

HILDA WIND POWER PROJECT

April 2021 Newsletter

About the Project

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RES), is proposing to develop, construct and operate a wind power project of up to 100 megawatts (MW) of generation to be located northwest of the town of Hilda, in Cypress County. The Hilda Wind Power Project (the "Project") is expected to be an investment of approximately \$150 million, to be constructed in 2022 with a commercial operation date of December 2022. This Project would produce enough electricity to power approximately 50,000 Alberta homes.

The proposed Project comprises a maximum of 20 turbines, underground medium-voltage electrical cabling, a substation and access roads on private land to reach the turbines. The Project would be connected to the AltaLink 138kV transmission line traversing the site, by way of a short (approximately 100 meters) transmission line linking the Project substation to this AltaLink line.

The Project Area as depicted in the map herein, comprises a total of 5,300 acres of land, currently under option agreement with several landowners of the area. However, only a very small fraction of this Project Area, in the order of 25 acres in total, would actually be used for the Project's components and infrastructure during operations.

In the past few years, RES has studied the site carefully, identifying sensitive environmental features and built features and can confirm that the Project can be developed with very minimal impact to land, wildlife and their habitats; given the large size of the Project Area, the Project turbines can also be located so as to minimize impact to local residents.

RES is now engaging with the local community and local stakeholders and will seek feedback from everyone, to inform our next steps in our Project development and design. We look forward to hearing feedback and answering your questions on this important Project.

Why Wind?

Affordability: Thanks to the evolution of wind turbine technology and other factors, wind energy is the **lowest-cost option for new electricity generation in Alberta** today, all sources combined.

Environment: wind energy produces no carbon emissions or other air contaminants. It is a key solution to fighting climate change.

Community: wind projects benefit local communities through economic development, job creation, training, lease payments to local landowners and tax payments to the host County.

ONGOING DEVELOPMENT WORK

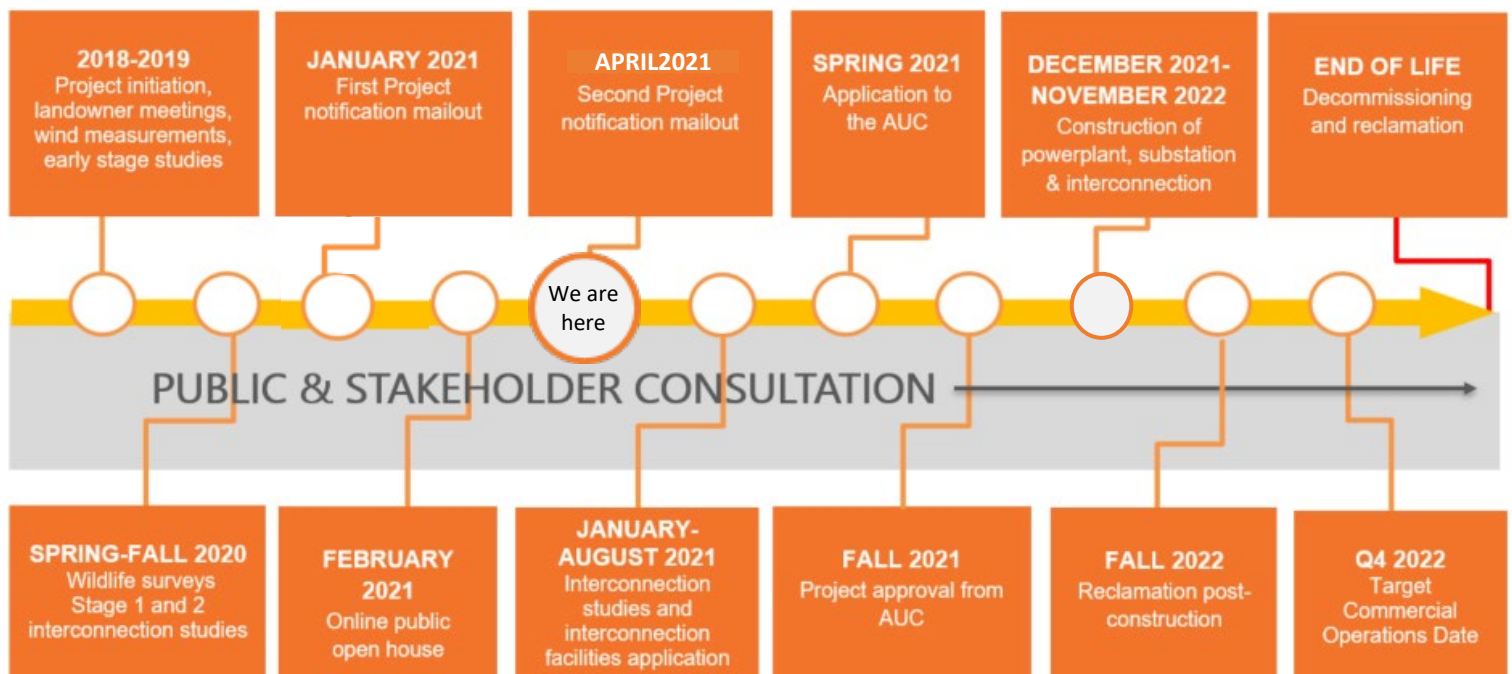
RES is actively pursuing its development efforts on this Project:

