

NextEra Energy Canada, ULC

Final Consultation Report – Goshen Wind Energy Centre

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Project Number:

60155032

Date:

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Glossary of Terms

ABCA	Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority
APRD	Approvals and Permitting Requirements Document
CWS.....	Canadian Wildlife Service
dBA	decibels
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
EEMP.....	Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan
EIS	Environmental Impact Study
EMF	Electric and Magnetic Fields
FIT.....	Feed in Tariff
Hz.....	Hertz
LFN	Low Frequency Noise
MOE	Ontario Ministry of the Environment
MNR	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
MTCS.....	Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
MTO	Ontario Ministry of Transportation
MW.....	Megawatts
NextEra	NextEra Energy Canada
NHA	Natural Heritage Assessment
O.Reg. 359/09.....	Ontario Regulation 359/09
OMAFRA.....	Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
PDR	Project Description Report
REA.....	Renewable Energy Approval
The Project.....	Goshen Wind Energy Centre
ULC.....	Unlimited Liability Corporation
UTRCA.....	Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

1. Introduction

Goshen Wind, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Canada, ULC (NextEra) is proposing to construct a wind energy project in the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron in Huron County, Ontario (Figure 1-1). The project will be referred to as the Goshen Wind Energy Centre (the Project) and will be located primarily on private lands east of Highway 21 in the vicinity of the shoreline of Lake Huron. The wind turbine technology proposed for this Project is the GE 1.6-100 Wind Turbine and GE 1.56-100 Wind Turbine (one turbine only). With a total nameplate capacity of 102 MW, the Project is categorized as a Class 4 facility under Ontario Regulation 359/09 (O. Reg. 359/09). Although NextEra is seeking a renewable energy approval (REA) for up to 72 wind turbines, only 63 are proposed to be constructed for the Project.

This *Consultation Report* was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the REA process outlined in O. Reg. 359/09 and the Technical Guide to Renewable Energy Approvals (Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE), 2011).

The following sections outline the consultation activities undertaken and the input received regarding the Goshen Wind Energy Centre to date. NextEra has maintained continuous communication with stakeholders and Aboriginal communities through the planning process and will continue this dialogue throughout the lifecycle of the Project.

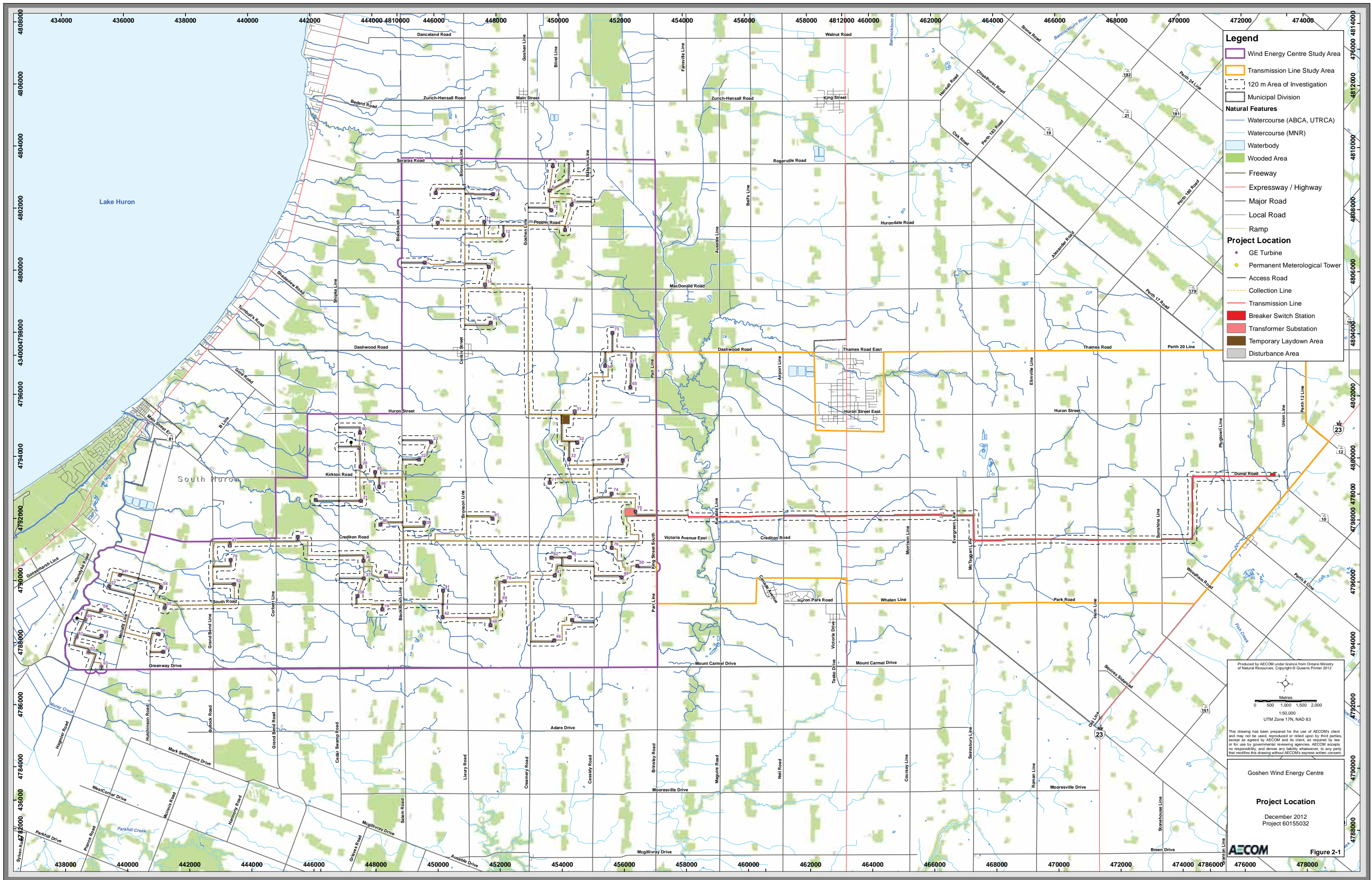
2. Summary of Consultation Activities

NextEra has undertaken a thorough public consultation program which meets and exceeds the requirements of O.Reg. 359/09. Table 2-1, below, provides a list of the required and additional consultation activities undertaken, in addition to the dates that NextEra completed these requirements. For a detailed account of consultation activities, please refer to Section 3.

Table 2-1 Summary of Mandatory and Additional Consultation Activities

Consultation Requirement	Date Completed	Required as per O.Reg 359/09
Notice of Proposal Sent to Identified Aboriginal Communities	May 26, 2010	Required
Notice of Proposal to Engage in a Project and of First Public Meeting – Municipality of South Huron	May 26, 2010	Required
First Public Meeting – Municipality of South Huron	June 29, 2010	Required
Draft Project Description Report (PDR) made Available to the Public*	June 29, 2010	Required
Landowner Workshop	February 15, 2011	Additional
Project Newsletter #1	May, 2011	Additional
Round Table Meeting	July 19, 2011	Additional
Project Newsletter #2	October, 2011	Additional
Consultation Form and Draft PDR to Municipalities*	October 26, 2011	Required
Notice of Drop-in Information Session	November 25, 2011	Additional
Drop-in Information Session	December 6, 2011	Additional
Notice of First Public Meeting – Municipality of Bluewater	November 2, 2011	Required
First Public Meeting – Municipality of Bluewater	December 8, 2011	Required
Notice of Second Public Meetings – Municipality of Bluewater and Municipality of South Huron	April 25, 2012	Additional
Project Newsletter #3	May, 2012	Additional
Second Public Meetings – Municipality of Bluewater and Municipality of South Huron	May 29 and May 30, 2012	Additional
Notice of Draft Site Plan /Draft Site Plan Release	July 4, 2012	Additional
Telephone Town Hall	September 13, 2012	Additional
Distribution of Draft Documents for Review - Municipal	September 27, 2012	Required
Distribution of Draft Documents for Review - Aboriginal	October 10, 2012	Required
Notice of Final Meeting – Municipalities of South Huron and Bluewater	October 10, 2012	Required
Distribution of Draft Documents for Review - Public	October 15, 2012	Required
Landowner Meeting	December 4, 2012	Additional
Final Public Meeting – Municipalities of South Huron and Bluewater	January 9 and January 10, 2013	Required

Note: * Note that the first Public Meeting was held prior to the Amendment to O.Reg. 359/09 stating that the PDR must be made available and Municipal Consultation Form must be submitted to the Municipalities 30 days before the first Public Meeting.



Legend

- Wind Energy Centre Study Area
- Transmission Line Study Area
- 120 m Area of Investigation
- Municipal Division

Natural Features

- Watercourse (ABCA, UTRCA)
- Watercourse (MNR)
- Waterbody
- Wooded Area
- Freeway
- Expressway / Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Ramp

Project Location

- GE Turbine
- Permanent Meteorological Tower
- Access Road
- Collection Line
- Transmission Line
- Breaker Switch Station
- Transformer Substation
- Temporary Laydown Area
- Disturbance Area

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Metres
0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000

1:50,000
UTM Zone 17N, NAD 83

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Goshen Wind Energy Centre

Project Location

December 2012
Project 60155032

3. Public Consultation Activities

This section highlights the Project notices and associated meetings, in addition to newsletters provided to stakeholders over the course of the Project. Please refer to Appendix A for copies of the notices and newsletters as well as public meeting materials including display panels, comment cards and response letters. Note that all activities relating to Aboriginal consultation are described in Appendix C – Aboriginal Consultation Report.

3.1 First Public Meeting – Municipality of South Huron

The Notice of Proposal and Notice of First Public Meeting informed the local community of NextEra's plans to engage in a renewable energy project and to host the first public meeting in the Municipality of South Huron on June 29, 2010 at the Dashwood Community Centre, in Dashwood, Ontario from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Notice was published in the Exeter Times Advocate (on May 26, 2010 and June 23, 2010), the London Free Press (on May 28, 2010 and June 23, 2010), and the Lakeshore Advance, and Goderich Signal-Star (on June 2, 2010 and June 23, 2010). In addition, the Notice was posted on the Project's website and mailed to relevant Federal and Provincial agency contacts, including the MOE, local municipalities and potentially interested Aboriginal Communities.

The Notice was distributed prior to receiving the Director's List of Aboriginal Communities; however, once received, the Notice covered all communities listed. All subsequent Notices were delivered to the communities identified in the List in addition to other communities who expressed an interest in the Project. The Notice was distributed via Canada Post Admail throughout the Project Study Area and hand-delivered to addresses for which Canada Post Admail did not cover. Finally, the Notice was also posted on the Project's website on May 26, 2010.

The general purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the proposed Project to the community. Display panels were set up along the periphery of the room with several Project team members available to discuss the proposed Project and answer questions with stakeholders. 98 individuals registered their attendance at the meeting and 30 comment cards were submitted. Appendix A1 contains consultation materials relating to the first public meeting in the Municipality of South Huron, including: the Notice of Public Meeting, display panels, comment cards received and the public meeting response letter.

3.2 Draft Project Description Report

The Project Description Report (PDR) is a summary document that highlights the key aspects of the Project, including a description of Project components, the construction, operation and decommissioning phases, as well as any potential negative effects. The PDR is intended to be a "living" document, and is updated throughout the planning process.

