirements	Completed	Section Reference
3. Any information provided by an aboriginal community in response to a request made under paragraph 4 of subsection 17 (1).	✓	2.2.5, 3.5 and Attachment K
4. Evidence that a consultation form was distributed in accordance with subsection 18 (1)	✓	3.2 and Attachment I
5. The consultation form distributed under subsection 18 (1), if any part of it has been completed by a municipality, local roads board or Local Services Board.	✓	Attachment I
6. A description of whether and how, i. comments from members of the public, aboriginal communities, municipalities, local roads boards and Local Services Boards were considered by the person who is engaging in the project,	✓	2.3, 2.4 and Attachments B, D, G, H, I, J, K, L
ii. the documents that were made available under subsection 16 (5) were amended after the final public meeting was held, and	✓	3.4, 3.5 and Attachment H and L
iii. the proposal to engage in the project was altered in response to comments mentioned in subparagraph i.	✓	2.3, 2.4 and Attachments I, J, K, L

With respect to the MNR's Approval and Permitting Requirements Document, the MNR has outlined requirements for the Consultation Report. The MNR requirements relate to aboriginal engagement and are consistent with the requirements outlined under O. Reg. 359/09. Prior to releasing draft documents to the public as per the consultation requirement outlined under O. Reg. 359/09, the proponent must meet certain requirements in relation to each aboriginal community specified by the Government that has or may have constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights and that may be adversely impacted by the project, or otherwise may be interested in any negative environmental effects of the project.

This report provides information related to consultation and information disclosure activities conducted for this Project, including consultation activities prior to and after the enactment of O. Reg. 359/09.

Gilead has conducted a comprehensive stakeholder consultation program that began in 2007 under O. Reg. 116/01 and has identified the key issues of interest to the local community and incorporated them into the Project design where possible. The program involved numerous public meetings and opportunities for stakeholders, agencies and aboriginal communities to provide comments and concerns including a review of a Draft Environmental Review Report and two sets of Draft Renewable Energy Approval reports. As this is a transitional project, the consultation activities have been conducted to meet the requirements of both O. Reg. 116/01 and O. Reg. 359/09 in addition to the MNR's APRD process.

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## 1.0 Introduction

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Gilead Power Corporation (“Gilead”) is a renewable energy development company that is privately owned and based in Scarborough, Ontario. Gilead is proposing to develop the Ostrander Point Wind Energy Park (the Project) in Prince Edward County, Ontario, in response to the Government of Ontario’s initiative to promote the development of renewable electricity in the province.

The basic components of the Project include nine (9) GE xl 2.5 MW wind turbine generators with a total installed nameplate capacity of 22.5 MW, transformers included within each turbine, one on-site substation including transformer and electrical collector lines. This system will transport the electricity generated at the wind farm to Hydro One Networks Inc.’s (Hydro One’s) Distribution Network. The Project also includes an existing 60 m high meteorological testing tower (MET tower), roads to access the turbines for on-going maintenance as well as electrical equipment and systems required for interconnection to the Hydro One grid. The turbines will be situated exclusively on Crown land, known as the Ostrander Point Crown Land Block, also referred to in this report as the Subject Property (the layout is shown within the **Project Description Report**).

Gilead retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to conduct the necessary studies and prepare a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) Application, as required under Ontario Regulation 359/09 - Renewable Energy Approvals under Part V.0.1 of the Act of the Environmental Protection Act (O. Reg. 359/09). According to subsection 6(3) of O. Reg. 359/09, the Project is classified as a Class 4 Wind Facility and will follow the requirements identified in O. Reg. 359/09 for such a facility.

In addition, the Project is located on Crown land and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) is responsible for the management and administration of Crown land. In order to support Ontario’s objective of promoting renewable energy sources, the MNR provides opportunities for Crown land to be used to develop renewable energy projects, including commercial wind power projects, via a “Commercial Wind Energy Lease”. This lease grants land from the Crown that conveys a leasehold interest in public land for the purpose of construction, maintaining and operating a wind park. The term of the lease will be for 25 years with one extension for a further term of 15 years.

This Consultation Report is one component of the REA Application for the Project, and has been prepared in accordance with O. Reg. 359/09, the Ministry of the Environment’s Technical Bulletin Five, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ (MNR’s) *Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects* (September 2009), in addition to the requirements of O. Reg. 116/01 - the Electricity Projects Regulation (as this is a transitional project).

