



First and Second Public Community Meetings  
August 4 & 5, 2015  
June 7 & 8, 2017

MEETINGS SUMMARY  
REPORT



**ROMNEY WIND ENERGY CENTRE**

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# MEETING SUMMARY REPORT

## 1 Project Summary

Romney Energy Centre Limited Partnership (the "LRP I Selected Proponent") is proposing the Romney Wind Energy Centre (the "Project") in the municipalities of Chatham-Kent, and the Town of Lakeshore (collector line only).

Within the context of the LRP I, the Registered Proponent held two public meetings in the project communities on August 4 and 5, 2015, at the Millen Community Centre in Lakeshore, Ontario, and, at the Tilbury Memorial Arena in Tilbury, Ontario. Two additional public meetings were held on June 7 and 8, 2017, at the Tilbury Memorial Arena in Tilbury, Ontario, and Comber & District Community Centre, Ontario to discuss the Contract Facility Amendment.

The Romney Wind Public Meetings (the "Meetings") were held in compliance with the community engagement requirements outlined in the Large Renewable Procurement first Request For Proposal (the "LRP I RFP") being administered by the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO") of Ontario.

The Meetings provided an open and interactive venue to exchange information about the proposed Romney Wind Energy Centre. Information about wind energy and the Project was discussed, ideas were proposed, and feedback was gathered from interested stakeholders, including members of the public.

This report provides a summary of the Meetings, including the parties notified, meeting information, the feedback received from attendees of the meeting as well as through the Project website, and our next actions to address the community.

### 1.1 General Project Description

The Registered Proponent submitted a proposal to the IESO to design, build and operate the Romney Wind Energy Centre with a total Project study area of approximately 5,093 ha. The Project has a maximum nameplate capacity of up to 60 megawatts (MW). Project parcels are located in the municipalities of Chatham-Kent and the Town of Lakeshore, Ontario. The proposed Romney Wind Energy Centre will be located on private and public lands in both the Town of Lakeshore, County of Essex, south of the Highway 401, and the Municipality of Chatham Kent, extending

along Richardson Side Road and Wheatley Road near the community of Wheatley, Chatham-Kent, Ontario.

The Project will connect to the existing 230 kV transmission line located within the Town of Lakeshore and close to Richardson Side Road.

## 1.2 Proponent Information

The Registered Proponent is a special project entity property of EDF EN Canada Development Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of EDF EN Canada Inc.

EDF EN Canada Development Inc. ("ECDI") was a Qualified Applicant in the IESO LRP I RFP. ECDI and its dedicated parent company EDF Renewable Services develop, build, own, and operate renewable energy facilities by harnessing the earth's renewable resources, including the wind and the sun. Renewable energy development mitigates climate change and drives the green energy economy, for instance, through the creation of new jobs within the immediate project communities and surrounding areas.

Established in 2006, EDF EN Canada Inc. has become a Canadian market leader with over 1,650 MW of wind and solar energy in varying stages of development, active construction, and operation in Quebec, Ontario and Alberta which employ more than 100 people. More information about EDF EN Canada Inc. can be found at <http://www.edf-en.ca>.

Project related information for Romney Wind Energy Centre is as follows:

**LRP I RFQ Qualified Applicant:** EDF EN Canada Development Inc.

**LRP I RFP Selected Proponent / LRP I Contract Supplier:** Romney Energy Centre Limited Partnership

**Mailing Address:** 53 Jarvis Street, Suite 300, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2H2

**Phone number:** 1-844-55-EDF-EN

**Email:** [RomneyWind@edf-en.ca](mailto:RomneyWind@edf-en.ca)

**Project website:** [www.RomneyWind.ca](http://www.RomneyWind.ca)

## 2 Public Community Meeting

### 2.1 Overview of First Public Community Meetings

The Registered Proponent held two (2) public community meetings for the Project on August 4<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup> 2015, from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Millen Community Centre in Lakeshore and at the Tilbury Memorial Arena in Tilbury, Ontario.

Eleven (11) representatives attended the Meeting, which included ECDI representatives as well as independent consultants who had contributed to the Project. Throughout the two (2) meetings, both four (4) hours in duration, representatives presented information about the Project, discussed the Project proposal and provided more information about wind energy.

The following materials were displayed at the event:

- Project Display Boards
- Site Considerations Maps
- Site Considerations Report
- Community Engagement Plan
- Sign-In Sheet
- Questionnaire/Comment Form
- Project Profile
- EDF EN Company Brochure
- Health Canada Brochure
- CanWEA “The Secret is Out: Wind is In” Brochure
- EDF EN Take Away
  - Shopping Bag
  - Kids Bracelet
  - Pen

### 2.2 Overview of Second Public Community Meetings

The Selected Proponent held two (2) public community meetings for the Project on June 7<sup>th</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup> 2017, from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Tilbury Memorial Arena Ryder Hall in Tilbury and at the Comber and District Community Centre, Ontario.