- Consultation under the Participant Involvement Program (PIP); in Round 1 RES engaged with the vast majority of stakeholders within the Consultation Area; Round 2 currently under way
- Preliminary project design based on environmental data, local land use, wind resource and stakeholder feedback
- Wind resource analysis
- Permitting activities including the Alberta Utilities Commission (the AUC) application
- Interconnection process and studies with AESO and Altalink

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING PROCESS

As part of the regulatory review process, wind projects are subject to various environmental studies and reporting requirements. Here is an update of where we are today:

- Environmental and wildlife data collection – COMPLETED
- Environmental report to Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) – SUBMITTED and UNDER REVIEW
- Noise: Initial impact assessment – COMPLETED
- Archaeological and cultural features assessment – IN PROGRESS
- Consultation under Participant Involvement Program (PIP) - ONGOING
- FILING to AUC – PENDING completion of PIP



PROPOSED PROJECT DESIGN – MINIMISING IMPACT, MAXIMIZING ENERGY

Following a thorough study of the wind farm project area and carefully taking into account comments from the first round of consultation with local landowners and occupants, RES is proposing a project design that aims to minimise impact while maximising project output. Many site features need to be considered when developing a wind farm project design; these include:

- Sensitive environmental features such as native grasslands, raptor nests, wetlands and other waterbodies
- Residences
- Gas wells and pipelines / local roads and lot lines
- Other built structures such as cell towers, farm buildings, etc.

The proposed Project layout, including turbine positions, access roads, electrical collector cabling, the project substation, the short (100m) high-voltage line connecting to the AltaLink network, and the temporary laydown area are depicted on the map attached to this newsletter. Key highlights of the proposed design include:

- ALL infrastructure is compliant with Alberta Environment and Parks guidelines, including NO turbine within active raptor nest setbacks
- NO turbine within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of a non-participating landowner residence (all except one residence are 1 mile from a turbine)
- Project in full compliance with AUC rule 012 (noise levels)
- All infrastructure compliant with Cypress County zoning by-law
- A **maximum of 20 turbines dispersed on 33 quarter sections** of land, minimizing visual impact



RES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

RES is an active player in the communities it is involved in and can support various fundraising events and special initiatives that bring local benefit.

If you have any ideas on how we can take an active role in the community, please contact us.

LOCAL BENEFITS

The Hilda Project will bring substantial local economic and social benefits to the community. These include:

- Municipal tax revenues throughout the life of the Project
- Annual lease payments and/or royalties to all landowners participating in the Project, providing a parallel, secure revenue stream to standard farming operations
- Construction and operations jobs and support services during construction and throughout the life of the Project
- Contracting opportunities for local business
- Increased local spending on goods and services during the Project's development, construction and operational phases

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

As the Project proceeds through the development process, RES is committed to working with all landowners and stakeholders to establish and maintain a strong relationship between RES and the community. We strive to exceed the regulatory requirements on all our projects, and we commit to responding and acting on all comments and concerns in a timely manner.

Over the course of February and March, we have contacted and engaged with the vast majority of local stakeholders and were very pleased with the overwhelming support for the project.

We are pursuing consultation, and we would love to hear from you if we haven't already!

Your feedback is important to us.



ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

As one of the top renewable energy companies in the world, Renewable Energy Systems (RES) has been providing services in development, engineering, construction, and operations since 1982. RES has developed and/or built over 19 GW of renewable energy capacity worldwide, has an asset management portfolio exceeding 7 GW, and is active in a range of energy technologies including onshore wind, solar, energy storage, and transmission.



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For more information about the Project please visit
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