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## **2.0 Consultation under O. Reg. 116/01 (Prior to O. Reg. 359/09 Enactment)**

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Consultation, transparency and disclosure have been key components of Project planning and development activities, mainly through direct mailings, newspaper ads, and Public Open Houses. Additional information about the Project was conveyed through direct stakeholder contacts, as well as a telephone line, a Project website and email address, and written correspondence. A summary of stakeholder consultation, including Open House comments and copies of Notices are provided in the Attachments to this report. The following provides an overview of the consultation activities conducted as part of the Project development prior to O. Reg. 359/09 coming into force on September 24, 2009.

### **2.1 COMMUNICATION TOOLS**

Gilead provided a variety of avenues for all interested stakeholders to learn about the Project and provide their input to the study team. The methods used and specific activities completed for the Project under O. Reg. 116/01 prior to the enactment of O. Reg. 359/09 included:

- Newspaper Notices of Commencement and Modification;
- Agency meetings and mailings;
- Two public Open Houses (one in conjunction with Jacques Whitford and the other with Stantec) with associated questionnaires;
- Meetings with directly affected landowners and the Alliance to Protect Prince Edward County (APPEC) to discuss the Draft Environmental Review Report (ERR);
- South Marysburgh Community Meeting to showcase the additional visual simulations and Final Project Layout
- First Nations engagement;
- Telephone line (1-519-836-6050);
- Project specific e-mail address (ostranderpoint@stantec.com);
- Mailing addresses for both Stantec and Gilead;
- Newsletters providing Project updates and upcoming activities;
- Project website ([www.gileadpower.com](http://www.gileadpower.com)); and,
- Notice of 30 calendar day stakeholder review period for the Draft ERR.

All names, phone numbers, addresses, and comments received by Gilead, Jacques Whitford and Stantec through the communication tools mentioned above were entered into a communication log and Project database for tracking, responding to questions, and future mailings.

## **2.2 COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

As described above, Gilead used a variety of tools to communicate with Project stakeholders. This section describes the specific communication activities undertaken by Gilead prior to enactment of O. Reg. 359/09; however the consultation activities described herein are applicable to the requirements prescribed by O. Reg. 359/09.

### **2.2.1 Notice of Commencement and Notice of Modification**

Notices were distributed to stakeholders through written correspondence to agencies, the general public, and other interested stakeholders.

A Notice of Commencement (**Attachment A**) was published in December 2007 in four local newspapers, covering a large geographic area: *The County Gazette*, *The Picton Gazette*, the *Belleville/Trenton Community Press*, and the *Belleville Intelligencer*. In addition, eight adjacent landowners (within 1,500 m) to the Project Location received the Notice of Commencement and a formal letter introducing Gilead. A Notice of Modification (**Attachment C**) was published in the same local newspapers in May 2008, an email was also sent to the existing Project mailing list, to introduce Stantec as consultants retained by Gilead to complete the Environmental Review for the Project. The Notice of Modification also indicated that a Public Open House was planned for late summer 2008 and identified the location of the proposed 44 kV transmission line for the Project. All stakeholders within 1,500 m of the Project received the notice.

### **2.2.2 Agency Meetings and Mailings**

At the outset of the Project, Gilead and Jacques Whitford (the consultant originally retained by Gilead) representatives held a pre-screening meeting with regulatory agencies to discuss regulatory requirements and identify any environmental and socio-economic concerns. The following is a list of agencies that attended the pre-screening meeting.

- Environment Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ministry of the Environment
- Quinte Conservation
- Transport Canada
- Prince Edward County

Further discussions with regulatory agencies and stakeholders continued throughout the development process regarding siting and mitigation measures.

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Numerous government agencies, self-autonomous groups, and boards were also contacted to participate in the planning and development of the ERR. Specifically, the following departments and agencies were contacted:

***Federal***

- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- Canadian Coast Guard
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
- CFB Trenton
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Department of National Defence
- Environment Canada/Canadian Wildlife Service
- Health Canada
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- NAV CANADA
- Radio Advisory Board of Canada
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Transport Canada

***Provincial***

- Hydro One Networks Inc.
- iSERV
- Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Ministry of the Attorney General
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of the Environment
- Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Transportation Ontario
- Ontario Geological Survey
- Ontario Provincial Police
- Ontario Realty Corporation

***Municipal Agencies and Conservation Authorities***

- Prince Edward County
- Prince Edward County Fire Department
- Quinte Conservation

Details of the communications with these parties are included in **Attachment I** including a summary table and copies of all correspondence.

### **2.2.3 Public Open Houses and Community Meeting**

#### ***First Public Open House***

The first Public Open House was held by Gilead and Jacques Whitford on January 17, 2008 at the South Marysburgh Hall in Milford. The purpose of this Public Open House was to:

Present the proposed Project and what it may entail to any interested stakeholders;

- Introduce Gilead and Project representatives to stakeholders;
- Introduce Jacques Whitford representatives to stakeholders; and,
- Gather stakeholder questions, comments, and information regarding the Subject Property.