The first draft of the PDR was made available for public review at the first Public Meeting on June 29, 2010. As noted above, the first Public Meeting was held prior to the Amendment to *O.Reg. 359/09* stating that the PDR must be made available and Municipal Consultation Form must be submitted to the municipalities 30 days before the first public meeting. The PDR was subsequently updated in August 2010, October 2011 and April 2012.

The final PDR, along with the Draft REA Reports, was provided for public review on October 11, 2012, almost 90 days prior to the final public meeting, therefore providing the public with close to a month longer to review the reports than prescribed in the regulation.

3.3 Landowner Workshop

A landowner workshop was held on February 15, 2011 at the Oakwood Resort in Grand Bend, Ontario. The purpose of the workshop was to provide Project landowners (i.e., individuals who had signed a land lease with NextEra or who were interested in signing a land lease) with an update on the Project schedule and to inform them of upcoming archaeological and natural heritage field work. Each landowner was personally invited by a mailed invitation and/or email invitation. At the workshop, each family was provided with a package which included air photo maps of their properties, information on the Project and NextEra, excerpts from various studies (regarding health effects, property values, stray voltage, sound, etc.) and an archaeological study questionnaire.

Project team representatives were available to help the landowners fill out the archaeological study questionnaires which included questions on crop type, tile drainage, and any constraints that NextEra should be aware of prior to conducting archaeological field work.

3.4 Project Newsletter #1

The first community newsletter was published in the spring of 2011 to provide stakeholders with information on the Project status, highlighting key updates since the June 29, 2010 Public Meeting. The newsletter explained the Ontario Power Authority's Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) program, the Province's mechanism to offer long-term energy contracts for renewable energy projects, and provided an overview of some of the key issues addressed at the Public Meeting. The newsletter was mailed to relevant Federal and Provincial agency contacts, the local municipalities, public stakeholders and Aboriginal communities. In addition, the newsletter was distributed via Canada Post Admail throughout the Project Study Area and hand-delivered to addresses for which Canada Post Admail did not cover. Finally, the newsletter was posted on the Project's website. The Project newsletters are included in Appendix A2.

3.5 Round Table Meeting

NextEra hosted a round table meeting on July 19, 2011 at the Oakwood Resort in Grand Bend, Ontario. The meeting facilitated open dialogue with approximately one dozen members of the community to address issues about the proposed Project. The group was comprised of members from local business, agricultural and environmental organizations as well as local landowners. Topics of conversation ranged from the Project schedule, to turbine and transmission line siting, potential effects including sound, property values and health effects, as well as landowner compensation.

3.6 Project Newsletter #2

The second community newsletter was published in the fall of 2011 to provide stakeholders with a Project update. The newsletter announced that the Project was offered a FIT contract from the Ontario Power Authority, securing a 20-year energy contract with the Province of Ontario. Finally, the newsletter described the environmental field work completed over the summer and highlighted the remaining steps in the approval process. The newsletter was mailed to relevant Federal and Provincial agency contacts, the local municipalities, public stakeholders and Aboriginal communities. In addition, the newsletter was distributed via Canada Post Admail throughout the Project Study Area and hand-delivered to addresses for which Canada Post Admail did not cover. The newsletter was also posted on the Project's website.

3.7 Drop-In Information Session

A drop-in information centre was held on December 6, 2011 at the Bluewater Community Centre in Zurich, Ontario, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to provide a project update and answer questions from members of the public. A postcard informing local stakeholders of the drop-in centre was mailed on November 25, 2011. The notification was mailed to public stakeholders in the Project's master consultation database in addition to members of the public throughout the Project Study Area via Canada Post Admail.

The drop-in session was intended to be an informal information-gathering session to allow members of the public to stop by at their convenience if they had any questions or wanted to have a discussion with the Project team. A draft project layout was shared with attendees to gather their feedback. Eighty-one people registered their attendance at the meeting and seven comment cards were submitted. The invitation to the drop-in session in addition to comment cards received is included in Appendix A3.

3.8 First Public Meeting – Municipality of Bluewater

A community update meeting/first public meeting in the Municipality of Bluewater was held on December 8, 2011 at the Stanley Complex, 38594A Mill Road, Varna, from 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The meeting Notice was distributed to every assessed owner of land within 550 metres of the Project Location and every assessed owner of land abutting a parcel of land on which the Project is located in addition to interested Aboriginal Communities. Furthermore, the Notice was published in the Exeter Times Advocate, Lakeshore Advance, Turtle Island News, Seaforth Huron Expositor, Clinton News Record and the Goderich Signal-Star (on November 2, 2011 and November 30, 2011). Finally, the Notice was also posted on the Project's website on November 2, 2011.

The general purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the progress of the Project, including studies conducted to date and to present a preliminary turbine and transmission line layout. Consistent with the format of the first public meeting, display panels were set up along the periphery of the room and Project team members were available to discuss the proposed Project and answer questions with stakeholders. 51 individuals registered their attendance at the meeting and five comment cards were submitted. Appendix A4 contains consultation materials relating to the first public meeting in the Municipality of Bluewater, including: the Notice of Public Meeting, display panels, comments cards received and the public meeting response letter.

3.9 Project Newsletter #3

The third community newsletter was published and mailed in May 2012 to provide updated information on the project based on field studies and to answer some of the most frequent questions asked during the December public meeting. The newsletter was distributed via Canada Post Admail throughout the Project Study Area. The newsletter was also posted on the Project's website.

3.10 Second Public Meetings – Municipality of Bluewater and Municipality of South Huron

A community update meeting in the Municipality of South Huron on May 29, 2012 at the South Huron Recreation Centre, Exeter, Ontario from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and in the Municipality of Bluewater on May 30, 2012 at the Stanley Complex, Varna, Ontario from 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The meeting Notice was distributed to every assessed owner of land within 550 metres of the Project Location and every assessed owner of land abutting a parcel of land on which the Project is located in addition to the MOE, the Municipalities of Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County and interested Aboriginal Communities. Furthermore, the Notice was published in the Exeter Times Advocate, Lakeshore Advance, Turtle Island News, Seaforth Huron Expositor, Clinton News Record and the Goderich Signal-Star on April 25 and May 23. Finally, the Notice was also posted on the Project's website on April 25, 2012.

The general purpose of the meetings was to provide an update on the proposed changes regarding the transmission line for the Project. The Project Description Report – Goshen Wind Energy Centre was made available for public review. One hundred individuals registered their attendance at the May 29, 2012 meeting and 15 individuals registered their attendance at the May 30, 2012 meeting. A total of 24 comment cards were submitted after the May 29 and 30, 2012 meetings. Appendix A5 contains consultation materials relating to the second round of public meetings in the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron, including: the Notice of Public Meeting, display panels and comment cards received.

3.11 Draft Site Plan Release

The Notice of Draft Site Plan informs stakeholders about the release of the turbine layout and crystallization of noise receptors. The Notice was distributed to every assessed owner of land within 550 metres of the Project Location and every assessed owner of land abutting a parcel of land on which the project is located in addition to Transport Canada and NAV Canada (the Notice was provided to Transport Canada and NAV Canada on July 23, 2012 in light of amendments to the regulation) and interested Aboriginal Communities. Furthermore, the Notice was published in the Exeter Times Advocate, Lakeshore Advance, Turtle Island News, Seaforth Huron Expositor, Clinton News Record and the Goderich Signal-Star on July 4, 2012. The Draft Site Plan Report was sent, with the Notice, to the MOE, the Municipalities of Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County, in addition to Aboriginal Communities, for review and for public inspection. Finally, the Draft Site Plan Report was also published on the Project's website on July 4, 2012. The Notice of Draft Site Plan is included in Appendix A6.

3.12 Telephone Town Hall

On the evening of Thursday, September 13, 2012, NextEra conducted a live telephone town hall regarding the Goshen Wind Energy Centre. The telephone town hall allowed residents within the Project Study Area to ask questions of a panel of experts regarding possible concerns about the project. The panel included the Goshen Wind Energy Project Director, an engineering manager, environmental services manager, community outreach liaison, and a health issues expert.

In advance of the live telephone town hall, outbound calls were placed to every available phone number in the communities of Exeter, Grand Bend and Zurich, for a total of 4,966 calls. A brief pre-recorded message notified people of the upcoming live telephone meeting, informed them how to participate and left them a direct phone number to NextEra to call prior to the meeting if they had any questions. 472 community members joined the call with 20 participants asking questions during the town hall and one participant left a voice mail message that was responded to following the event.

3.13 Distribution of Draft Documents for Review - Public

The Draft REA Reports were provided for public review on October 11, 2012, almost 90 days prior to the final public meeting, therefore providing the public with close to a month longer to review the reports than prescribed in the regulation. These documents were made available to stakeholders at the Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County Municipal offices as well as on the Project website on October 15, 2012. Interested parties were encouraged to submit questions and comments to the Project team during the review period. Stakeholders were advised that the draft documents were available for review via the Notices for the final open house. The Notice of Final Public Meetings is available in Appendix A7 and the cover letters for making the Draft REA Reports available for public review are available in Appendix D3.

3.14 Landowner Meeting

An additional landowner meeting was held on December 4, 2012 at the Oakwood Resort in Grand Bend, Ontario. The purpose of the meeting was to provide Project landowners (i.e., individuals who had signed a land lease with NextEra or who were interested in signing a land lease) with an overall update on the Project. Each landowner was personally invited by a mailed invitation and/or email invitation. At the meeting, NextEra gave a presentation on the current status of the project, next steps, which involved upcoming archaeological and natural heritage field work and finally, submitting the REA application and the construction phase. Project team representatives were available to discuss the Project with the landowners and to answer any questions.

3.15 Final Public Meeting – Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron

The final public meetings were held on January 9 and 10, 2013 at the South Huron Recreation Centre (Municipality of South Huron) and the Zurich Arena (Municipality of Bluewater) from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The meeting Notice was distributed to every assessed owner of land within 550 metres of the Project Location and every assessed owner of land abutting a parcel of land on which the Project is located in addition to the MOE, Transport Canada and NAV Canada, the Municipalities of Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County and interested Aboriginal Communities. Furthermore, the Notice was published in the Exeter Times Advocate and the Turtle Island News on October 10, 2012; Lakeshore Advance, Clinton News Record, Seaforth Huron Expositor on October 17, 2012; and the Goderich Signal-Star on October 24, 2012. The Notice appeared in all the above-listed newspapers on December 12, 2012 and January 2, 2013. Finally, the Notice was posted on the Project's website on October 10, 2012. NextEra elected to publish the Notice in each local newspaper a third time to remind stakeholders of the final public meetings given that the public review period was extended to allow additional time to review the Draft REA Reports.

The general purpose of the meetings was to present the results of the effects assessments, including mitigation measures and possible residual effects, in addition to presenting minor modifications to the project layout since the draft REA reports were submitted. Display panels were set up along the periphery of the room and Project team members were available to discuss the proposed Project and answer questions with stakeholders.

In addition, the draft REA reports and report summaries were made available for public review. NextEra also elected to make available at the meeting a Project Modification Report which highlighted where changes in the REA Reports will be made as a result of modifications to the Project design and comments from review agencies (i.e., MNR and MTCS) since the release of the Draft REA Reports. These modifications resulted from ongoing consultation with landowners hosting infrastructure and were also highlighted in the public meeting display panels. The majority of these modifications included minor shifts in access roads or collection lines, and no turbine locations were altered. Also in response to comments from the public, NextEra modified the display panels showing the Project Location to make town/city names more apparent. Several Project Location maps were provided at the meetings on display panels and paper copies on tables for attendee review.

