



July 4, 2013

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

11.1(c)

Dear Premier Wynne

RE: Resolution 2013-04 from the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit – Municipal and Community Involvement and Control in Renewable Energy Development

At its meeting on June 20, 2013, the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit unanimously passed the following resolution 2013-04:

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Green Energy Act, 2009*, SO 2009, c 12, Sch A, as amended ("GEA"), the *Environmental Protection Act*, RSO 1990, c E.19, as amended ("EPA") and O. Reg 359/09 ("Renewable Energy Approvals under Part V.0.1 of the Act") under the EPA, the siting of industrial wind turbines is under the exclusive authority of the Government of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Minister of Energy recently announced a review of Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan; and

WHEREAS, working with the Ontario Power Authority ("OPA") and municipalities, the province will develop a competitive procurement process for renewable projects over 500 kilowatts (kW); and

WHEREAS the new process will replace the existing large project stream of the Feed-In Tariff ("FIT") program and better meet the needs of communities by requiring energy planners and developers to work directly with municipalities to identify appropriate locations and site requirements for any future large renewable energy projects; and

WHEREAS the Minister of Energy further announced that the province would be increasing local control in renewable energy development and that Ontario will:

- Revise the Small Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) program rules for projects between 10 and 500 kW to give priority to projects partnered or led by municipalities.
- Work with municipalities to determine a property tax rate increase for wind turbine towers.
- Provide funding to help small and medium-sized municipalities develop Municipal Energy Plans – which will focus on increasing conservation and helping identify the best energy infrastructure options for a community.

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**HEAD OFFICE**

200 Rose Glen Road  
Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3V6  
Phone • (905) 885-9100  
Fax • (905) 885-9551



**BRIGHTON OFFICE**

Box 127  
35 Alice Street  
Brighton, Ontario K0K 1H0  
Phone • (613) 475-0933  
Fax • (613) 475-1455



**HALIBURTON OFFICE**

Box 570  
191 Highland Street, Unit 301  
Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0  
Phone • (705) 457-1391  
Fax • (705) 457-1336



**LINDSAY OFFICE**

108 Angeline Street South  
Lindsay, Ontario K9V 3L5  
Phone • (705) 324-3569  
Fax • (705) 324-0455

AND WHEREAS there have been numerous self-reported health concerns among residents near wind turbine projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED THAT the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit recommends that local municipalities provide input into the review of Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan, and the Ontario Power Authority ("OPA") and municipal initiative to develop a competitive procurement process for renewable projects regarding changes they would like to see in relevant provincial legislation, regulations and supporting documents so that concerns they have regarding the siting of wind turbines are addressed;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit recommends that local municipalities work with the Ministry of Energy's Renewable Energy Facilitation Office to develop their Municipal Energy Plans;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board of Health, to the extent possible under existing legislation, continue to work with the Ministry of Environment to see that the Ministry requires proponents to comply with all of the rules, regulations, and legislation concerning the siting of wind turbines in the Province of Ontario, including the increased set-backs that apply to the cumulative number of turbines in a proposed area;

AND FURTHER THAT, in order to reduce community anxiety and stress related to reported health concerns, an opportunity for input from community members, especially those living in the vicinity of proposed wind turbine projects, be built into any process before final approval is given to these projects;

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland County, Haliburton County, the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Energy and Environment, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Ontario Boards of Health are so advised.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely

BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA,  
PINE RIDGE DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT



Mark Lovshin, Chair  
Board of Health

c.c. The Hon. Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy  
The Hon. Jim Bradley, Minister of Environment  
Northumberland County  
City of Kawartha Lakes  
Haliburton County  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario Boards of Health