Exit questionnaires were available at the completion of the open house (**Attachment B**). One hundred and five (105) persons registered their attendance at the first Public Open House. The results of the submitted questionnaires are summarized in **Appendix J**.

#### ***Second Public Open House***

The second Public Open House was held on August 28, 2008 at the Crystal Palace in Picton. The purpose of the second Public Open House was to:

- Offer the opportunity for stakeholders to review details of the updated Project layout (e.g. turbine locations, power line routing, and access roads);
- Present details of the Environmental Screening Process, what has occurred so far, and next steps;
- Provide visual simulations of what the Project may look like;
- Openly discuss questions and comments in an environment where stakeholders and Project representatives meet face-to-face; and,
- Gather stakeholder information and incorporate it into the Project where reasonable and feasible.

Representatives of Gilead and Stantec were present throughout the Public Open House to provide information, answer questions, and receive comments. Exit questionnaires were available at the open house (**Attachment D**). One hundred-nineteen (119) persons registered their attendance at the Public Open House. The results of the questionnaires are summarized in **Appendix J**.

***South Marysburgh Community Meeting***

A community meeting was held on May 29, 2009 at the South Marysburgh Central Public School as a means to further consult with local stakeholders and specifically at the request of residents within 1.5 km of the Projects site. The purpose of the community meeting was to provide an update on the status of the Project, display the final turbine layout as well as the new visual simulations that were conducted from key vantage points along County Rd. 13 and from cottages to the southeast of the Project (specifically at the request of local stakeholders). Prince Edward County Councillor Monica Alyea also presented a film about other existing wind projects. Sixty-one (61) people registered their attendance including numerous members from the Alliance to Protect Prince Edward County (APPEC).

**2.2.4 Telephone, Email, Mail, Newsletters, and Project Website**

All Project Notices and Newsletters provided stakeholders with the telephone number of Project representatives at Stantec (1-519-836-6050). In recognition of the distance from which many stakeholders would be calling, it was encouraged that the stakeholders call collect.

An email address was created specifically for the Project and was advertised in the Notices and Newsletters as a medium for contributing comments or submitting questions to Gilead. The email address provided stakeholders with a convenient way to contact the Study Team and receive feedback and answers to their questions.

The Project's stakeholder mailing list consisted of local residents (within 1.5 km), relevant interest groups, stakeholders who provided mailing addresses at Public Open Houses, and stakeholders who wrote to Project representatives and provided a mailing address or email address. Throughout the course of the Project, the mailing list was continuously updated to ensure all interested stakeholders would receive Project Notices and Newsletters.

Over the course of the Project, ten separate quarterly newsletters were distributed to the Project mailing list. These newsletters provided updates regarding the Project, information regarding upcoming meetings/open houses, contact information, and in some instances answers to common questions were provided (typically following meetings/open houses). The newsletters are contained in **Attachment E**.

The Project's website ([www.gileadpower.com](http://www.gileadpower.com)) was used to provide stakeholders with current, on-line updates of Project activities and information, upcoming community events, and consultation activities. Project documents such as Public Open House display boards, Newsletters, and Notices were also provided on the Project's website.

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**2.2.5 First Nation Engagement**

Gilead contacted the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) from the outset of the Project, as recommended by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and MNR. Regulatory agencies involved with First Nations were also contacted as part of the consultation and information disclosure process.

On September 14, 2005 representatives from Gilead and the MNR Kingston office attended a consultation meeting with the MBQ to discuss the intention of Gilead to perform wind testing on the Ostrander Point Crown Land parcel. The MBQ Band Council did not object to Gilead performing wind testing on the Ostrander Point Crown Land parcel.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and Gilead met with the MBQ on February 4, 2008 to introduce the Project. The MBQ indicated that they would like an Open House in their community to provide residents with information on the Project. The MBQ indicated that it would be the community as a whole and not the Council who would make a decision on the Project. They also indicated that it was the Ministry of Natural Resources' responsibility to consult with them (under the Crown's Duty to Consult requirements) and not Gilead's responsibility. The main point of issue for the MBQ is that a third party must be made available to them to review reports prepared as part of the Environmental Screening Process (ESP).