Approximately 49 individuals attended the January 9, 2013 meeting, with 19 individuals registering their attendance and approximately 51 individuals attended the January 10, 2013 meeting, with 23 individuals registering their attendance. Eight comment cards were submitted at the two meetings. Appendix A7 contains consultation materials relating to the final round of public meetings in the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron, including: the Notice of Public Meeting, display panels and comment cards received. Finally, Appendix A8 contains samples of handouts provided at the public meetings, which include information on various topics raised through the consultation process such as: property values, stray voltage, health effects and the economics of wind energy.

3.16 Individual Stakeholder Meetings within the Transmission Line Corridor

NextEra initiated individual meetings with landowners along the proposed transmission line route from February 2012 to present day to discuss plans for the 115 kV transmission line. NextEra met with approximately 50 landowners to share information about the proposed transmission line, answer questions and discuss siting the transmission line. The topics associated with the landowners' questions and comments were consistent with those received at public meetings throughout the planning process, including:

- Property values;
- Visual effects;
- Health effects;
- Stray voltage;
- Electric and magnetic fields;
- Potential “build out” of the transmission line;
- Location of the transmission line in proximity to homes; and
- Renewable energy development opposition and approval requirements.

NextEra's responses to these questions and comments are summarized in Table 3-1 below.

Throughout 2012, NextEra delivered information packages in person or via mail whenever a landowner along the proposed transmission line route had a concern or question. The information packages included studies on stray voltage and electromagnetic fields. NextEra continues to meet with landowners to maintain open communication and to answer any questions as they arise.

3.17 Summary of Public Comments

The following table presented a summary of comments received over the course of the Project. Copies of the correspondence, with personal information redacted, is available in Appendix A9.

Table 3-1 Summary of Public Comments Received

Theme	Topic	Response
Turbine Siting	<i>Number of Turbines</i>	<p><i>The turbine locations were crystallized when the Draft Site Plan was released on July 4, 2012.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 72 wind turbines are being permitted for this project; however, only 63 turbines will be constructed. • The number of turbines required for this Project depends on several factors. These include the wind resource, siting restrictions, such as setback distances, socio-economic or natural environment constraints, the capacity of the electrical grid, and interest shown by local landowners. • In addition, the type of turbine technology selected can also affect the number of turbines as different turbine models have differing capacities to generate electricity, and therefore increase or reduce the number of turbines required to achieve the same overall project output.
	<i>Turbine Locations and the Siting Process</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siting wind turbines involves balancing the wind resource with environmental, socio-economic and engineering constraints, while at the same time adhering to the setback distances prescribed by the Province and outlined in <i>O. Reg. 359/09</i>. This regulation stipulates specific setback distances to various features such as houses and schools, as well as environmentally significant areas. • In addition, detailed turbine siting on individual properties was conducted by engineering and construction professionals, in consultation with landowners, and in compliance with all provincial and federal requirements.
	<i>Study Area/Setbacks from Communities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of the Project Study Area was defined early in the planning process for the proposed wind energy facility, based on the availability of wind resources, approximate area required for the proposed project, and availability of existing infrastructure for connection to the electrical grid. The Project Study Area was used to facilitate information collection. • In April, 2012, in response to comments received from the Bluewater Municipal Council, the Project Study Area was refined to provide a greater setback distance from the village of Zurich.
Transmission Lines	<i>Transmission Line Siting</i>	<p><i>The transmission line location was presented at the Final Public Meeting and is shown in the Final REA Reports</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 115 kV electrical transmission line that will be built from the transformer substation to a breaker switch station will connect the electricity generated by the project to the existing Hydro One 115 kV transmission line. • Siting of the transmission line considers the presence of environmentally significant features, landowner interest in participating in the project, impacts to existing land uses, in addition to the cost of construction. • The interconnection plan for any wind energy centre is subject to study, design and engineering by the Integrated Electricity System Operator which manages the province's electricity grid, Hydro One which owns the transmission lines, the local distribution company and the Ontario Energy Board, which regulates the industry through the Transmission System Code and the Distribution System Code. • The type of transmission line proposed for the Goshen Wind Energy Centre is 115 kV. It is anticipated that the transmission line will be mounted on new hydro poles. The poles for the 115 kV line are proposed to be constructed of wood, concrete or steel and will be between 18 and 30 m tall. It is important to note that the proposed transmission line is much smaller than the existing 500 kV steel lattice-tower transmission line which runs north-south through the study area between Goshen Line and Babylon Line.
	<i>Health Concerns Related to Transmission Lines</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most common concerns in regard to transmission lines and health are centred around electric and magnetic fields (EMF). EMF is produced by the transmission of electricity and comes from any type of electrical equipment, such as televisions, household appliances and transmission lines. Health Canada (2010) has stated that "When you are indoors at home, the magnetic fields from high voltage power lines and transformer boxes are weaker than those from household electrical appliances". In a recent paper, Israel et al. (2011), measured EMF from a wind farm in Bulgaria and concluded that "Electromagnetic fields are not emitted on the operation of wind turbines or they are so small that they are insignificant compared to the values to be found in other measurements in residential areas and homes. The measured values are much below the national exposure limits, and of the European Council recommendations."
	<i>Stray Voltage and its Potential Effects on Livestock</i>	<p><i>Stray voltage is addressed in the Project Description Report and the Design and Operations Report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra will ensure that the Project is built and maintained according to the standards in place as prescribed by the Distribution System Code and the Electrical Safety Authority. • The Project is not proposing to connect to the local distribution system that serves barns and houses in the area, so it will not directly impact that service. However, NextEra will continue to work closely with Hydro One to mitigate any potential impact on local distribution customers should a situation arise. Hydro One, as required in the interconnection process, has completed a Customer Impact Analysis and no issues were identified.

Table 3-1 Summary of Public Comments Received

Theme	Topic	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most cases of stray voltage occur when there is either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improper grounding of on-site equipment (in which case it is an issue with on-site wiring); or, ▪ A change in current patterns on the distribution line, from generation or load that exposes a pre-existing condition (in which case it is an issue with the distribution utility, not with the generator or load). • It is important to understand that stray voltage is not a consequence of wind energy, but rather of any project that changes the use pattern of the existing system. The turbines are therefore not the root of the problem, but like any change to the system, may expose faults in that system. All types of generation (electricity generation using wind turbines included) must fully comply with utility requirements to ensure that the electricity they supply is compliant with grid and electrical code standards. • Stray voltage problems require on-site inspection for grounding problems, or examination of power quality issues with the distribution utility. • For additional information on the potential effects of stray voltage on livestock, see the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) website: www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/dairy/facts/strayvol.htm
Effects on the Socio-economic Environment	<i>Community Benefits</i>	<p>Some of the potential community benefits of the Goshen Wind Energy Centre include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners benefit from having a guaranteed source of revenue for hosting a wind turbine or associated infrastructure in addition to agriculture-based, seasonal revenue. This helps stabilize the overall economic prosperity of the community, while allowing traditional land use practices to continue undisturbed. • Municipal governments benefit as wind projects contribute to the municipal tax base while not requiring any municipal services such as water, sewer, road clearing, etc. • The Project will create between five and eight full-time jobs and may result in the location of an Operations and Maintenance Centre in one of the communities to serve the project. • In addition to property taxes and the spinoff economic activity generated by these projects, NextEra Energy Canada, ULC (through its project subsidiaries) will establish “Community Vibrancy Funds” in host communities as part of our broader commitment to community engagement. Through this fund, NextEra’s project companies will contribute funds to projects that will benefit local residents, supporting community initiatives that would otherwise not be financially feasible through the local tax base. • The Green Energy Act requires that wind projects which generate greater than 10 kW of power include a specified amount of goods and services from Ontario. This is a mandatory requirement issued to the project’s developer as part of receiving a Feed-in Tariff Contract from the Ontario Power Authority. The exact amount is based on the year the project will reach commercial operation; projects that enter commercial operation in 2012 or after require a minimum of 50 points for domestic content activities. These points are obtained from discrete activities selected by the Province and set out in a publically-available grid that developers use as guidance. The minimum domestic content requirements are intended to provide a positive economic stimulus to the local economy and to increase local jobs associated with the green energy industry. • Additionally, NextEra has agreed to hire local suppliers of labour and materials to the extent available and where competitive for the construction and operation of the Project.
	<i>Landowner Compensation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is common practice for wind energy developers to compensate landowners for hosting a wind turbine and associated infrastructure (i.e., access roads and electrical collection lines) for the duration of a project. This compensation is generally in the form of a fixed annual payment dependent upon the type and amount of infrastructure installed on the landowners’ property. These payments are intended to compensate for the small loss of acreage resulting from hosting the project on their property.
	<i>Property Values</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerous studies have been conducted that indicate that wind farms do not have a negative impact on property values. For links to these studies, please see: www.NextEraEnergyCanada.com
	<i>Visual Effects</i>	<p><i>Visualizations are available for review in Appendix A7.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visualizations of the proposed turbines within the existing landscape were presented at the final public meetings. These visualizations show the relative size of the turbines in relation to local landscapes. Visual effects are ultimately dependent on the perception of residents and visitors to the presence of turbines.

Table 3-1 Summary of Public Comments Received

Theme	Topic	Response
	<i>Noise</i>	<p><i>Results of the Noise Assessment are presented in the Design and Operations Report, Appendix A - Noise Assessment Report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind projects must show that they meet the sound limit requirements prescribed by the MOE. For non-participating residences (parcels not receiving infrastructure) the sound limit is 40 decibels (dBA). This is quieter than many sources of sound within a home. NextEra takes great care to ensure that it complies with the provincially-mandated noise requirements. For most houses, the sound levels will be well below the 40 dBA limit. Importantly, sound from a wind turbine diminishes over distance. NextEra commits to quickly addressing any concerns that arise regarding sound from their wind energy centres.
	<i>Vibration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With regard to vibration, no potential effects beyond those which would typically be associated with construction activities (for example construction traffic on roads and drilling turbine foundations) are anticipated.
	<i>Cumulative Effects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra must consider the potential noise from other nearby wind turbines when designing the project to ensure that the overall noise levels do not exceed the noise threshold set by the MOE. The Noise Assessment Report confirmed that the Goshen Wind Energy Centre meets the sound limit requirements prescribed by the MOE even when adjacent wind turbines are considered.
Effects to Wildlife	<i>Effects on Birds and Bats</i>	<p><i>Effects to wildlife are assessed in the Natural Heritage Assessment and Environmental Impact Study Report, which was submitted to and received sign-off from the Ministry of Natural Resources.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of turbines, as well as numerous other decisions associated with developing wind projects, is carefully designed to minimize any effects on wildlife. As part of Ontario's REA process, NextEra is working with experts to assess the potential effects on local wildlife, including birds and bats. • As part of the facility siting and pre-construction activities, studies were completed to identify potential issues related to birds, bats and their habitat. • Biologists collect the following information on birds and bats in relation to the Project through field studies and interviews with agencies and environmental organizations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current use of the area, including important seasonal or specialized habitats such as migratory bird stopover and staging areas; ▪ Species of Conservation Concern present in the area, with Threatened and Endangered species also being addressed as part of the permitting process; ▪ Existing records of species in the area, and; ▪ Bird, bat and other wildlife habitat. • In addition, biologists assess any nearby wetlands and determine local permitting requirements relating to environmental protection. NextEra avoids or minimizes impacts to wetlands, a common habitat for many species of birds, and other environmentally sensitive areas during siting and layout of the Project. • Through these efforts, biologists can identify the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number and type of birds/bats present in the area; ▪ Behaviour of birds/bats while they are present in the area; and, ▪ Possible risk to birds/bats due to turbine collisions. • If issues are identified during the consideration of impacts, NextEra takes corrective action, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moving proposed turbine locations to avoid significant bird habitats or to reduce potential strikes; ▪ Establishing setbacks between turbines and wetlands; and, ▪ Avoiding inter-waterway flight paths or sensitive contiguous habitats for grassland birds. • NextEra will meet all of the requirements for conducting baseline wildlife, bird and bat studies, as described in <i>O. Reg. 359/09</i> and set out in guidelines prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources. • Finally, the Design and Operations Report includes an Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan (EEMP) to monitor potential impacts on bird and bat species during the first three years of commercial operation. The EEMP summarizes potential negative effects; identifies performance objectives with respect to the potential negative effects; describes mitigation measures to achieve the performance objectives; and commits to future monitoring to ensure the mitigation measures meet the performance objectives. NextEra will provide the monitoring results to the Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and any other relevant agency.

