

APPENDIX D ENGAGEMENT

**BLUE HILL WIND ENERGY PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Appendix D Engagement
December 2017

Appendix D ENGAGEMENT

D.1 OPEN HOUSE INVITATION AND POSTER

**BLUE HILL WIND ENERGY PROJECT
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PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Proposed Wind Energy Project

Algonquin Power Co. is holding the first two open houses regarding Algonquin's 177 megawatt (MW) proposed Blue Hills Wind Power Facility between Herbert and Neidpath. These open houses will provide preliminary project information regarding project planning and development activities, as well as a chance for the public to meet the project team. Both meetings will provide the same information for your convenience.

Please join Algonquin to learn more about the progress of the wind facility development.

Information Session #1

Location: Hodgeville Community Centre
Main Street
Hodgeville, SK S0H 2B0

Date: January 23rd, 2017

Time: 4 to 8 p.m.

Information Session #2

Location: Herbert Lions Club
Railway Avenue
Herbert, SK S0H 2A0

Date: January 24th, 2017

Time: 4 to 8 p.m.

For more information, contact:

Olivia Neter, Algonquin Power Co.
Ph: 905.465.6717

Olivia.Neter@AlgonquinPower.com

Eileen Turano, Algonquin Power Co.
Ph: 905.829.6352

Eileen.Turano@algonquinpower.com

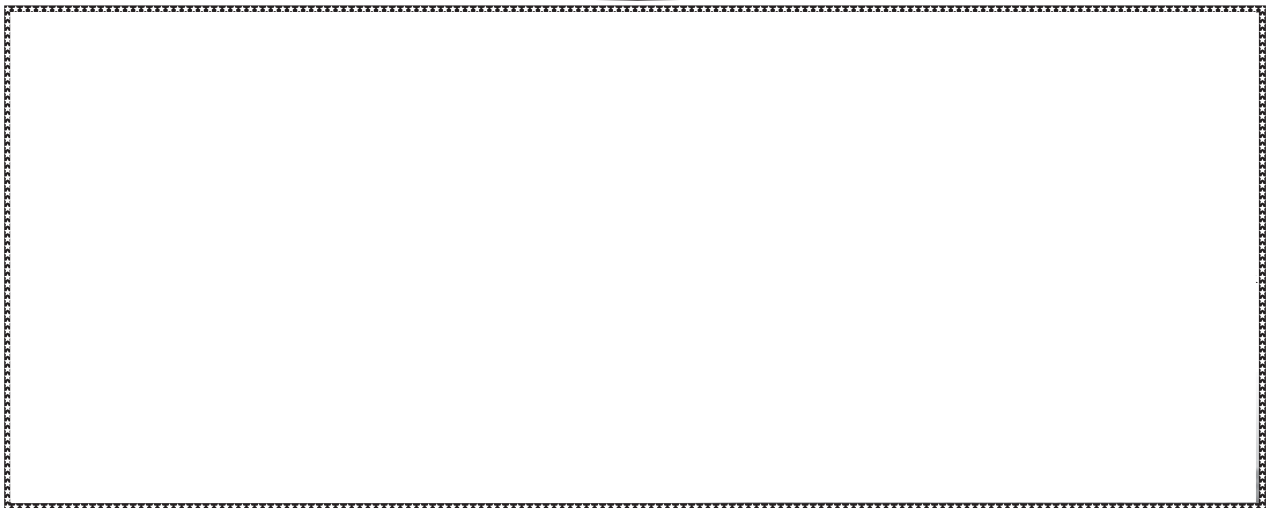
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D.2 OPEN HOUSE ADVERTISEMENT

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PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE Proposed Wind Energy Project