In a letter dated February 6, 2008 sent to Gilead from the MBQ following the February 4, 2008 meeting, the MBQ outlined their concerns regarding the proposal at that time (see **Attachment K**). These concerns included the following:

- The MBQ's Inherent Right to hunt and gather in the area must not be adversely impacted;
- Financial compensation for infringing upon the MBQ's Inherent Rights;
- Required funding for the MBQ to retain professionals to interpret the reports prepared from the Project to ensure the interests of the community are protected; and,
- The Crown's Duty to Consult cannot be transferred to the proponent.

The letter also indicated that the MBQ are interested in a revenue sharing agreement with the MNR and Gilead.

On February 24, 2009, Gilead responded to the MBQ that after meeting with them during 2008, and following a number of natural science studies, Gilead had sufficient information to formally respond to the MBQ's letter of February 6, 2008.

Referring to the points listed above, Gilead indicated that they would strive to ensure that the MBQ's Inherent Right to hunt and gather on the land would not be adversely affected by the Project and that they would continue to engage the MBQ on the Project's review. With regard to compensating the MBQ for infringing upon their Inherent Rights, Gilead responded that they will continue to work with the MBQ to determine if their Inherent Rights have been infringed upon,

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and if compensation is appropriate. Gilead also indicated they would work with the MBQ to determine their capacity funding requirements, this would ensure the MBQ has the capacity to review the Project and offer recommendations. Lastly, Gilead acknowledged that the Crown has a Duty to Consult with the MBQ.

The MBQ were sent Project correspondence at various milestones throughout the Project. The MBQ were also sent Project reports as they became available, for example on March 11, 2008, they were sent the Visual Impact Assessment, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and the Bird Monitoring Report. The MBQ were provided with the Draft Environmental Review Report (ERR) on February 9, 2009 and a shortened version of the Transportation Study on October 26, 2009. A summary table of all First Nations correspondence including copies of correspondence prior to and after the enactment of O. Reg. 359/09 is included in **Attachment K**. Copies of agency correspondence related to aboriginal consultation such as letters from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs are included in **Attachment I**.

## **2.3 CONSULTATION RESULTS UNDER O. REG 116/01**

Gilead has incorporated stakeholder comments into the Project planning and design in several respects. For example, in recognition of the level of stakeholder input regarding the Project's potential effects, and as a result, the detail of studies and assessments undertaken, Gilead voluntarily elevated the Project's Environmental Screening Report to an Environmental Review Report under O. Reg. 116/01.

In response to stakeholder comments regarding the potential for adverse effects on the local community, Gilead commissioned a separate Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, not typically prepared as part of Environmental Screening or Review Reports. Furthermore, in recognition of the importance of the area for birds, and in addition to the detailed primary and secondary studies being conducted by Stantec, Gilead participated in a radar study with Acadia University and Environment Canada to monitor spring and fall bird migration and bat migration over the Subject Property.

Feedback from the first Public Open House indicated the desire for Gilead to hold a second Public Open House and attend a Prince Edward County (PEC) council meeting. In response to stakeholder comments Gilead held a second Public Open House on August 28, 2008 and presented before PEC council on July 21, 2008.

Some stakeholders expressed concern regarding the proposed turbine layout (noise related concerns). In response to these concerns Gilead made revisions to the proposed layout where feasible in order to address stakeholder comments. The following provides examples of how the turbine layout was continuously revised in recognition of stakeholder and agency feedback.

Comments were received after the issuance of the Notice of Commencement and the first Public Open House regarding the Project's potential effects on birds as the Project is located within an Important Bird Area (IBA). Furthermore, some stakeholders commented regarding the

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turbines proximity to adjacent residences. Gilead also received important information from a stakeholder regarding an adjacent abandoned farmhouse that they may renovate and use as their future home when they retire.

In response to the stakeholder comments regarding the placement of turbines within an IBA, Gilead revised the proposed Layout #1 by increasing the setback from the Lake Ontario shoreline from 50 m to 250 m. In addition, Layout #1 was revised by increasing the 400 m buffer from existing adjacent residences by an additional 100 m as well as moving a turbine to accommodate the aforementioned proposed future retirement property. The revisions were reflected in Layout #2 (the various layouts were provided within the Draft ERR).

Layout #2 was presented at the second Public Open House where further comments were solicited. Many stakeholders recognized the modifications Gilead made to the turbine layout and were pleased with the changes while some adjacent residents maintained concerns regarding the proximity of the turbines to their dwellings. Cognizant of their concerns, Gilead reviewed Layout #2 to determine if the turbines closest to adjacent residents could be moved further away without affecting the feasibility of the Project. Upon completing additional modeling, it was determined that the turbines could be moved another 300 m. The revisions were made and turbine Layout #3, with an 800 m buffer from adjacent residents, was used to complete the background studies.