Ten (10) representatives attended the Meetings, which included ECDI representatives as well as independent consultants who had contributed to the Project. Throughout the two (2) meetings, both three (3) hours in duration, representatives presented information about the Project, discussed the Project proposal, the draft Renewable Energy Approval (REA) studies completed to date and provided more information about wind energy.

The following materials were displayed at the event:

- Project Display Boards
- Site Considerations Maps
- Site Considerations Report
- Community Engagement Plan
- Draft REA Reports
- Sign-In Sheet
- Questionnaire/Comment Form
- Project Profile
- EDF EN Company Brochure
- Health Canada Brochure
- CanWEA “The Secret is Out: Wind is In” Brochure
- EDF EN Take Away
  - Shopping Bag
  - Measuring tape
  - Kids Pen
  - Bottle of Water

### **2.3 Public Notice and Public Meeting Advertisement**

Leading up to the event, the meetings were advertised in the following ways:

- Public Notice to Assessed landowners within 550m of the proposed Site and 120m of the proposed Connection Line
- Public Notice to all required parties as per section 3.2.5.(d).(i).(4) of the LRP I RFP
- Public Notice Advertisement in Local Weekly Newspapers. Two (2) ads were published in the Lakeshore Advance on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup> 2015, and two (2) ads were published in the Tilbury Times on July 21<sup>st</sup> and July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015, for the First Public Community Meetings

that occurred on August 4<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup> 2015. Three (3) ads were published on May 30<sup>th</sup>, May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 in the Tilbury Times, Wheatley Journal and Lakeshore News respectively, for the Second Public Community Meetings that occurred July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- Invitations sent to local media outlets
- Personal invitation to Mayors and Councils of the surrounding municipalities of Lakeshore, and Chatham-Kent.
- Personal invitation to Aboriginal communities identified in the Community Engagement Plan as well as other local stakeholders

The public meeting notices were prepared, published, and disseminated in accordance with the LRP I RFP requirements.

## **2.4 Information Presented at the Meeting**

The information presented at the Meetings included the Public Notice of the Meeting, the Site Considerations Information (as required in the IESO LRP I RFP) through Maps and a Site Considerations Report including sources of background information, the Community Engagement Plan, a collection of display boards with relevant information about the Project, the IESO LRP I RFP, wind energy and the estimated Project Development timeline. For the Meetings that occurred on June 7<sup>th</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup> 2017, the draft REA reports were also made available for the public to review and consult.

Most of the documents presented at the meeting are available for viewing and download on the Project website [www.RomneyWind.ca](http://www.RomneyWind.ca).

## **2.5 Meeting Attendance**

The public community meeting in Lakeshore August 4<sup>th</sup> 2015 was attended by seven (7) members of the public. All the attendees were residents living in the Town of Lakeshore. Three (3) of the seven (7) attendees filled out and submitted a Comment Form.

Another public community meeting held on August 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Tilbury was attended by twenty-two (22) members of the public. All the attendees were residents living in the municipality of Chatham-Kent or living close to the proposed project. Seven (7) attendees filled out and submitted Comment Forms (some were filled out jointly by couples).

The second public community meetings, that occurred on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the Municipality of Chatham Kent and the Town of Lakeshore, were attended by twenty-five (25) members of the public in total. Seven (7) attendees filled out and submitted a Comment Form.

## 2.6 Feedback Received

Registered Proponent staff engaged all of the attendees at the meetings and requested that everyone complete a Comment Form.

Ten (10) submitted a Comment Form for the meetings that occurred on August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015. A summary of the results of the optional (multiple choice) questions for both Community Meetings is presented in Tables 1 and 2. The following information was collected at both community meeting of August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015:

**Table 1: Summary of Answers regarding Support of Wind Development in Ontario**

| Question  | Yes | No | Undecided |
|---|-----|----|-----------|
| Are You in Favour of Wind Energy Development in Ontario | 8   | 0  | 0         |

Out of the eight (8) attendees of August 2015 meetings that answered this question, all eight were in favour of wind energy development in Ontario. Two attendees did not answer this question.

**Table 2: Summary of Public Responses to the Romney Comment Forms (August 2015)**

| Question   | Completely Agree | Agree | Disagree | Completely Disagree | No Opinion |
|--|------------------|-------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Wind energy is a form of clean, non-polluting energy                     | 6                | 0     | 0        | 1                   | 0          |
| Wind energy is a competitive form of energy                              | 4                | 1     | 1        | 1                   | 0          |
| Wind energy generates significant local and regional economic benefits   | 6                | 0     | 0        | 1                   | 0          |
| Wind energy creates good paying jobs                                     | 5                | 1     | 0        | 1                   | 0          |
| Wind energy plays an important role in cleaning up Ontario's energy grid | 4                | 2     | 0        | 1                   | 0          |

|  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wind energy has little impact on the environment (Flora and fauna)                                 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Wind energy is an energy technology for the future   | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Do You Agree With the Romney Wind Energy Project Being Proposed by EDF EN Canada Development Inc.? | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Based on the responses illustrated in Table 2, the majority of respondents were in support of wind energy projects and the Romney Wind Energy Centre Project specifically being proposed by EDF EN Canada. In all eight (8) questions the majority of respondents answered with “Agree” or “Completely Agree” when asked their point of view about wind energy,

Respondents were also encouraged, through the Comment Forms, to provide more general open ended feedback on the following discussion points:

- What Modifications and/or additional information would help improve the Project design?
- What are your main concerns and questions with regard to the Romney Wind Energy Centre?
- Please indicate any additional comment or other information relevant to this project

A summary of the written comments received from the public based on the above questions is provided in Table 3.