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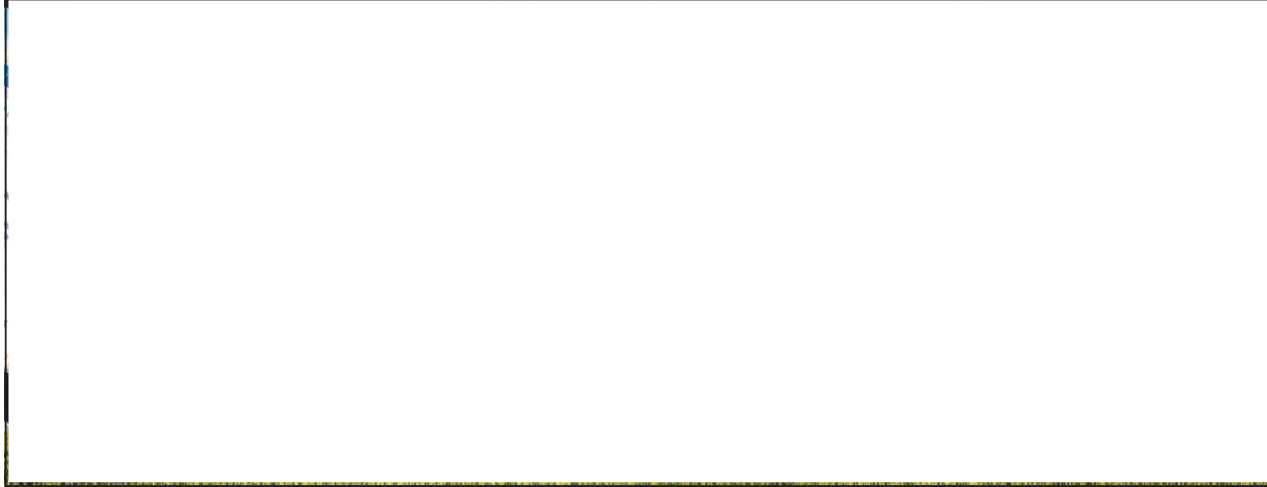
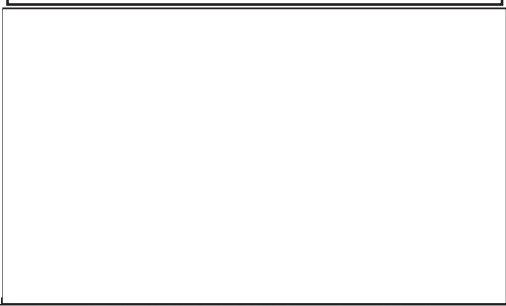
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Ph: 905.465.6717 Ph: 905.829.6352

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D.3 OPEN HOUSE POSTER BOARDS

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Algonquin

WELCOME

Blue Hills Wind Project

Open House

WELCOME



- SaskPower and Algonquin Power have agreed on a change of location for a 177 megawatt (MW) wind project to the location between Herbert and Neidpath in southwest Saskatchewan
- This first Open House provides:
 - background information on Algonquin Power
 - general project and wind power information
 - This is the first of multiple public open houses
- Public consultation and input is an important part of the Project design and the Environmental Assessment

WHO IS ALGONQUIN POWER CO.?



- A Subsidiary of Algonquin Power and Utilities Corp., Algonquin Power Company (APCo) is a non-regulated generation business that owns a widely diversified portfolio of operating interest in hydroelectric, wind energy and other energy projects across Canada and the United States
- APUC, has been traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange since 1997 and the New York Stock Exchange since 2016
- Algonquin's St. Leon I and II Wind Energy Project in Manitoba is one of the largest in Canada
 - 63 turbines completed in 2005 with an expansion of 10 additional turbines in 2012