A fourth layout (Layout #4) was designed based on the results of the background studies. Gilead worked with Stantec to design the access roads and refine turbine placement to minimize the impact on the natural environment (based on guidance provided by the MNR). Layout #4 was considered the final layout when the Draft ERR was voluntarily released for public review and comment; however, it was noted that changes to the layout could occur as the study evolved to further reduce effects to the environment.

Following additional on-site studies and taking into consideration public comments on the Draft ERR, a fifth Project layout (Layout #5) was developed. In this layout, a proposed transmission line was re-routed in the northern section to avoid a stand of Maple trees along Maypul Layn Road. The removal of those trees had been a concern expressed by members of the public, and in recognition of the importance of these trees to the community, Gilead elected to move that section of the transmission line west to run along an existing municipal easement. In addition, based on information gathered during site visits on the natural environment, and specifically on Provincially Significant Wetlands identified within the Subject Property, the access roads and the transformer station were also relocated to further minimize effects to the natural environment.

Layout #6, illustrated in the **Project Description Report** was developed based on public comments received throughout the development of the Project and requirements as outlined in O. Reg. 359/09 and MNR's *Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects*. A key difference between Layout #6 and the previous layouts is that the

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proposed distribution line (also referred to as the transmission line) from the Subject Property to the Milford DS was removed from the Project design as it will be designed, constructed and operated by Hydro One. In addition, the number of turbines was reduced from 12 to 9.

While the original distribution line has been removed from the Project design, it is important to note that substantial effort was undertaken by Gilead during Project design to relocate the line to avoid a stand of Maple trees along Maypul Layn Road. Layout #5 was created to avoid the trees and an additional assessment was carried out by Gilead looking into the potential option of utilizing a municipal unopened road allowance which parallels Dainard Road and Maypul Layn Road. Gilead submitted a request to PEC to use the unopened road allowance. A site visit was conducted by Stantec to assess the natural environment of the potential route within the unopened road allowance. Based on the site visit, it was determined that from a natural environment stand point, the unopened road allowance would be the least preferable route based on the numerous natural features including a large number of mature Maple trees which would have been required to be removed in comparison to the other proposed routes.

Another concern identified by stakeholders is the cumulative impact on the County from combined wind farms proposed in PEC. The majority of the stakeholders indicated that they had never been to a wind farm and were nervous about the number of proposed projects in the area and the conflicting information circulating in PEC. In order to partially address these concerns, Gilead extended an offer to take interested persons on a bus tour to an operating wind farm, to all stakeholders on the Project mailing list. The bus tour was not offered as part of the Environmental Screening Process (ESP), but to provide residents with the opportunity to view an operating wind farm and form their own opinions based on real life experience. The bus tour to the Melancthon Eco Power Centre in Shelburne, Ontario was held on Saturday November 15, 2008 and had 27 people from PEC in attendance. Those in attendance were able to stand at the base of an operating turbine as well as tour around the entire wind farm, while an explanation on the operation of a wind farm was provided. In addition, to address concerns regarding cumulative impacts, although not part of the provincial environmental assessment process, Gilead commissioned Stantec to initiate a cumulative impact study as part of the Draft ERR.

Throughout the ESP, Project representatives from Stantec and Gilead were available to answer questions or address concerns brought forth by stakeholders. This often included telephone discussions, and email or written responses. In addition to one on one meetings with Gilead representatives, stakeholders had six separate occasions to meet and discuss the Project with the Project team prior to the final Public Open House (Public Open Houses, Community Meeting, Draft ERR Review meetings, and a bus tour). Stakeholders were always encouraged to participate in the ESP. In addition, every two to three months Stantec and Gilead prepared a Project update newsletter to distribute to the Project mailing list. The purpose of the newsletters was to keep stakeholders informed of Project developments as well as to provide answers to common questions. Gilead has also been active in the community with regards to contracting local construction companies for the construction phase of the Project. This has included two

meetings for the Prince Edward County Construction Association which has detailed the Project and the construction related requirements.

A Public Comment Summary Table has been provided in **Attachment J** which summarizes all of the comments received prior to and after enactment of O. Reg. 359/09. Comments received during the review of the Draft ERR are discussed below in **Section 2.8** and **Attachment G**.

As shown in **Attachment J**, there was considerable interest in the Project's potential impact on the community and environment. On the whole, stakeholder response was positive towards the Project, the way Gilead conducted the environmental assessment process, and the level of consultation that Gilead provided.