**Table 3: Summary of Feedback Received by EDF EN Canada from the Public (August 2015)**

| Comments/Concerns/Questions   |
|---|
| Lack of transmission lines are good   |
| The regulators should not give in to unfound fear and opposition  |
| Land value decreases  |
| Some windmills on my property   |
| This is the energy of the future. We (community) can learn more by attending such meeting. Our elders need to be informed of this energy form and be educated of it if you have to reach house by house. They could have a great influence on our people. They could be used as a great education tool in public schools. They are our future; they will grow and understand more/ reach them early in life. They know more than we did at their age. Great for science projects. |



A total of seven (7) Comment Forms were received at the public meetings that occurred on June 7 and 8, 2017. A summary of written questions/comments are included in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Summary of Public Responses to the Romney Comment Forms (June 2017)**

| Question |  |                  |        |               |                     |            |
|----------|--|------------------|--------|---------------|---------------------|------------|
| 1        | How did you hear about today's Public Meeting?   | Newspaper Ad.    | Letter | Word of mouth | Project website     | Other      |
|          |  | 1                | 2      | 0             | 1                   | 3          |
| 2        | What was your main reason for attending?   | (Open question)  |        |               |                     |            |
| 3        | Did the Public Meeting meet your information needs?  | Yes              | No     |               |                     |            |
|          |  | 7                | 0      |               |                     |            |
| 4        | What do you believe are the key issues that need to be addressed in the Public Consultation and Renewable Energy Approval process? | (Open question)  |        |               |                     |            |
| 5        | Do you have any information about the local environment that we should consider? If yes, please describe:                          | (Open question)  |        |               |                     |            |
| 6        | Do you or your employer provide services that might be useful during construction or operation of the wind facility?               | (Open question)  |        |               |                     |            |
| 7        | Do you support the Romney Wind Energy Centre as currently proposed?  | Completely agree | Agree  | Disagree      | Completely disagree | No opinion |
|          |  | 4                | 3      | 0             | 0                   | 0          |

From the design of the questionnaire and responses provided in Table 4, all the respondents concluded that the Public Meeting held on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 met their information need. When the respondents were asked about their support to the Romney Wind Energy Centre as currently proposed, all answers were "Agree" or "Completely Agree".

In response to general open ended feedback, respondents' reasons for attending the public meeting was to obtain more information about the Project, and topics such as noise, distances to properties, and employment opportunities. Two respondents indicated that people safety and concerns about noise and light should be addressed in the public consultation and REA process. In response to question number 5, two responses were provided indicating that wildlife and

communication with neighbouring communities should be considered. Finally, one respondent expressed interest in participating in the community liaison committee and another one offered their professional services as mechanical technician.

No additional comments were provided on the comment forms or other information relevant to this Project.

The responses received from Meeting attendees demonstrate support for wind energy, and the Romney Wind Energy Centre.

The main comments revolved around:

- Land value concerns,
- Creating opportunities for more public education about wind energy,
- Building fewer transmission lines.

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to submit any further questions or comments they might have about the proposed project to EDF EN through our Project Email address.

### 3 Conclusion

The Registered Proponent held two (2) public community meetings for the Project on August 4<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at the Millen Community Centre in Lakeshore, and at the Tilbury Memorial Arena in Tilbury, Ontario. Twenty-nine (29) people in total attended the two events. Out of all twenty nine (29) respondents, ten (10) people provided feedback about the project, eight (8) of which stated that they are in favour of the wind projects in Ontario while zero (0) said they were not in favour. Two responders left this question blank. With regards to the Romney Wind Energy Centre, six (6) respondents were in favour for the project, zero (0) were not in support of the project with the remaining one respondent being undecided. There were three (3) responders who left this question blank.

Another round of public community meetings held on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the Municipality of Chatham Kent and the Town of Lakeshore, were attended by twenty-five (25) members of the public. Seven (7) attendees filled out and submitted a Comment Form. All seven (7) respondents agreed that the public meeting met their information need, and support the Romney Wind Energy Centre as currently proposed.

As a result of the feedback collected at the public meetings, we conclude that the Project benefits from a strong community support in its current location and proposed configuration.

Nevertheless, the public has provided a number of specific questions and comments that need to be answered. Their questions and concerns, along with all other feedback received from the public, will form part of future consultation and the Consultation Report as part of the REA process.

Furthermore, the Project design, site studies, and public consultation will take all of this feedback into account as the Project moves forward.