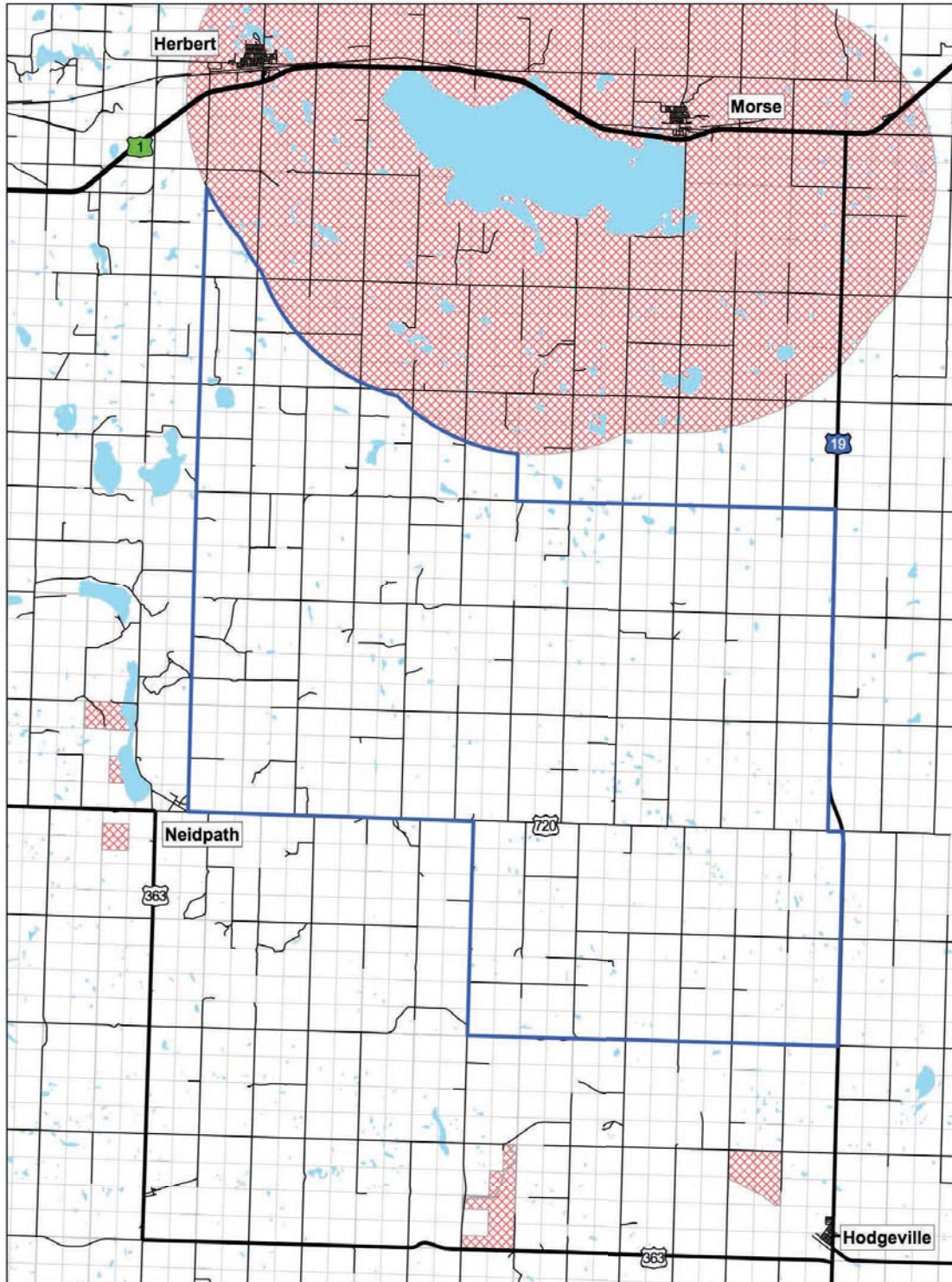
- 35 renewable and clean energy facilities with more than 1,300 MW of capacity
- 511 MW of contracted projects in development/construction



Algonquin



BLUE HILLS WIND PROJECT LOCATION




Legend

- Municipal Road
- Highway
- Quartersections
- ▭ Project Study Area
- ▨ Avoidance Zones
- Waterbodies

DRAFT

REVISIONS	
No.	Description

0 850 1,700 Meters
1 cm = 1,085 meters



Algonquin
ALGONQUIN POWER Co.

BLUE HILLS WIND PROJECT

TITLE:
Site Map

DATUM/PROJECTION: NAD83/ UTM ZONE 13N
SCALE: 1:108,538

DRAWN BY: D THOMPSON
DATE: JAN 9, 2017

DRAWING No.: BLUE - 114
REVISION No.: 0

Blue Hills Regina

Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map/policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme.

THE BLUE HILLS WIND PROJECT



- An Environmental Impact Assessment will be undertaken
- The proposed project could involve construction of approximately 50 to 77 turbines *number could change
- Other project components will include:
 - Access Roads to the Turbines
 - Cabling to a Collector Station
 - [Interconnection to Transmission Line Substation]
 - Operations and Maintenance Building
 - Crane Pads
 - Project Substation
 - Meteorological Towers
- SaskPower will be conducting an Interconnection System Impact Study, to determine how the project will be connected to the transmission grid