## **2.4 STAKEHOLDER REVIEW OF DRAFT ERR**

Although not required under O. Reg. 116/01, a Draft ERR was made available for a 30-calendar day stakeholder review period in recognition of the high level of community interest. This approach provided stakeholders with the benefit of an additional 30-days of consultation on the ERR, beyond the formal ESP requirements, and demonstrated Gilead's commitment to undertaking a rigorous and transparent ESP. The Draft ERR was available for review and comment from February 9 through to March 10, 2009. Hard copies of the Draft ERR were available during the review period at four public locations (PEC Office, Milford Public Library, Picton Branch Library, and Bloomfield Branch Library) as well as being available on the Project's website ([www.gileadpower.com](http://www.gileadpower.com)). Newspaper ads were published in local and regional papers and mailed directly to stakeholders on the Project's mailing list (**Attachment F**). The Notices informed stakeholders of the Draft ERR review period and invited comments on the Draft ERR and the Project. In addition, Gilead hosted an open forum meeting with members of the Alliance to Protect Prince Edward County (APPEC) on February 19, 2009 and with landowners living directly adjacent to the Project (i.e., adjacent to the Ostrander Point Crown Land Block and along the then proposed transmission line route) on March 3, 2009. The meetings were intended to provide the invited stakeholders an opportunity to ask members of Gilead and Stantec questions regarding the Draft ERR in an open forum setting as requested by stakeholders after the second Public Open House. A copy of the questions and Study Team responses is provided in **Attachment J**.

As part of the Draft ERR review period, numerous agencies, stakeholders and the MBQ provided comments on the Draft ERR. A complete list of the comments received and the Project response is provided in **Attachment G** and where applicable the comments have been incorporated into the Renewable Energy Approval documents. Copies of MBQ comments are included in **Attachment K**.

### **3.0 Consultation under O. Reg. 359/09**

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The following sections detail the consultation activities and results which took place after O. Reg. 359/09 became law.

#### **3.1 MUNICIPAL CONSULTATION**

Consultation with Prince Edward County (PEC) has taken place from the outset of the Project (detailed above) and continued after O. Reg. 359/09 enactment with Gilead discussing the specifics of the design of the Project since June 2009. In addition, Gilead attended three meetings (June and September 2009 and July 2010) with PEC staff to address outstanding concerns. Details regarding the municipal consultation throughout the development of the Project are provided in **Attachment I**.

The Municipal Consultation Form was provided to PEC on July 15, 2010 according to the requirements of Section 18. (1) of O. Reg. 359/09 (a copy of the completed form with Municipal comments are included in **Attachment I**). A copy of the Draft Project Description, Draft Construction Plan Report, Draft Design and Operations Report, and Draft Decommissioning Plan Report were also provided with the Consultation Form. A meeting was held on July 20, 2010 with PEC staff involved (planning, public works, emergency response, etc.) in the review of the Draft Reports and Consultation Form so as to describe the REA process, the Draft Reports which were provided, and to address any immediate concerns PEC staff had at the time. During the meeting, a discussion was held regarding the construction of the Project and it was indicated by Gilead that when an EPC contractor is confirmed by Gilead, the EPC contractor and Gilead will work with the County to develop any plans or address concerns prior to construction of the Project that were raised by the County as part of the Draft REA reports review. Gilead also committed to develop an Emergency Response Plan (and any other plans) with the County once the EPC contractor is confirmed. In addition, a temporary turning area and truck washing station was identified in the Draft REA reports in the southeast corner of the Subject Property. The County had concerns as to why truck washing would take place in this location given its proximity to Significant Wildlife Habitat. It was confirmed by Gilead that the location of the washing station would be changed and moved to the proposed parking lot at the north boundary of the Subject Property (this change was made within the construction plans shown in the **Construction Plan Report**). Comments received as part of the completed Municipal Form have been addressed where appropriate within the REA documents and within the Agency Consultation Summary Table contained in **Appendix I**.

#### **3.2 RELEASE OF DRAFT REA DOCUMENTS – SEPTEMBER 2010**

The following documents were provided in draft form starting on September 11, 2010 and were available for review and comment until November 17, 2010, at least 60 days prior to the Public Meeting held on November 17, 2010:

- Draft Project Description Report
- Draft Construction Plan Report
- Draft Design and Operations Report (including Draft Environmental Noise Impact Assessment)
- Draft Natural Heritage Assessment/Environmental Impact Study (including MNR confirmation)
- Draft Decommissioning Report
- Draft Water Report
- Draft Crown Land Interest Report
- Draft Wind Turbine Specifications Report
- Draft Archaeological and Heritage Report (including MOC confirmation)
- Draft Project Summary Report (Aboriginal Version)

The documents were made available online ([www.gileadpower.com](http://www.gileadpower.com)) and at the following locations:

- Prince Edward County Municipal Office
- Milford Public Library
- Picton Branch Library
- Bloomfield Branch Library

The Notice of Public Meeting which identified the date and location of the Public Meeting along with the location of the Draft REA reports and methods to contact the study team regarding the Draft REA reports were published in the following newspapers:

- Picton Gazette (September 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Community Press/County Weekly News (September 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Belleville Intelligencer (September 10<sup>th</sup>)

The Notice along with an update newsletter were also mailed/emailed to the Project mailing list (includes 201 stakeholders) prior to the Notice being published in the above noted newspapers.