Table 3-1 Summary of Public Comments Received

Theme	Topic	Response
	<i>Effects on Tundra Swans</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on species within the Study Areas was conducted as part of the Records Review for the NHA Report and in consultation with the MNR. An initial series of avian surveys was conducted by Golder Associates for the Project Study Area. The Goshen Wind Energy Centre Avian Use Monitoring Report – 2010 (Golder Associates, 2011), describes the results of spring Tundra Swan/waterfowl surveys, winter avian use surveys, spring migration avian use surveys, breeding (summer) avian use surveys and fall migration avian use surveys. It was used in conjunction with Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (Cadman et al. 2007) data to describe the bird species known to use habitats in the Project Study Area. Additional surveys to identify Candidate Significant Tundra Swan Migratory Stopover and Staging Areas were completed in March 2012. Two Candidate Significant Tundra Swan Migratory Stopover and Staging Areas were determined to be located within 120 m of the Project Location, and as per MNR guidelines, these areas were carried forward to the Environmental Impact Study. Additional spring migration surveys will be completed at these locations in 2013 to collect additional information on Tundra Swan use of the areas. If determined to be significant, additional information regarding the likelihood and significance of disturbance effects, as well as mitigation measures to address those effects, will be submitted to MNR..
	<i>Effects on Livestock and Agricultural Production</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wind turbines occupy only a small fraction of the land they are sited on. As such, farming and grazing may continue undisturbed. A turbine, in a typical wind farm, including foundation and access roads, will use 1.0 – 1.5% of a 40 hectare (approximately 100 acres) farm parcel. NextEra Energy Resources, which includes NextEra Energy Canada, operates over 100 wind farms amidst a variety of agricultural uses and livestock operations. It has not been NextEra’s experience that wind turbine operations have any negative impact on livestock or crops associated with their projects. Many landowners find that the guaranteed income from hosting a wind turbine helps to stabilize the economics of their operations, and, in some cases, enables a family farm to remain in the family.
Public Health and Safety	<i>Effect of Turbines on Human Health</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra takes concerns about human health very seriously. Although much has been written about health effects associated with wind turbines, NextEra has found no credible, scientifically peer-reviewed study that demonstrates a causal link between wind turbines and negative health effects. On the contrary, the study “Wind Turbine Sound and Health Effects: An Expert Panel Review” had the following key conclusions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sound from wind turbines does not pose a risk of hearing loss or any other adverse health effect in humans. Subaudible, low frequency sound and infrasound from wind turbines do not present a risk to human health. Some people may be annoyed at the presence of sound from wind turbines. Annoyance is not a pathological entity. A major cause of concern about wind turbine sound is its fluctuating nature. Some may find this sound annoying, a reaction that depends primarily on personal characteristics as opposed to the intensity of the sound level. The full report can be found in the Canadian Wind Energy Association’s website: www.canwea.ca/pdf/talkwind/Wind_Turbine_Sound_and_Health_Effects.pdf and on www.NextEraEnergyCanada.com. In their decision on the Kent Breeze Wind project in Chatham-Kent, the Ontario Ministry of Environment stated: <p><i>“The Chief Medical Officer of Health agreed to undertake a review of existing information and to consult with the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion and local medical officers of health on health effects related to wind turbines. The results of the review and consultation were published on May 20, 2010 and released in a report titled “The Potential Health Impacts of Wind Turbines”. The review concluded that scientific evidence available to date does not demonstrate a direct causal link between wind turbine noise and adverse health effects. The sound level from wind turbines at common residential setbacks is not sufficient to cause hearing impairment or other direct health effects, and there is no scientific evidence to date that vibration from low frequency wind turbine noise causes adverse health effects, although some people may find it annoying.</i></p> <p><i>Regarding shadow flicker, a common concern is its possible relationship to epilepsy. The Chatham-Kent Board of Health reviewed potential impacts in their report dated June 2008 and stated that “The frequency of wind turbines is well below the current known documented threshold for triggering epilepsy symptoms.”</i></p> The American Epilepsy Foundation indicated that flashing lights most likely to trigger a seizure occur at frequencies between 5 to 30 Hertz (Hz). Shadow flicker generated by wind turbines, however, has a frequency well below that level, and ranges from 0.5 to 1.25 Hz.

Table 3-1 Summary of Public Comments Received

Theme	Topic	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection convened an expert panel in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to investigate potential human health effects associated with proximity to wind turbines. The panel, comprised of physicians and scientists, reviewed existing information within their areas of expertise and recently released a report titled Wind Turbine Health Impact Study: Report of Independent Expert Panel. Some of the key findings are summarized below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “There is no evidence for a set of health effects from exposure to wind turbines that could be characterised as “Wind Turbine Syndrome”.” “Available evidence shows that the infrasound levels near wind turbines cannot impact the vestibular system” [i.e. the system responsible for balance]. “None of the limited epidemiological evidence reviewed suggests an association between noise from wind turbines and pain and stiffness, diabetes, high blood pressure, tinnitus, hearing impairment, cardiovascular disease, and headache/migraine.” NextEra will have a Complaint Resolution Process in place to address any concerns related to the Project, should they arise. This process outlines the steps to be taken to resolve the issue including: contacting the complainant within 24 hours of receiving the complaint to understand and seek a resolution, notifying the MOE of the complaint and filing a Complaint Record, and finally, proposing a face-to-face meeting if the issue cannot be resolved through a phone call. Also note that in the province of Ontario, a number of appeals of approved wind projects have been heard by the Environmental Review Tribunal (ERT) on the grounds that the projects would cause serious harm to human health. None of the appeals was successful and the appellants did not provide evidence that serious harm would occur under provincial regulations.
	<i>Wind Turbines Distracting Vehicle Drivers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra is unaware of any issues regarding our wind turbines causing any distraction to drivers. The Project will follow the guidelines put in place by the Ministry of the Environment regarding setbacks from roads.
	<i>Effects on Aerodromes, including Turbulence and Physical Obstructions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra has been conducting consultation with the Centralia/James T. Field Memorial Aerodrome, the Grand Bend Sport Parachuting Centre and other local residents that may have private, unregistered airstrips not covered under federal regulations, to identify any potential turbine siting considerations. This consultation is an ongoing process. NextEra takes matters of public safety very seriously and the issues raised are the kind of valuable input which is sought at public meetings. There are no provincial setbacks from registered aerodromes; however, NextEra consults with both Transport Canada and NAV Canada on an ongoing basis throughout the development process and submits completed Obstruction Clearance forms (Transport Canada) and Land Use Submission forms (NAV Canada) for approval and/or comments.
Construction, Operation/ Maintenance and Decommissioning	<i>Construction and Operation/ Maintenance Reports and Turbine Maintenance</i>	<p><i>The construction and operation/maintenance phases of the Project are described in the Construction Plan and Design and Operations Reports.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern wind turbines are very reliable and the major components are designed to operate for approximately 30 years. Wind turbines are large and complex electromechanical devices with rotating equipment and many components. With large numbers of turbines it is inevitable that component failures will occur despite the high reliability of the turbines fleet-wide. These repairs can usually be carried out within a few hours. NextEra’s state-of-the-art operations command centre is one of a few in the wind industry and has a major role in remotely managing wind turbine operation. The Fleet Performance and Diagnostic Centre maintains continuous oversight of wind turbines at NextEra’s sites. When site personnel have gone home for the evening, the command centre staff is monitoring the wind turbines and can run diagnostic tests on turbines or adjust operations as needed. The centre collects data that enable NextEra to schedule predictive maintenance to help ensure efficient operation.
	<i>Decommissioning</i>	<p><i>Decommissioning is addressed in the Project Description Report and the Decommissioning Plan Report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cost of decommissioning, which involves dismantling turbines, above-ground electricity poles and the substation, is the responsibility of the Project owner and not the local municipality or landowners. The plan to address decommissioning becomes part of the REA for the Project under <i>O.Reg. 359/09</i>. It is a specific report required that was released in draft for public comment and subsequently filed with the MOE as part of the Project’s REA application.
Renewable Energy Approval Process	<i>Feed-in-Tariff contract vs. REA Process</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The announcement on July 4, 2011 was a Feed-in-Tariff contract offer from the Ontario Power Authority to NextEra Energy Canada which will enable us to sell electricity to the Ontario electrical system. This is a separate process from the REA process which is administered by the MOE. The REA is the formal process whereby NextEra undertake background environmental work and stakeholder consultation and apply to the Province for the approval of any development. The FIT contract simply gives NextEra the assurance that if the REA is approved, NextEra can sell the electricity produced to Ontario’s grid.