ABOUT WIND POWER

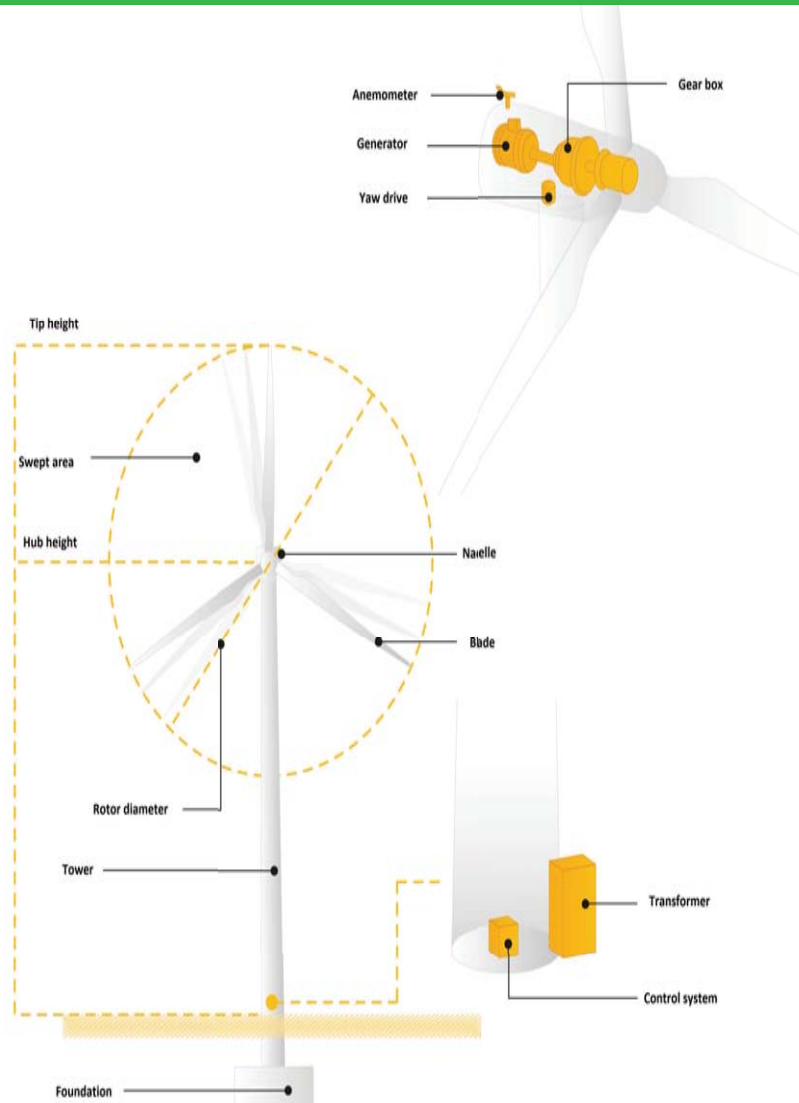
- Wind Power is renewable power
- Use of wind power reduces consumption of fossil fuels and offsets greenhouse gas emissions
- Wind Power uses fewer resources than conventional energy sources



HOW DOES WIND POWER WORK?

TURNING WIND INTO ELECTRICITY

Wind power is the fastest-growing energy source in the world. Turbines powered by wind are mounted on towers 100 or more feet above the ground, where the wind is faster and less turbulent.



HOW IT WORKS

(1) When the blades start moving, they spin a shaft that leads to a generator.

