

Memo

Project No. 0703

To: John Nicholson & Liz Yerex

From: Caroline Walmsley

Date: July 22, 2009

**Re: Skyway 8 Wind Farm Project
GRCA Comments on the Draft Environmental Screening Report**

Natural Resource Solutions Inc. (NRSI) has reviewed the comments provided on the Skyway 8 Wind Farm Project – Draft Environmental Screening Report by the Grand River Conservation Authority, which was provided to Mr. John Nicholson on June 1, 2009. Below are NRSI responses to the GRCA comments.

- 1. Where vegetation disturbance is unavoidable, a vegetation restoration plan should be developed that identifies vegetation plantings and other soil stabilization measures. It is recommended that these measures be implemented as soon as possible following construction activities.***

NRSI has taken this comment into consideration, however since the turbines are being constructed in active agricultural lands the need for a restoration plan is not warranted. Once the turbines have been constructed the lands will be replanted to their original state of rotation agricultural crops.

- 2. Approved erosion controls such as silt fences, straw bales, and check dams should be applied to control sediment transport from disturbed areas. All areas of disturbed soil should be restored using non-invasive greases, forbs and shrubs. Site restoration activities should be undertaken as early as possible in disturbed areas.***

Erosion measures, including the use of silt fences, straw bales, and check dams will be applied to control the sediment transport from the disturbed area. This will be addressed in the final ESR.

- 3. The current study seems to assess the potential for bird mortality during the breeding season only. Given the rural landscape context and the extent of natural areas within the landscape, migratory birds are expected to be abundant during spring and fall migration periods. Therefore, migratory birds***

are expected to be more vulnerable to mortality during these times. Therefore, avian monitoring is recommended during breeding and migration periods

NRSI has taken this comment into consideration. Avian monitoring was followed as outlined in Environment Canada's Guidelines and a copy of the Skyway 8 Wind Farm work program was provided to Environment Canada and the Ministry of Natural Resources for review, comments were received.

- 4. According to the report there is no in-water work proposed. However the mapping indicates that a watercourse may have to be crossed on Concession 6, Lot 38 Township of Southgate.***

NRSI has reviewed the layout of the proposed turbines and access road locations on the Skyway 8 Wind Farm Project and confirms that no watercourses will be crossed.

- 5. A plan should be provided in the final ESR which shows the location of proposed wind turbines and all infrastructure associated with the wind turbines. Please be advised that a Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourse permit will be required for proposed development and site alteration within areas subject to Ontario Regulations 150/06.***

Plans of each turbine were provided in the ESR. The comments regarding the permit have been noted.