Table 3-1 Summary of Public Comments Received

Theme	Topic	Response
Consultation Process	<i>Feedback from the Public</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All comments received from stakeholders throughout the Project planning process will be included in the Consultation Report submitted to the Ministry of the Environment as part of the REA Application. The Report will also outline how these comments were considered in the planning process and any changes to the Project resulting from the Public, Agency and Aboriginal engagement.
Costs associated with Wind Energy	<i>Electricity Costs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On November 23, 2010, the Government of Ontario released its Long-Term Energy Plan, which is a 20-year plan to guide the Province's electricity system. This plan outlines the goals for Ontario's electricity system, as well as its future supply mix. The Plan is available for review on the Ontario Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure's website: http://www.mei.gov.on.ca/en/energy/. The cost of wind power generation is competitive with other newly-installed power sources. Once turbines are installed, the cost of generating wind power will remain steady for decades. The fuel (wind) is free. By contrast, electricity prices have risen steadily across Canada over time. Regulations to make polluters pay for their emissions will mean that the cost of power from fossil fuels will continue to rise, on top of normal market fluctuations. Under the terms of our contract with the Ontario Power Authority, any economic benefits from future pollution regulation will flow to the government. Comparing the cost of new generation, such as wind, to the cost of power from existing and legacy generation, such as coal and hydro, is an unfair comparison. The comparison of cost should be between different types of generation if they were to be built today. The majority of Ontario's current energy mix and resulting spot price is a result of old assets, whose capital costs were financed and accounted for years ago. Therefore, their operating costs are much lower. Additionally, power prices in Ontario are still heavily regulated and do not reflect the true cost of power in the market. The Government of Ontario's Long Term Energy Plan is to displace coal-fired generation with renewable energy. Other forms of electricity have hidden costs related to health. A 2005 study prepared for the government of Ontario found that the average annual health-related damages due to coal could top \$3 billion (DSS Management Consultants Inc., RWDI Air Inc. 2005. Cost Benefit Analysis: Replacing Ontario's Coal-Fired Electricity Generation). A study out of Harvard found that if one adds in the hidden costs of coal then its actual price is more like 9-27 cents higher per kilowatt hour (Epstein <i>et al.</i> 2011. Full Cost Accounting for the Life Cycle of Coal in <i>Ecological Economics Reviews</i>). The authors write: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>"Each stage in the life cycle of coal—extraction, transport, processing, and combustion—generates a waste stream and carries multiple hazards for health and the environment. These costs are external to the coal industry and are thus often considered externalities. We estimate that the life cycle effects of coal and the waste stream generated are costing the U.S. public a third to over one-half of a trillion dollars annually. Many of these so-called externalities are, moreover, cumulative. Accounting for the damages conservatively doubles to triples the price of electricity from coal per kWh generated, making wind, solar, and other forms of non-fossil fuel power generation, along with investments in efficiency and electricity conservation methods, economically competitive."</i>
Other	<i>Trespassing Using Turbine Right of Ways</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the turbines and access roads will be located on private properties, any unauthorized access will be considered trespassing. In order to discourage trespassing, NextEra will work with landowners to ensure that the access roads are gated, and/or that the appropriate signage is put in place.
	<i>Truck traffic in village</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to construction and in collaboration with the local municipality, NextEra will develop a Traffic Management Plan using the Ontario Ministry of Transportation's standards. Through careful attention to this plan, we will avoid or mitigate traffic issues and ensure the safe delivery of the project components needed to build the wind energy centre.
	<i>Effects on Natural gas storage and pipelines</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the permitting process, NextEra identified and assessed potential effects from the project on petroleum resources within 75 m of project infrastructure. One petroleum resource was identified within 75 m of Project infrastructure based on the MNR's Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library. Specifically, the access road and collection line between Turbines 54 and 84 is approximately 60 m from an active oil producing well. Three other resources were identified based on ground-truthing of the Project Location. There is a storage tank and natural gas line 9 m from the collection line between Turbines 53 and 55, and a natural gas line 7 m from the collection line between Turbines 14 and 31. NextEra has conducted consultation with Tribute Resources regarding proposed underground gas storage facilities and it has been determined that no effects on these areas are anticipated as a result of the Project.

4. Agency Consultation

NextEra and AECOM consulted with the agencies listed below over the course of the project. Agency meetings are described throughout Section 4.1 and key pieces of correspondence are summarized in **Table 4-1 – Summary of Key Agency Correspondence** below.

4.1 Summary of Key Agency Meetings

4.1.1 Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

NextEra and AECOM met with the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) on August 10, 2010 to introduce the proposed project and discuss information sharing requirements.

NextEra and AECOM had a follow-up meeting with the ABCA on May 5, 2011 to review the status of background data available, obtain outstanding natural heritage information, and review a proposed aquatic work plan and permitting requirements. Key comments from ABCA included:

- Turbines and associated buffers should avoid Regulated Areas;
- Special attention should be paid to the Thedford-Klondyke floodplain as well as significant valleylands; and,
- Greater effects to watercourses could result from associated infrastructure, rather than the turbines themselves.

A third meeting was held on July 17, 2012 to present the preliminary layout. At that time, ABCA confirmed that NextEra will need to show how the ABCA floodline elevation was taken into consideration in the design of the turbine and associated infrastructure.

A fourth meeting with ABCA was held on December 19, 2012 was held to discuss the updated layout that was submitted in the draft REA reports and subsequently modified, and to identify any potential permitting requirements. ABCA raised the following points:

- For turbines near or within the ABCA's regulation limit or estimated floodline, analysis is required to confirm that the infrastructure will have no impacts on flooding; some of these turbines may also require floodproofing.
- Setbacks may be required between access roads and nearby watercourses.

NextEra and AECOM will continue consultation with the ABCA throughout the permitting process.

4.1.2 Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

NextEra and AECOM had an initial discussion with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) on September 6, 2012 to discuss the presence of the transmission line within their regulated areas. A follow-up discussion was held on November 9, 2012 and UTRCA confirmed that there are no major concerns with the installation of the transmission line over watercourse crossings in UTRCA jurisdiction provided that the poles are set back 15 m from the watercourse top of bank. UTRCA staff identified several woodlots within their regulated area that run adjacent to the transmission line and requested that they be avoided.

A conference call was held on December 20, 2012 to review locations where vegetation removal is required to construct the transmission line. Discussions with UTRCA regarding the transmission line are ongoing.

4.1.3 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

AECOM met with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) on June 3, 2010 to discuss MNR's requirements for the REA process, natural heritage information, post-construction monitoring and information relating to Approvals and Permitting Requirements Document (APRD) requirements.

On July 25, 2011, AECOM met with MNR to discuss requirements for the Goshen Wind Energy Centre Natural Heritage Assessment and present proposed approaches. AECOM held a follow-up meeting on September 20, 2011 to review the permitting requirements and the Natural Heritage Assessment (NHA) template with the MNR.

AECOM continued consultation with the MNR throughout the preparation of the NHA and Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Report and submitted the NHA for review and sign-off in August 2012. The final NHA and EIS reports are available for review in the REA package. The MNR issued confirmation letters regarding the NHA and EIS on January 15 and 16, 2013. The letters are summarized in the following section and provided in **Appendix B** for review.

4.1.3.1 Confirmation on the Natural Heritage Assessment Report and Environmental Impact Study

The following confirmations and recommendations were made in the MNR's letters regarding the Final NHA and EIS:

- The determination of the existence of natural features and the boundaries of natural features was made using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
- The site investigation and records review were conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR, if no natural features were identified.
- The evaluation of the significance or provincial significance of the natural features was conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
- The project location is not in a provincial park or conservation reserve.
- The environmental impact study report has been prepared in accordance with procedures established by the MNR. Additional wildlife surveys and information about potential environmental effects are required with regard to Turbines 9, 46, 47 and 82. As such, NextEra will continue to consult with the MNR and will fulfil the MNR's recommendation for further studies before these turbines can be constructed.
- Pre-construction assessments, determination of significance, and implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, as committed to in the environmental impact study, will be fulfilled with regard to specific candidate significant natural features, including: bat maternity colonies, turtle wintering areas, reptile hibernacula, amphibian woodland breeding habitat and colonial nesting bird breeding habitat.
- Post-construction monitoring, and if deemed necessary, implementation of mitigation measures will be fulfilled for specific significant natural features and candidate significant natural features, including: bat maternity colonies, amphibian woodland breeding habitats, colonial nesting bird breeding habitats, habitats for plan species of conservation concern, habitats for bird species of conservation concern, turtle wintering areas and reptile hibernacula.

4.1.4 Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

NextEra consulted with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) throughout the REA process on matters relating to archaeological and cultural heritage impacts. Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessments in addition to a Heritage Assessment were conducted to identify any potential effects relating to these resources. The final Archaeological Assessment and Heritage Assessment Reports are available for review in the REA package. The following sections summarize the letters of confirmation received from the MTCS regarding these reports. Copies of the letters are available for review in **Appendix B**.

4.1.4.1 Confirmation on the Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment Reports

The MTCS responded on July 16, 2012 to the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment submitted to the Ministry on June 26, 2012. The final version of the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment was submitted on January 29, 2013 and an addendum was submitted on December 18, 2012. The MTCS provided confirmation letters regarding these two reports on February 1, 2013 and January 18, 2013. The Ministry provided the following comments and recommendations:

- **Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment** – the MTCS entered the archaeological assessment into the register on June 26, 2012. Based on the reported findings, it was recommended that a Stage 2 archaeological assessment be carried out for potential wind turbine sites and their associated infrastructure.
- **Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment** - the MTCS provided comments on January 18, 2013 regarding the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment addendum. The Ministry indicated they were satisfied with the findings of the report; confirming that no further archaeological assessments were required for the areas subject to the report.

The MTCS provided comments on February 1, 2013 regarding the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment submitted on January 29, 2013. The Ministry indicated they were satisfied with the recommendations in the report.

4.1.4.2 Confirmation on the Heritage Assessment Report

The MTCS responded on November 23, 2012 and December 21, 2012 to the Heritage Assessment Report submitted on September 24, 2012 and later amended on December 7, 2012 and provided the following comments and recommendations:

- Due to the typical nature of the landscape, cultural heritage value or interest was not identified according to Ontario Regulation 9/06.
- Of the 135 structures inventoried, 99 (46 houses and 53 barns) were determined to have cultural heritage value or interest.
- No further mitigation is recommended as it was determined that there are no anticipated impacts as a result of the undertaking.

4.1.5 Additional Agency Consultation

In addition to the agencies required to be consulted to obtain permits or confirmation letters as per O.Reg. 359/09, NextEra has also conducted consultation with Environment Canada, Transport Canada, the Department of National Defence and NAV Canada.

At the time the Consultation Report was finalized, Transport Canada had not provided information to NextEra with regard to the Project. NextEra will continue consultation to address any concerns if they arise, although none are anticipated. The Department of National Defence indicated they have no concerns with the Project as proposed. In addition, NextEra has consulted with NAV Canada and it was determined that the Project will result in modifications to Air Navigation Systems associated with the Centralia and Grand Bend Aerodromes and that NAV Canada has no objections to the Project as submitted.

NextEra has maintained communication with Environment Canada to address effects of the Project on the Exeter weather radar system. Through continued dialogue, a work plan is being developed which will define a mitigation plan. NextEra hired a third-party technical advisor and these experts and NextEra will meet with Environment Canada in February, 2013, to review the proposed mitigation strategies.

It is fully anticipated that a mitigation plan will be in effect prior to commencing operation of the Goshen Wind Energy Centre to ensure that there are no negative effects on the local aerodromes or the Exeter weather radar system from the Project.

4.2 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

The following table represents key pieces of correspondence from agencies engaged in the Project.

Table 4-1 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency	Questions/Comments	Response
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA)			
August 10, 2010	ABCA	NextEra and AECOM met with the ABCA to introduce the proposed project and discuss information sharing requirements.	N/A
May 5, 2011	ABCA	AECOM had a meeting with ABCA to review status of background information available within the Goshen project area, to obtain outstanding natural heritage background data, to review proposed aquatic work plan with the ABCA and to establish a consultation process with conservation authorities on the work program to aide in the permitting process.	N/A
September 19, 2011	ABCA	ABCA provided data on conservation areas and rare species in the project area.	N/A
November 22, 2011	ABCA	AECOM had a phone conversation with ABCA regarding setback distances from watercourses. Key comments include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABCA indicated that setbacks in O.Reg.359/09 do not take into account local conditions, such as floodlines and potential erosion issues. Development within the regulation will require consideration of site specific conditions. For some sites, a 30 m setback may not be enough to ensure there will be no flooding/ erosion issues caused by the development. A site visit with ABCA will be required at each site where we would like to develop within the Regulation Limit. 	N/A
November 25, 2011	ABCA	ABCA provided AECOM with a description of all the environmentally sensitive areas in the ABCA watershed.	N/A
July 17, 2012	ABCA	AECOM met with ABCA to present the preliminary layout. ABCA confirmed that NextEra will need to show how the ABCA floodline elevation was taken into consideration in the design of the turbine and associated infrastructure.	N/A
December 19, 2012	ABCA	AECOM met with ABCA to discuss the updated layout that was submitted in the draft REA reports and subsequently modified, and to identify any potential permitting requirements.	N/A
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA)			
September 6, 2012	UTRCA	AECOM introduced the project and requested a meeting to discuss permitting requirements required for the construction of an overhead transmission line.	UTRCA had a phone conversation with AECOM and provided AECOM with the information requested on permitting requirements.