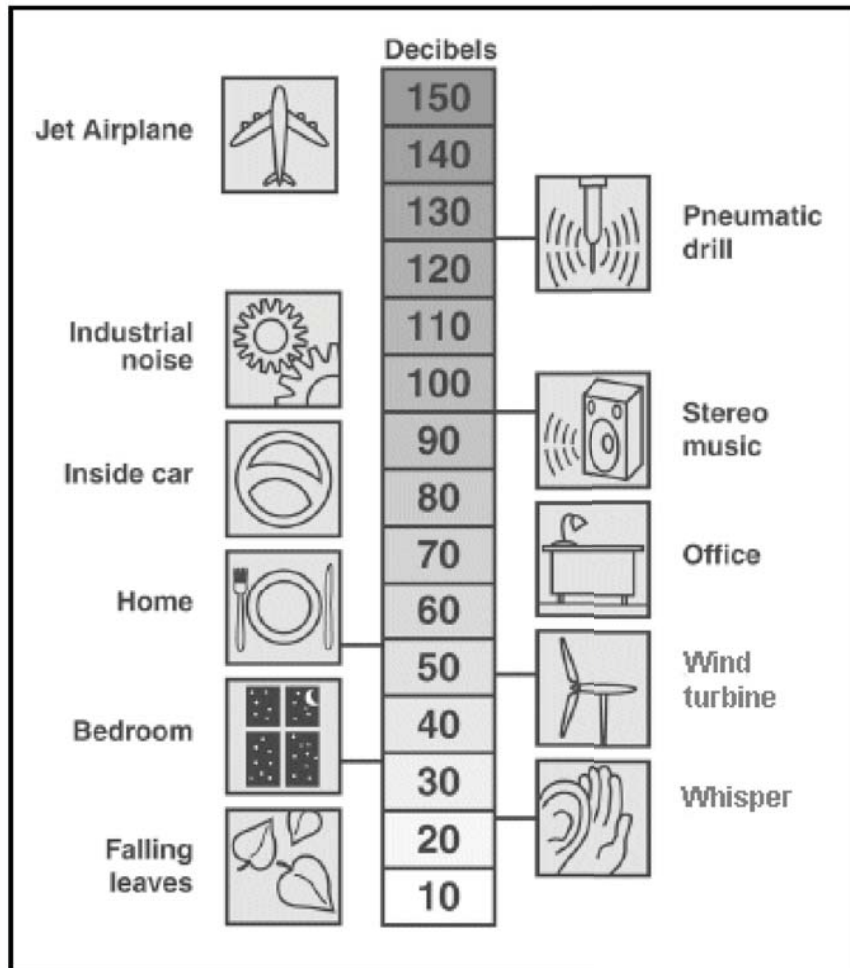
(2) The generator consists of conductor, such as a coiled wire, that is surrounded by magnets.

(3) The rotating shaft turns the magnets around the conductor and generates an electrical current.

(4) Sensors cause the top of the turbine to rotate to face into the wind and the blades change their angle to best catch the wind. The blades are flexible and stop spinning if wind is too strong.



WIND POWER TECHNOLOGY



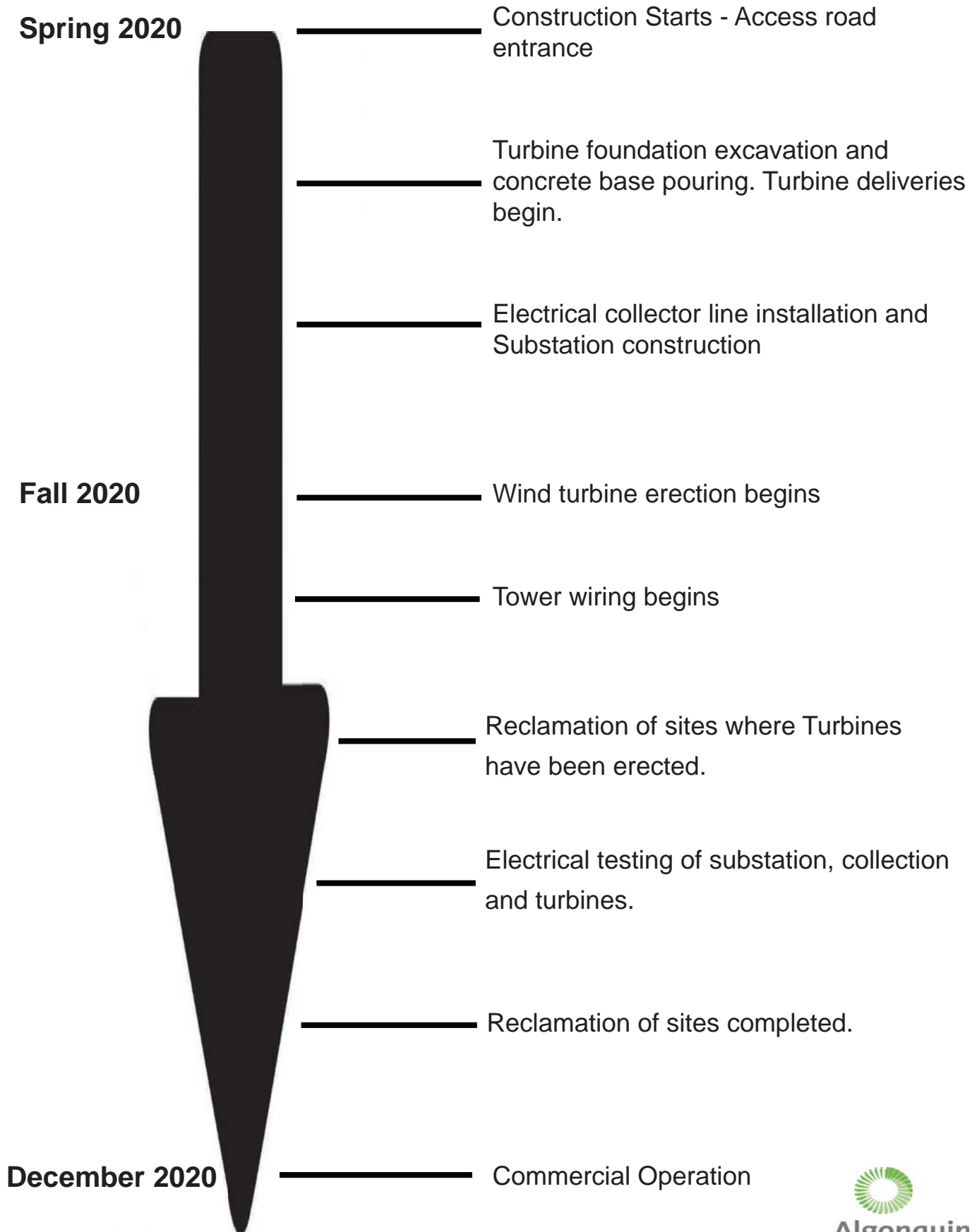
- The efficiency of wind turbines has increased greatly and has made this power source more attractive to utilities
- Wind turbines typically utilized in Canada produce between 1 and 3.5 MW of power
- Continuous technological and siting design improvements reduce environmental impacts