### **3.3 PUBLIC MEETING – NOVEMBER 2010**

A public meeting was held on November 17, 2010 at the South Marysburgh Central Public School. Members of the study team were on hand to answer questions from Project stakeholders including questions/comments related to the review of the Draft REA reports. Approximately 160 people attended and discussions were typically related to Project specific

activities and wind energy in general. Results of the public meeting including the comments received (via questionnaire, email, or in person) and study team responses and a document tracking table demonstrating how the project was modified based on the comments from the meeting are provided in **Attachment J**. Also included in **Attachment J** is a copy of the Themed Response Document which was prepared in response to the common questions/concerns raised by stakeholders during the review of the Draft REA reports and at the public meeting. The purpose of the document was to advise all stakeholders who provided comments with a response to their question/concern along with other common questions/concerns raised by other stakeholders.

### **3.4 RELEASE OF DRAFT REA DOCUMENTS – FEBRUARY 2011**

The following documents were provided in draft form (revised from the draft reports issued in September 2010) starting on February 10, 2011 and were available for review and comment until April 12, 2011 at least 60 days prior to the Public Meeting held on April 12, 2011:

- Draft Project Description Report
- Draft Construction Plan Report
- Draft Design and Operations Report (including Environmental Noise Impact Assessment)
- Draft Natural Heritage Assessment/Environmental Impact Study (including MNR confirmation)
- Draft Decommissioning Report
- Draft Water Report
- Draft Crown Land Interest Report
- Draft Wind Turbine Specifications Report
- Draft Archaeological and Heritage Report (including MOC confirmation)
- Draft Project Summary Report (Aboriginal Version)

The documents were made available online ([www.gileadpower.com](http://www.gileadpower.com)) and at the following locations:

- Prince Edward County Municipal Office
- Milford Public Library
- Picton Branch Library
- Bloomfield Branch Library

The Notice of Public Meeting which identified the date and location of the Public Meeting along with the location of the Draft REA reports and methods to contact the study team regarding the Draft REA reports were published in the following newspapers:

- Picton Gazette (February 10<sup>th</sup>)
- Wellington Times (February 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Belleville Intelligencer (September 9<sup>th</sup>)

The Notice along with an update newsletter was also distributed to the Project mailing list.

### **3.5 PUBLIC MEETING – APRIL 2011**

A second public meeting under the REA process was held on April 12, 2011 at the South Marysburgh Central Public School. Twelve members of the study team were on hand to answer questions from the public including questions/comments related to the review of the Draft REA reports. Approximately 160 people attended and discussions were typically related to potential natural environment impacts, the design of the access roads, and concerns related to property value changes.

Results of the public meeting including the comments received (via questionnaire, email, or in person) and study team responses (grouped into “themed” comments) are provided in **Attachment J**. Also included in **Attachment J** is a copy of the Themed Response Document which was prepared in response to the common questions/concerns raised by stakeholders during the review of the Draft REA reports and at/following the Public Meeting. The purpose of the document was to provide a response to stakeholders who provided comments. The document also provided a way to generally communicate additional questions/concerns raised by other stakeholders as well as the Project team response.

Some of the notable changes which were made to the REA reports and/or the Project following the issuance of the draft reports and the public meeting include the following:

- A speed limit of 15 km/hr will be implemented on the access roads to minimize potential risks to wildlife/amphibian mortality and public safety.
- The proposed location of the substation and parking lot has been revised to avoid potential impacts to an archaeological resource which was identified during Stage II Archaeological investigations (a copy of the Stage II Archaeological Assessment has been provided in the **Archaeological and Heritage Report**).
- Although outside of the stated requirements of the O. Reg. 359/09 process, potential cumulative effects of the Project have been considered (information has been provided in **Attachment M**).