Table 4-1 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency	Questions/Comments	Response
March 16, 2012	UTRCA	AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the Transmission Line Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers.	UTRCA provided AECOM with comments and regulation limit mapping regarding the Goshen Wind Energy Centre.
November 5, 2012	UTRCA	AECOM spoke with UTRCA regarding permitting requirements under O.Reg 157/06.	UTRCA provided AECOM with the required information.
November 9, 2012	UTRCA	A follow-up discussion was held and UTRCA confirmed that there are no major concerns with the installation of the transmission line over watercourse crossings in UTRCA jurisdiction provided that the poles are set back 15 m from the watercourse top of bank.	N/A
December 20, 2012	UTRCA	A conference call was held to review locations where vegetation removal is required to construct the transmission line.	N/A
Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)			
May 12, 2011	CWS	AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the Project Study Area, including species inventories and information pertaining to wildlife habitat.	CWS indicated that they do not collect and maintain a comprehensive list of this information. CWS recommended consulting with the MNR district office, MNR's NHIC database, and the Ontario Breeding Birds Atlas.
Department of National Defence (DND)			
January 6, 2012	DND	NextEra emailed the Department of National defence to inquire about potential effects on communications from the proposed Project.	DND responded that they have no objections or concerns regarding the proposal in respect to DND's radio communication system, interference with DND radar and flight operations.
Environment Canada			
February 9, 2012	Environment Canada	In response to an email from NextEra to Environment Canada's National Radar Program on January 6, 2012 regarding potential effects on telecommunications or radar operations from the proposed Project, Environment Canada indicated that the project will adversely impact the Exeter weather radar causing: significant Doppler interference, and multi-path scattering reflections. The Project would not effectively co-exist with the Exeter weather radar as currently proposed without a mitigation plan.	On November 28, 2012 NextEra met with Environment Canada to discuss the effects of NextEra's Projects, including Goshen, on their weather radar systems. Environment Canada's main concerns are the cumulative effects of turbines on their weather radar systems. Environment Canada has given initial consideration to potential mitigation strategies, which will be explored by both parties. NextEra will meet with Environment Canada in early February 2013 to discuss weather radar mitigation measures. In addition, NextEra hired third-party technical advisors to assist with developing appropriate solutions. It is fully anticipated that mitigation measures will be in place prior to commencing construction to ensure no negative effects on Environment Canada's weather radar system.
Hydro One			
July 15, 2010	Hydro One	AECOM emailed Hydro One to identify setback guidelines for wind turbines from transmission line rights-of-way.	Hydro One provided recommendations for turbine setbacks.
July 15, 2010	Hydro One	AECOM emailed Hydro One to acquire GIS shapefiles for transmission line rights-of-way.	Hydro One provided standard right-of-way widths for transmission lines. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 115 kV line: 50 feet on either side of the centre line. • 230 kV line: 75 feet on either side of the centre line. • 500 kV line, single circuit: 110 feet on either side of the centre line. • 500 kV line, double circuit: 125 feet on either side of the centre line.

Table 4-1 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency	Questions/Comments	Response
April 27, 2011	Hydro One	AECOM emailed Hydro One to confirm if the setback distances have not changed.	Hydro One replied that the guidelines provided in July 2010 still apply.
Ministry of the Environment (MOE)			
May 26, 2010	MOE	Provided MOE with the Notice of Proposal to Engage in a Project and of First Public Meeting – Municipality of South Huron to be held on June 29, 2010.	N/A
July 26, 2010	MOE	AECOM provided the Project Description Report for review and requested information /guidance on the requirements related to the preparation of the Project Description Report and the overall process.	MOE confirmed receipt of Project Description Report and indicated that it did not meet the regulatory requirements as turbine specifications are mandatory component and the total name plate capacity is required. AECOM provided updated Project Description Reports with the required information. MOE confirmed receipt of the updated reports.
August 31, 2010	MOE	AECOM emailed MOE to ask questions regarding the data collection requirements of the Water Bodies reports.	MOE followed up and indicated that they do not have protocol for the Water Bodies reports.
March 30, 2011	MOE	AECOM emailed MOE to request information regarding the waterbodies technical bulletin. Requested details pertaining to water quality, water quantity and aquatic field components and a field plan.	MOE responded that laboratory samples or water velocity readings are not required for the waterbodies report. They are looking for background information for water quality and quantity. MOE reviews the water assessment and waterbodies report. They require a field plan prior to investigation.
April 11, 2011	MOE	MOE emailed AECOM to provide the Director's List of Aboriginal Communities.	N/A
May 11, 2011	MOE	AECOM emailed MOE to provide work plan for conducting water assessments & water body reports.	MOE confirmed that work plan does not require MOE approval.
April 3, 2012	MOE	AECOM submitted a crystallization form for the Goshen Study area noise assessment.	MOE acknowledged receipt of the crystallization form and provided the location of other wind farms for AECOM's consideration.
April 23, 2012	MOE	Provided MOE with a Notice of Second Public Meetings – Municipality of Bluewater and Municipality of South Huron to be held on May 29 and May 30, 2012.	N/A
June 29, 2012	MOE	Provided MOE with a copy of the Draft Site Plan Notice and Draft Site Plan report.	N/A
October 12, 2012	MOE	Provided MOE with a Notice of Final Public Meetings to be held on January 9 and 10, 2013.	N/A
Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)			
June 8, 2010	MNR	AECOM sent a letter to the MNR to follow-up on June 3, 2010 meeting and to outline work plan and requirements for conducting natural heritage and water assessments: Records Review, Constraints Mapping, Site Investigations, Effects Assessments, and Consultation Protocol with MNR.	MNR provided comments on the work plan submitted by AECOM on June 8, 2010. The MNR provided information about the REA process. Commented on natural heritage information, including wetlands, fisheries, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs), woodlands, evaluation of significance, post-construction monitoring, potential bat habitat, and information related to Approvals and Permitting Requirements Document (APRD) requirements. Also provided general comments on the work plan relating to Project location, significant wildlife habitat, wetlands and ANSI boundaries, mapping, and environmental effects.
July 26, 2010	MNR	AECOM emailed the MNR to request information and guidance on the requirements related to the preparation of the Project Description Report.	N/A

Table 4-1 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency	Questions/Comments	Response
September 7, 2010	MNR	AECOM emailed the MNR to request Scientific Collector's Permit for the Project areas.	MNR sent a response to AECOM's request for a blanket Scientific Collector's Permit (SCP) for each Project location. Confirmed watercourses need to be narrowed down before a permit will be given.
February 4, 2011	MNR	AECOM called MNR to confirm petroleum resources in the Project Study Area.	MNR provided guidance on how to identify and document petroleum resources and provided requirements for setbacks from petroleum resources.
March 28, 2011	MNR	AECOM emailed MNR to confirm if there are any trout lakes in the study areas.	MNR indicated the Great Lakes are not considered Lake Trout Lakes for the purpose of REA regulation. Only lakes listed in the <i>Inland Ontario Lakes Designated for Lake Trout Management (May 2006)</i> are considered Lake Trout Lakes for the regulation. There are no Lake Trout Lakes within the study areas.
May 9, 2011	MNR	AECOM emailed MNR to provide protocol procedures being used to perform ELC/vegetation and amphibian surveys. Requested input on proposed procedures. Requested details regarding Ontario Wetland Evaluation System tool.	MNR followed up on May 16, 2011 correspondence regarding ELC and amphibians protocols. Provided detailed comments on how to apply specific procedures and protocol for these studies.
July 25, 2011	MNR	AECOM met with MNR to discuss requirements for the Goshen Wind Energy Centre Natural Heritage Assessment and present proposed approaches.	N/A
August 25, 2011	MNR	AECOM submitted a Natural Heritage Assessment Records Review request to the MNR for Goshen Wind Energy Centre.	N/A
September 27, 2011	MNR	AECOM sent a follow-up email to a phone conversation the week before with MNR to confirm requirements for site investigation.	MNR confirmed on September 28, 2011 that the information provided in the email was accurate.
March 21, 2012	MNR	AECOM submitted Natural Heritage Assessment Records Review request for the Transmission Line Study Area	MNR Renewable Energy Operations Teams provided information pertaining to wetlands, woodlands, valleylands, ANSIs and significant wildlife habitat within the Transmission Line Study Area on May 1, 2012.
May 7, 2012	MNR	MNR Guelph District provided information pertaining to the wetland evaluation for McDonald Marsh.	N/A
August 17, 2012	MNR	AECOM submitted the Natural Heritage Assessment Introduction and Records Review for MNR Review.	N/A
August 20, 2012	MNR	AECOM submitted the Natural Heritage Assessment Site Investigation and Evaluation of Significance for MNR Review.	N/A
August 22, 2012	MNR	AECOM submitted the Natural Heritage Assessment Environmental Impact Study for MNR Review.	N/A
September 19, 2012	MNR	AECOM had a meeting with MNR to review comments on the Natural Heritage Assessment report.	N/A
November 26, 2012	MNR	AECOM had a conference call with MNR to discuss evaluation of significance surveys for amphibian significant wildlife habitat, crane paths, directional drilling beneath wetlands & woodlands.	MNR issued confirmation letters for the NHA and EIS on January 15 and 16, 2013.

Table 4-1 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency	Questions/Comments	Response
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS)			
July 26, 2010	MTCS	AECOM emailed MTCS to provide Project Description Report for review.	N/A
June 26, 2012	MTCS	Golder submitted to MTCS on June 26, 2012 the Final Stage 1 Goshen Wind Energy Centre Archaeological Report for review and confirmation.	MTCS issued a confirmation letter for the Stage 1 Archaeological assessment on July 16, 2012.
September 24, 2012	MTCS	Golder Associates submitted the Final Heritage Assessment to MTCS for review and confirmation.	MTCS issued confirmation letter for the Heritage Assessment on November 23, 2012.
December 7, 2012	MTCS	Golder Associates submitted the Final Heritage Assessment Addendum to MTCS for review and confirmation.	MTCS issued confirmation letter for the Heritage Assessment Addendum on December 21, 2012.
December 18, 2012	MTCS	Golder Associates submitted the Final Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Addendum for review and confirmation.	MTCS issued confirmation letter for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Addendum on January 18, 2013.
January 29, 2013	MTCS	Golder Associates submitted the Final Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for review and confirmation.	MTCS issued confirmation letter for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment on February 1, 2013.
Ministry of Transportation (MTO)			
July 26, 2010	MTO	AECOM emailed MTO to provide Project Description Report for review.	MTO provided comments on general requirements for building and land use permits, entrance permits, sign permits and encroachment permits.
August 29, 2012	MTO	MTO confirmed receipt of the Draft Site Plan.	N/A
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care			
July 17, 2012	Ministry of Health and Long Term Care	The Ministry confirmed receipt of the Draft Site Plan Notice and indicated that they would like to be kept informed of any further developments and provided a contact with the local board of health.	N/A
Ministry of the Attorney General			
June 16, 2010	Ministry of the Attorney General	The Ministry of the Attorney General confirmed receipt of the notice of public meeting and indicated all inquiries and communications are handled by Aboriginal and Ministry Relationships Branch of the Ministry of Aboriginals Affairs.	N/A
Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)			
April 5, 2010	DFO	AECOM requested information on any species at risk within the study area.	DFO provided maps with the species at risk data.
NAV Canada			
July 23, 2012	NAV Canada	In light of recent amendments to O.Reg. 359/09, NextEra provided NAV Canada with recent notices for their projects, including the Goshen Draft Site Plan Notice.	N/A
August 8, 2012	NAV Canada	NextEra provided NAV Canada with an Aeronautical Obstruction Clearance Form.	N/A
October 12, 2012	NAV Canada	NextEra provided NAV Canada with a Notice of the January 9 and 10 public meetings.	N/A
November 27, 2012	NAV Canada	NextEra met with NAV Canada to discuss their assessments of NextEra's Projects, including Goshen.	Consultation is ongoing.
January 17, 2013	NAV Canada	NAV Canada evaluated the Goshen Wind Energy Project as proposed and concluded that it would result in modifications to Air Navigation Systems associated with the Centralia and Grand Bend Aerodromes. Based on the result of the evaluation, NAV Canada has no objections to the Project as submitted.	Consultation is ongoing. It is anticipated that all mitigation with affected aerodromes will be implemented prior to construction.