THE TURBINE SITING PROCESS



- Characteristics of Local Wind
- Prefer cleared or open land and avoidance of tall buildings or forested areas
- Landowner consultation and considerations
- Avoid sensitive areas (wetlands, sensitive wildlife habitat, etc)
- Setback distances from roads, buildings, etc.
 - municipal bylaws
 - industry standards and practices
 - Provincial Wind Siting Guidelines
 - Sound levels, safety, etc.

APPROXIMATE CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE



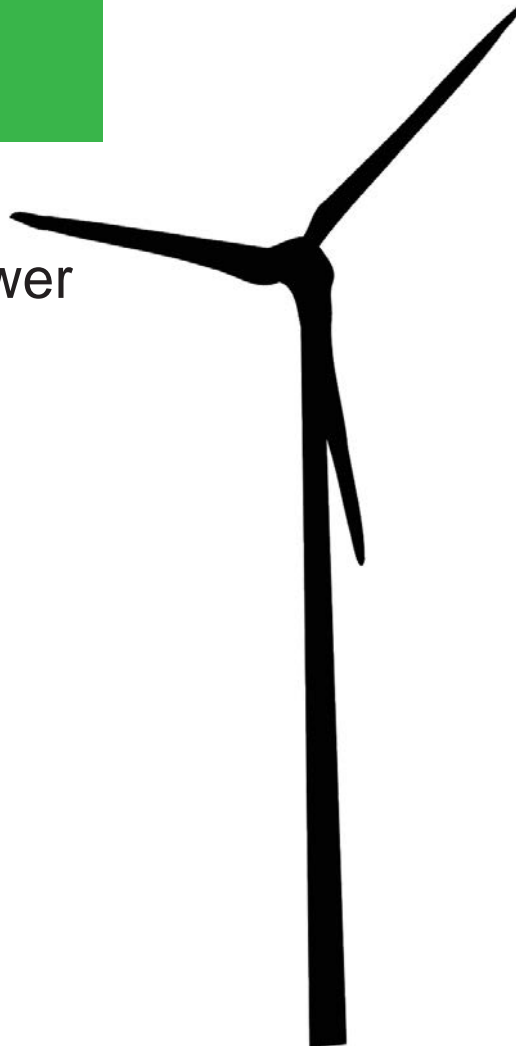
WIND TURBINE SITING FACTORS



Algonquin



- Wind Data from MET Tower
- Provincial Regulations
 - Turbine Siting Guidelines
- Local Regulations
 - Official Community Plan
 - Zoning By-laws
 - Other Restrictions
- Land Assembly
 - Participating Landowners



- Environmental Factors
 - Wildlife (plants and animals)
 - Wetlands
- Built Environment
 - Road Network
 - Buildings / Residences
- Topography
- Archeological Investigation



THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



- The Project team will consult with the Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment to ensure that all aspects of the proposed Environmental Assessment, at a minimum, meet established criteria.
- The Environmental Assessment process will involve consultations with RM's, government agencies and non-government agencies.
- Consultations are an important part of the process where valuable information can be exchanged and considered as the Project is developed.