- A second geotechnical investigation was completed on-site based on changes that had been previously made to the Project layout. Results of the second investigation have been provided in the **Design and Operations Report**.
- Further discussion has been provided in the **Design and Operations Report** regarding the potential impacts to migrating butterflies.
- Additional details regarding the timing of Project construction has been provided in the Construction Plan Report (Monday to Friday, 7 AM to 5:30 PM).
- The beginning of the construction timing window for the Project has been postponed from August 2011 to October 2011 in recognition of timing windows associated with endangered species so as to further avoid potential impacts.

### **3.6 ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT**

The **Draft Project Description Report** was provided to the MOE according to subsection 14.(1)(b) of O. Reg. 359/09 to obtain a list of aboriginal communities who have or may have constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights that may be adversely impact by the project, or otherwise may be interested in any negative environmental effects of the project. A list of was provided by the MOE on June 8, 2010 (**Attachment I**) which identified the following aboriginal communities who may have constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights that may be adversely impact by the project or otherwise may be interested in any negative environmental effects of the project:

- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ)
- Huron Wendat First Nation

As stated above in **Section 2.2.5**, the MBQ have been consulted with since the onset of the Project, however the Huron Wendat had not been previously identified by any government agency as having a potential interest in the Project. Previously, aboriginal communities to be consulted with were identified by agencies such as Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (contact records are contained in **Attachment I**).

Following receipt of the MOE list, both the MBQ (on June 23, 2010) and the Huron Wendat (on June 28, 2010) were sent letters providing an update on the Project and specifically requested any information that in their opinion should be considered while Gilead is preparing the REA documents for the proposed Project. Specifically, information that they may have about any adverse impacts that the Project may have on their constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights and any measures for mitigating those adverse impacts (in accordance with Section 17. (1) of O. Reg. 359/09). A copy of the Draft Project Description Report and Stage I Archaeological Assessment was also provided at this time to the Huron Wendat as a means to provide further information about the Project (the MBQ received the Draft ERR in February

**OSTRANDER POINT WIND ENERGY PARK**

## CONSULTATION REPORT

Consultation under O. Reg. 359/09

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2009, so they were considered up-to-date with respect to the Project). Additional follow-up calls were held with both aboriginal communities following the issuance of the letters and are summarized in **Attachment K**. Discussions were related to potential interest in the Project, the potential for Open Houses on reserve, and notification requirements/requests for individuals on reserve.

Prior to the release of Draft REA documents to the public on Sept 11, 2010, both aboriginal communities were provided with an updated Draft Project Description Report and Draft Project Summary Report (as described in Section 17. (1).3 of O. Reg. 359/09) on September 7, 2010. At this time, the request was again made for information that they may have about any adverse impacts that the Project may have on their constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights and any measures for mitigating those adverse impacts.

Also prior to the release of the Draft REA documents to the Public, both aboriginal communities were provided with copies of all of the Draft REA documents (listed above in **Section 3.3**) for their review and comment (provided on September 8, 2010). To ensure both aboriginal communities were aware that Gilead was seeking information and comment, the request was once again made for information that they may have about any adverse impacts that the Project may have on their constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights and any measures for mitigating those adverse impacts. Information was requested in writing by no later than November 17, 2010 (end of the 60 day review period) so that their information and comments could be incorporated in the design of the Project and reflected in the REA application.

The same process was followed on February 4, 2011, prior to the public release of the Draft REA reports and Notice of Public Meeting for the April 12, 2011 meeting. Both aboriginal communities were provided with the Draft REA documents including the Draft Project Summary Report and a Notice of the Public Meeting along with the request for information that they may have about any adverse impacts that the Project may have on their constitutionally protected aboriginal or treaty rights and any measures for mitigating those adverse impacts. Information was requested in writing by no later than April 12, 2011 (end of the 60 day review period) so that their information and comments could be incorporated in the design of the Project and reflected in the REA Application. The request was also made that Gilead be contacted if the aboriginal community would like a copy of the Notice of Public Meeting posted in a newspaper printed by their aboriginal community.

Copies of all correspondence with both aboriginal communities including summary tables are provided in **Attachment K**.

## **4.0 Signatures**

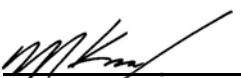
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This Consultation Report for the Ostrander Point Wind Energy Park has been prepared in accordance with O.Reg 359/09 and the MNR Approval and Permitting Requirements Document for Renewable Energy Projects. A comprehensive stakeholder consultation program identified the key issues of interest to the local community and incorporated them into Project planning and designs where possible.

Stantec Consulting Ltd. prepared this Consultation Report for Gilead Power Corporation for the Ostrander Point Wind Energy Park.

### **STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.**

  
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Rob Nadolny, Senior Project Manager

  
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Mark Kozak, Project Manager