Table 4-1 Summary of Key Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency	Questions/Comments	Response
Transport Canada (TC)			
July 23, 2012	TC	In light of recent amendments to O.Reg. 359/09, NextEra provided TC with recent notices for their projects, including the Goshen Draft Site Plan Notice.	N/A
August 8, 2012	TC	NextEra provided TC with an Aeronautical Obstruction Clearance Form.	To date, no response has been received.
October 12, 2012	TC	NextEra provided TC with a Notice of the January 9 and 10 public meetings.	N/A

5. Aboriginal Consultation

The Aboriginal Consultation Report, found in Appendix C, describes NextEra's consultation with First Nation and Métis in detail. Consultation has been ongoing throughout the project planning process, and is conducted in accordance with the following principles:

1. Fostering a collaborative working relationship with potentially impacted First Nation and Métis communities as early as practicable.
2. Understanding and recognizing applicable aboriginal and treaty rights and interests.
3. Understanding and respecting the cultural integrity of First Nation and Métis communities potentially impacted by NextEra's projects.
4. Fulfilling all delegated obligations to consult and (where applicable) accommodate First Nation and Métis communities.
5. Being open to discuss a broader relationship with potentially impacted First Nation and Métis communities and host First Nation and Métis communities.

A copy of NextEra's "First Nation and Métis Relationship Policy" can be found in Appendix C.

The following Aboriginal Communities were identified by the Director of the Ministry of the Environment and were engaged in consultation initiatives:

- Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point Kettle Point 44
- Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Chippewas of the Thames 42
- Aamjiwnaang First Nation Sarnia 45
- Bkejwanong Territory Walpole Island First Nation Walpole Island 46
- Oneida Nation of the Thames Oneida 41
- Historic Saugeen Métis
- Munsee-Delaware First Nation Munsee-Delaware Nation 1
- Delaware Nation Moravian of the Thames Moravian 47

Additional groups were also identified for consultation by NextEra based on proximity of a project to a traditional territory or traditional Métis harvest territory. These groups were:

- Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council
- Oneida Council of Chiefs
- Six Nations of the Grand River

The results of the program indicate there will be no impacts to Aboriginal or treaty rights or other environmental impacts that may be of concern to Aboriginal Communities, if the Project is approved and implemented with the mitigation measures outlined in the reports and studies that have been submitted in accordance with O.Reg. 359/09. Additionally, no concerns have been expressed to date, or other information brought forward by Aboriginal Communities that resulted in a need to make changes to the Project. NextEra has complied with all requirements to provide notices and information as set out in Ontario Regulation 359/09 to Aboriginal Communities, and evidence of such compliance can also be found in Appendix C.

6. Municipal Consultation

The following section details consultation efforts with the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron and Huron County. **Table 6-1 – Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence** provides details of key municipal consultation activities while Appendix D provides copies of correspondence and the municipal consultation form provided to the municipalities. Note that at the time of submitting this report, a completed municipal consultation form had not been received from the Municipalities of Bluewater or Huron County.

6.1 Municipal Consultation Form and Draft PDR to Municipalities

The Municipal Consultation Form, which is intended to aid in highlighting key municipal issues associated with the Project, was first provided to the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron, in addition to Huron County along with the updated PDR on October 26, 2011. Note that the first Public Meeting was held prior to the amendment to O.Reg. 359/09 stating that the PDR must be made available and Municipal Consultation Form must be submitted to the municipalities 30 days before the first Public Meeting.

Updated Municipal Consultation Forms were sent to the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron, in addition to Huron County, on September 27, 2012 along with the draft REA Reports to commence the municipal consultation period.

6.1.1 Municipal Consultation Form – Municipality of South Huron

The Municipality of South Huron provided a response on January 11, 2013 to the request for comments regarding the Municipal Consultation Form. A copy of this letter is provided in Appendix D1 for review. In summary, the Municipality is requesting the following:

- Information on the effects of ice shed on nearby roadways, effects of the Project on local weather radar, and effects of the Project on tourism;
- Details on decommissioning related to securities amount (to ensure funds are secured for future decommissioning) and repurposing the operations building;
- Confirmation of the location of the laydown yard and the operations building, as the operations building must be located in a Settlement Area as identified in the Official Plan; and the location of and type of municipal service connections required (in relation to the substation and operations building, for example)
- Details on post-construction monitoring reports, such as to whom this information is provided;
- Development of a traffic management plan, road user agreement, communication plan; cost recovery plan (to compensate the municipality for time separate from building reviews associated with the project); remediation plan (relating to tree removal and visual effects); telecommunication plan and emergency response plan;

- Notification of complaints received during construction and confirmation on how complaints regarding shadow flicker are to be reported;
- Implementation of a 10 metre setback from access roads to non-participating properties; a 500 metre setback from turbines to dwellings (although the municipality would prefer a greater setback) and confirmation that vacant lot receptors were included in the Property Line Setback Report;
- Issuance of a moratorium on wind energy by the Province until the Health Canada study is finalized;
- Documentation of the locations where excess fill is proposed and an opportunity to review and approve how the fill will be handled;
- Documentation that the proponent has the authority on behalf of private landowners for access over easements or access roads;
- Confirmation that all collection and transmission lines will be buried and that lines are shared with other utilities or that lines accommodate future joint usage;
- Details regarding municipal drain crossings and associated reports;
- Details regarding required municipal building permits, and other permits such as those from the Ministry of Transportation and Conservation Authorities;

NextEra is currently developing a response to the letter received on January 11, 2013 and will continue to meet with the municipality to address their comments throughout the permitting process.

6.2 Distribution of Draft Documents for Review – Municipal

As mentioned above, the draft REA Reports were provided to the Municipalities of Bluewater and South Huron, in addition to Huron County on September 27, 2012. Although draft documents are to be made available 90 days prior to the final public meetings, NextEra made the draft documents available for an additional 14 days. The following documents were provided for municipal review:

- Municipal Consultation Form
- One hard copy and one CD of the following REA Reports:
 - Project Description Report
 - Construction Plan Report
 - Design and Operations Report (including Noise Assessment Report)
 - Decommissioning Plan Report
 - Wind Turbine Specification Report
 - Natural Heritage Assessment Report
 - Water Assessment and Water Body Report
 - Heritage Assessment Report
 - Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment Reports

Appendix D contains the cover letters for the Municipal Consultation Period.

6.3 Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence

The following table represents key pieces of correspondence from the municipalities engaged in the Project.

Table 6-1 Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence

Date	Municipality	Description of Consultation	Follow-up/Response
November 21, 2007	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to South Huron Council to introduce the company and general introduction to wind energy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
March 10, 2008	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to Bluewater Council to introduce the company and general introduction to wind energy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
September 26, 2008	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to Council and staff outlining concerns and objections to proposed zoning by-law regulations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeared at public meeting to discuss letter with planning committee.
May 26, 2010	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra provided a Notice for the June 29, 2010 Public Meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
May 31, 2010	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Municipality acknowledged receipt of the public Notice of Proposal /Public Meeting and requested to be notified of any future development of the proposed project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra continued to provide project updates to the Municipality.
February 16, 2011	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra held a meeting with Municipality of Bluewater staff. Discussion topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brief background of Project; ▪ Clarification of Feed-in-Tariff contract timing; ▪ Upcoming archaeological work; ▪ Ownership of transmission line; ▪ Future municipal road work on Goshen Line and any potential effects or conflicts from the Project construction; and, ▪ Opportunities to assist with solar projects at municipal sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra provided meeting minutes for review. • NextEra will continue discussions with the Municipality of Bluewater as more information becomes available.
May 9, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra held a meeting with staff to introduce the project and answer questions. • Municipality suggested exploring the idea of a workshop to address Council as a first step. • Municipality provided information on suitable interest groups to contact with respect to future consultation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra provided meeting minutes for review.
May 12, 2011	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the Project Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
May 12, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the Project Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huron County indicated that natural heritage information they have was obtained from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority or MNR. Due to license restrictions on sharing agreements, this information should be requested directly from those agencies.
May 12, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the Project Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
June 27, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra held a meeting with council to introduce the project and answer questions. Discussion topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brief background of Project; ▪ Feed-in-Tariff contract information; ▪ Upcoming field work; ▪ Siting Project Infrastructure; ▪ Permitting; and, ▪ Next Steps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra will continue discussions with the Municipality of South Huron as more information becomes available and follow-up on hosting a workshop with the Municipality. • It was determined with the municipality that NextEra would appear as a delegation to council rather than hosting a workshop.

Table 6-1 Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence

Date	Municipality	Description of Consultation	Follow-up/Response
July 4, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra requested mapping of settlement boundaries as NextEra would like to model the wind turbine layouts so that they do not inhibit future village growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huron County provided the requested mapping.
July 19, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra held a meeting with Huron County staff to introduce NextEra and the Project. Discussion topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief background of Project; Update on July 4, 2011 Feed-in-Tariff contract announcement; and, County suggested to schedule the next meeting when a turbine layout was available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided minutes meeting for review.
September 12, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested information pertaining to the percentage of wooded areas in the Municipality of South Huron, criteria used to evaluate significant woodlands and related GIS data layers for significant woodlands, as identified in the Municipality of South Huron Official Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality suggested contacting the ABCA for this information.
October 3, 2011	Huron County Low Frequency Noise Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra was copied on an email sent to Huron County's Low Frequency Noise (LFN) Committee members following up after their meeting on October 2, 2011. The meeting summary and a revised LFN Report were included in the email. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra sent a letter to Huron County Council regarding the Low Frequency Noise Committee (LFN) report which was scheduled for discussion at the Huron County Council meeting on November 9, 2011. The letter detailed NextEra's involvement with the LFN and provided information on the proposed projects in Bluewater and Goshen. Information was also provided on Epsilon Associates Inc. who had been retained to investigate the impacts of wind turbine generated low frequency sound on the human environment as well as a summary of findings from Epsilon's report; "A Study of Low Frequency Noise and Infrasound from Wind Turbines" published in 2008.
October 5, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested information pertaining to the percentage of wooded areas in the Municipality of South Huron. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huron County indicated that ABCA would have the most up to date information.
October 26, 2011	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra informed the Municipalities that the updated PDR and Municipal Consultation Forms were being couriered to their offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
October 31, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance and presentation at Council Meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
November 1, 2011	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested waterbodies information relevant to the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality requested we contact the ABCA or MNR for this information.
November 1, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested waterbodies information relevant to the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huron County indicated that ABCA would have this information.
November 1, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested waterbodies information relevant to the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
November 2, 2011	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided a Notice for the December 8 Public Meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
November 3, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huron County emailed in regard to an advertisement in the local newspaper that the Draft PDR have been prepared and would like to receive a copy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided copies of the Bluewater and Goshen PDRs.