PUBLIC, HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Traffic Management Plan for safe management of traffic and delivery of materials along public roads
- Limiting access to construction sites to minimize hazards to the public
- Implement:
 - Emergency Response Plan
 - Communications Plan
 - Spill Response Plans
 - Training for Construction Staff
- Train operations staff and implement operations and maintenance protocols to minimize risks to public health and safety
- Project turbines will be supplied by an established turbine manufacturer

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY



- Tax Revenue
- Compatible with existing agricultural practices
- Provide local jobs
- Spin-off benefits to local businesses



PRELIMINARY FINDINGS - ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS



- Local studies are just beginning; experience elsewhere suggests no significant adverse effects from the project
 - minimal disturbance from sound levels
 - new turbines designed to lessen wildlife effects
 - aesthetics of the projects are subject to individuals preferences
- Project-specific investigations (wildlife surveys, heritage resource assessment) will be occurring soon
- Use of Wind power can offset the production of millions of kg of CO₂ (greenhouse gases)

DECOMMISSIONING THE PROJECT

- Decommissioning activities would be similar to construction activities
- Sites could be returned to pre-project conditions including removal of infrastructure to below ground level and replacement of topsoil
- Most turbine components are recyclable



THANKS FOR ATTENDING

Please help yourself to the refreshments
as you complete the questionnaire.

Thank you for providing your views!

For further information contact:

Olivia Neter	Ph: 905.465.6717	Olivia.Neter@AlgonquinPower.com
Eileen Turano	Ph: 905.829.6352	Eileen.Turano@AlgonquinPower.com
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D.4 OPEN HOUSE FACT SHEET

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Project Developer
Algonquin Power Co.

Location
Rural Municipality of Lawtonia & Regional Municipality of Morse, SK, which is between Herbert and Neidpath

Capacity
177 megawatts (MW)

Power Purchase Agreement
25 years

Full Commercial Operation Date
Estimated Late 2020



Blue Hills Wind Project

The Blue Hills Wind Project is proposed as a 177 megawatt (MW) renewable energy generation facility. Once constructed, the facility will be able to produce enough renewable electricity to power approximately 70,000 homes.

About Algonquin Power Co.

A Subsidiary of Algonquin Power and Utilities Corp., Algonquin Power Company (APCo) is a non-regulated generation business that owns a widely diversified portfolio of operating interest in hydroelectric, wind energy and other energy projects across Canada and the United States.

Change of Location

SaskPower and Algonquin Power have agreed on a change of location for a 177 megawatt (MW) wind project to the location between Herbert and Neidpath in southwest Saskatchewan.



Project Benefits

- Employment opportunities during all phases of construction and operations
- Helping Saskatchewan meet its forecasted energy demand while reducing harmful greenhouse gases
- Provide a tax revenue stream for the local municipalities



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D.5 OPEN HOUSE QUESTIONNAIRE

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1. Was this Open House helpful in understanding the potential effects of the proposed Project?

Yes Somewhat No Uncertain

1.1. Please rate the information provided at this Open House – the quality was:

Excellent Very Good Good
Adequate Poor Uncertain

1.2. Was there enough information?

Yes No Uncertain

1.3. Is there a particular subject about whom you would like to see more information? If yes, what is that subject?

2. If you asked questions about the Projects to the staff present at the Open House, please rate the supplementary information they provided.

Excellent Very Good Good
Adequate Poor Didn't Ask a Question

3. After viewing the Open House information, how do you feel about the Projects?

Support Oppose Neutral No Opinion

3.1. Can you please provide additional details regarding your response to Question 3?

4. Do you have any other comments/questions you would like answered about the companies or the Projects? If so, please provide your contact information below.

Questions or Comments:

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Telephone # or Address: _____

Email: _____

Thank-you for joining us at this Open House & sharing your thoughts!