Table 6-1 Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence

Date	Municipality	Description of Consultation	Follow-up/Response
November 9, 2011	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra appeared as a delegation to Huron County Council to introduce NextEra and the Project and to provide an update on the Project. Discussion topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal property taxes; and, Health effects associated with existing NextEra facilities (NextEra has found no credible, scientifically peer-reviewed study that demonstrates a causal link between wind turbines and negative health effects.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A - all questions were answered at meeting.
November 17, 2011	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided NextEra a copy of signed by-law No. 07-2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A - for information purposes only
December 13, 2011	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality provided drainage maps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
December 21, 2011	Lake Huron & Elgin Area Primary Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra met with Lake Huron & Elgin Area Primary Water Supply staff to discuss siting project infrastructure in relation to pipeline easements. Crossing permits would be required where if infrastructure crosses pipeline easements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra will continue consultation with Lake Huron & Elgin Area Primary Water Supply when the Project layout is determined.
January 12, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality provided drainage maps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
February 23, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra met with staff to provide an update on the Project including an explanation of the required overhead transmission line route. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided meeting minutes for review. NextEra to confirm details of the Community Vibrancy Fund and construction details and have follow-up meeting closer to the release of the Draft REA Reports.
March 12, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the updated Project Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality confirmed that the updated study area is not located within the Municipality of Bluewater.
March 12, 2012	Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the updated Project Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huron County advised that it would be best to obtain natural heritage information from the local conservation authority.
March 12, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested natural heritage information relevant to the updated Project Study Area, including information pertaining to woodlands, valleylands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, species inventories, conservation areas and related GIS data layers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipality of South Huron responded that AECOM should contact Huron County and ABCA for information.
March 23, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipality provided drainage mapping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
April 19, 2012	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra advised the municipalities that updated PDRs and a meeting notice would arrive the following week. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
April 23, 2012	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided a meeting notice and updated PDRs to the municipalities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Table 6-1 Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence

Date	Municipality	Description of Consultation	Follow-up/Response
May 17, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra appeared as a delegation to Bluewater Council to provide a project update at a meeting specially convened by Council to discuss "Wind Turbines". Questions from council included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Vibrancy Fund terms and limitations; Effects on property value; Concerns over underground gas storage in area; Effects to tundra swans; and, Examples of changes in other projects as a result of consultation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra answered many of the questions of Council at the meeting as such, most do not require follow-up; Items for clarification and follow-up were addressed in a formal letter to Council dated September 28, 2012 (provided in Appendix D4). NextEra clarified details of the Community Vibrancy Fund, the Feed-In-Tariff Program, property values, building permit requirements and transmission line specifics, NextEra also provided background information on bird studies conducted as part of the planning process. Although the letter is specific to NextEra's Bluewater Wind Energy Project, the subject matter discussed in the meeting and provided in the response letter also pertain to the Goshen Wind Energy Project.
May 29, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra met with staff to discuss the proposed transmission line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
June 14, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra held an informal meeting with Bluewater Staff to discuss Project engineering, operations, the MCF and to answer questions. Discussion topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underground gas storage pools in the area; Tundra swan studies, which the municipality thought were insufficient; Building permit fees; Buried transmission lines; and, Decommissioning plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many of the matters to be addressed were from the May 17, 2012 Council delegation are addressed in a formal letter to Council dated September 28, 2012 (provided in Appendix D4). NextEra provided information on building permit requirements and transmission line specifics, NextEra also provided background information on bird studies conducted as part of the planning process and the decommissioning plan. Although the letter is specific to NextEra's Bluewater Wind Energy Project, the subject matter discussed in the meeting and provided in the response letter also pertain to the Goshen Wind Energy Project.
June 14, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra met with staff and provided a tour of Huron Park to discuss siting the operations and maintenance building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra to maintain communication regarding siting of the operations and maintenance building.
July 29, 2012	Bluewater, South Huron, Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided Draft Site Plan Notice and Reports for municipal and public review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
July 5, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipality requested a map of the project location and a map identifying which collection lines are in the rights-of-way. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra forwarded map of the project location.
August 13, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested data from the Municipality on the location and boundaries of any open or closed landfills within the study area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality confirmed the location of the closed landfills and open landfills.
August 13, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AECOM requested data from the Municipality on the location and boundaries of any open or closed landfills within the study area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality confirmed the location of the closed landfills and open landfills.
September 13, 2012	South Huron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra advised the municipality of the tele-town hall event and invited them to call in and listen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipality forwarded information to council.
September 27, 2012	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft REA Reports provided to commence Municipal Consultation Period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
October 1, 2012	Bluewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Municipality requested a site plan showing which collection lines were in the right of way. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided updated mapping.
October 5, 2012	Huron County, South Huron, Bluewater, Huron East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra met with staff to introduce NextEra's engineering and construction staff and to discuss details of the proposed transmission line and permitting requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NextEra provided minutes meeting for review.

Table 6-1 Summary of Key Municipal Correspondence

Date	Municipality	Description of Consultation	Follow-up/Response
October 11, 2012	Bluewater, South Huron and Huron County	• Draft REA Reports provided to commence Public Consultation Period.	• N/A
October 22, 2012	South Huron	• The Municipality provided drainage mapping.	• N/A
October 24, 2012	South Huron	• NextEra confirmed that an additional copy of the Draft REA Reports would be provided for municipal review.	• N/A
November 5, 2012	Bluewater	• Presentation to Council regarding building permits.	• N/A
November 13, 2012	Lake Huron & Elgin Area Primary Water Supply	• NextEra met with Lake Huron & Elgin Area Primary Water Supply staff to discuss disturbance areas; location of project components in relation to the water supply infrastructure and timing of construction.	• NextEra provided a copy of the Draft Site Plan and will continue consultation with Lake Huron & Elgin Area Primary Water Supply.
December 2, 2012	South Huron	• NextEra provided a Project update to council.	• N/A
January 11, 2013	South Huron	• The Municipality provided the completed Municipal Consultation Form to NextEra	• NextEra is currently developing a response.

7. Consideration of Stakeholder Input

NextEra maintained ongoing communication with members of the public, local municipalities, Aboriginal communities and government agencies throughout the REA process, as documented above and in the associated appendices to this report.

The majority of comments received throughout the REA process were general comments or concerns relating to matters surrounding wind energy. NextEra responded to these questions and concerns via email, written letters, through conversations at public meetings, or individual meetings.

The following table outlines NextEra Energy Canada's consideration of stakeholder comments received. Comments were considered throughout the REA process to minimize any effects or perceived impacts. Following the publication of the draft site plan in July 2012 and the subsequent site plan release, no specific comments have been received from the public requiring a change in infrastructure location.

NextEra is committed to continuing open dialogue with Project stakeholders throughout all phases of the project and will address concerns if they arise.

Table 7-1 Consideration of Stakeholder Input

Comment Received	Project Response
Concerns from the Zurich Chamber of Commerce regarding turbine locations in the vicinity of the Village of Zurich.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra finalized a turbine layout that is mindful of siting turbines at least 2 km from the Village of Zurich which allows for future growth of the village in addition to maintaining compliance to setback distances outlined in O.Reg. 359/09. • No additional alterations to the project layout are deemed necessary.
Concerns regarding siting project infrastructure in the vicinity of two underground gas storage facilities proposed by Tribute Resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the permitting process, NextEra identified and assessed potential effects from the project on petroleum resources within 75 m of project infrastructure. One petroleum resource was identified within 75 m of Project infrastructure based on the MNR's Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library. Specifically, the access road and collection line between Turbines 54 and 84 is approximately 60 m from an active oil producing well. • Three other resources were identified based on ground-truthing of the Project Location. There is a storage tank and natural gas line 9 m from the collection line between Turbines 53 and 55, and a natural gas line 7 m from the collection line between Turbines 14 and 31. • NextEra has conducted consultation with Tribute Resources regarding proposed underground gas storage facilities and it has been determined that no effects on these areas are anticipated as a result of the Project. • No alterations to the project layout are deemed necessary.
Wind turbine siting in relation to a “500 metre” setback from 500 kV Hydro One transmission line.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydro One has reviewed the proposed turbine locations in relation to the 500 kV transmission line and has not indicated any concerns. The 500 metre setback is not a regulatory requirement, but rather a consultation zone. NextEra has addressed all of Hydro One's concerns with respect to this matter. • No alterations to the project layout are deemed necessary.
Turbines should be sited no closer than 2 km east of Highway 21 and 2 km from all settlement areas. No turbines should be west of Highway 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Goshen Wind Energy Project does not propose any turbines west of Highway 21. NextEra has sited all turbines according to the requirements outlined in <i>O.Reg.359/09</i>. • No alterations to the project layout are deemed necessary.
Adhering to the Bluewater Wind Turbine Zoning By-law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra conducted Project planning in compliance with the current Provincial regulation governing renewable energy projects in Ontario, O. Reg. 359/09. This regulation sets out specific siting requirements for wind turbines, including setback distances, effects assessment studies, public and municipal consultation, etc. As a result, the Project does not need to specifically adhere to the “Bluewater Wind Energy” setback by-law. • However, the majority of setbacks proposed by the Municipality are exceeded by O.Reg 359/09 and the Goshen layout including setbacks from off-site dwellings and vacant lots, urban zones, major settlement areas (Zurich, Bayfield, Hensall), recreation zones, disposal zones & Highway 21. • Five (5) turbines do not meet the proposed zoning setbacks from roads (156 m) but are located on low traffic volume side roads, including MacDonald Road, Pepper Road, and Rodgerville Road. In addition, there are no vacant lots along these sections of road which might be developed in the future. • Seven (7) turbines are located less than 100 m from a lot line, but as indicated in the Design and Operations report for the 16 turbines that are less than 80 m from a lot line, smaller distances impose very low risk on neighbouring properties as a result of turbine damage due to the safety procedures in place; the large distances from any buildings or structures; and the low incident rate of turbine failure. • No alterations to the project layout are deemed necessary.
Effects on local aerodromes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra has consulted with local aerodromes and will continue to do so throughout the permitting process to identify and mitigate any potential effects. • In addition, NextEra will consult with both Transport Canada and NAV Canada on an ongoing basis throughout the development process and will submit Obstruction Clearance forms (Transport Canada) and Land Use Submission forms (NAV Canada) for approval and/or comments. • No alterations to the project layout are deemed necessary.
Effects on local private air strip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra has consulted with the property owner and will continue to do so throughout the permitting process to identify and mitigate any potential effects. • A number of mitigation measures have been identified and will be finalized prior to construction.
Infrastructure siting preferences based on landowner feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextEra continuously met with landowners hosting project infrastructure to develop a site plan that would abide by provincial setback requirements and also reflect their preferences for locating infrastructure on their properties. NextEra worked closely with each landowner to abide by their preferences as much as possible. • Following the release of the Draft REA Reports for municipal and public review, NextEra proposed approximately 15 modifications to the project design to address landowner requests.