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D.6 PROJECT WEBSITE

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- [Approvals](#)
- [Public Meetings](#)
- [Contact Us](#)



Project Summary

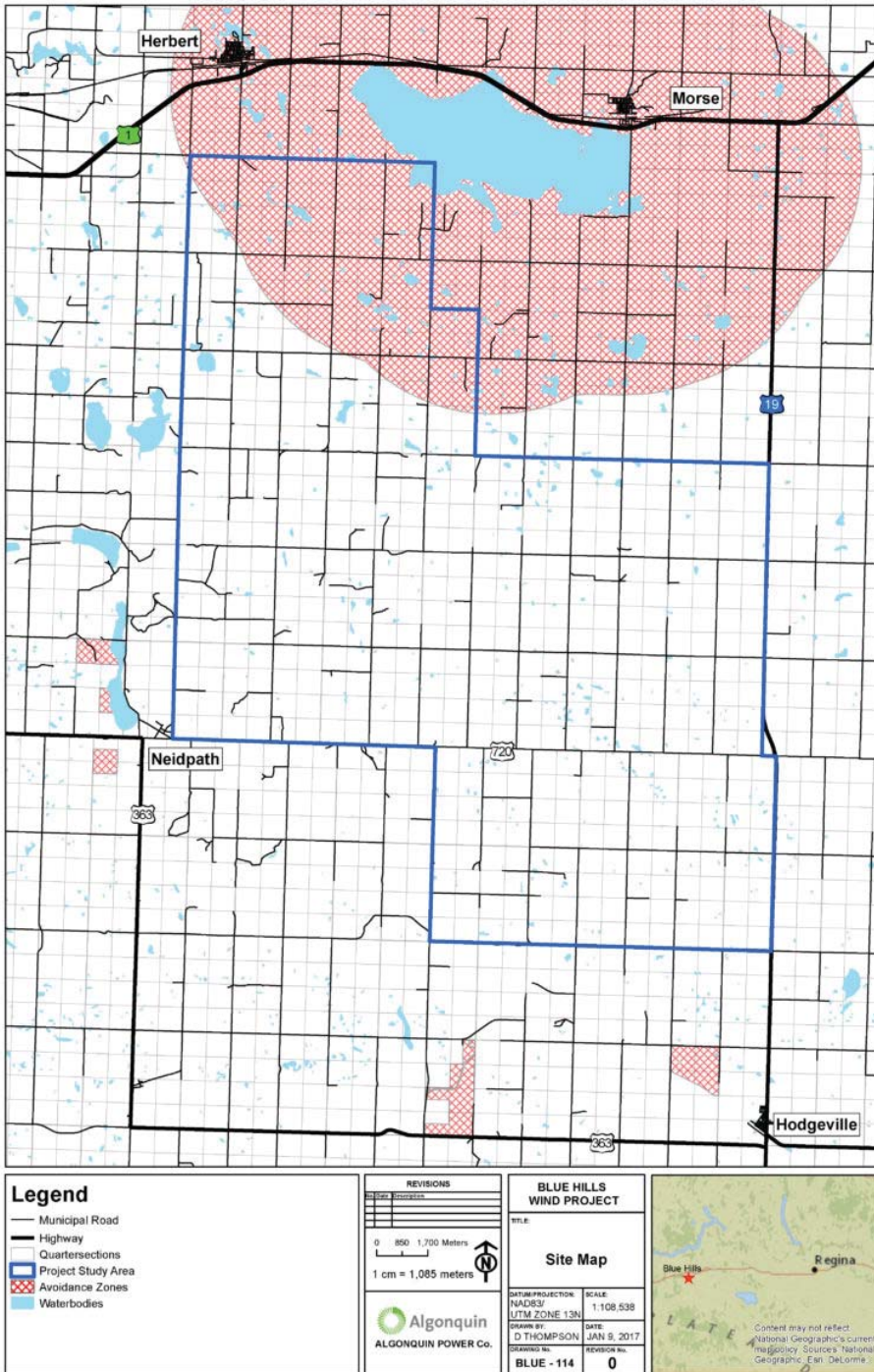
Public Open House

[Public Open House Invitation Blue Hill Wind Project Sept. 27th and 28th](#)

The Blue Hill Wind Project, is a 177 MW wind project, located between Herbert and Neidpath in southwest Saskatchewan.

The Project will be essential in achieving SaskPower's 2030 goal, of 30% renewable energy powering the grid.

The Project is currently in the regulatory review permitting process through the Ministry of Environment and is expected to be in service by late 2020.



Links

- [Windfacts](#)
- [Wind Energy Institute of Canada](#)
- [Natural Resources Canada: Wind Energy](#)
- [David Suzuki Foundation](#)
- [Canadian Wind Energy Association](#)
- [Friends of Wind](#)
- [Health Effects & Wind Turbines](#)

Search for: Search