

## Frequently Asked Questions

# Black Pond

## Community Wind Project



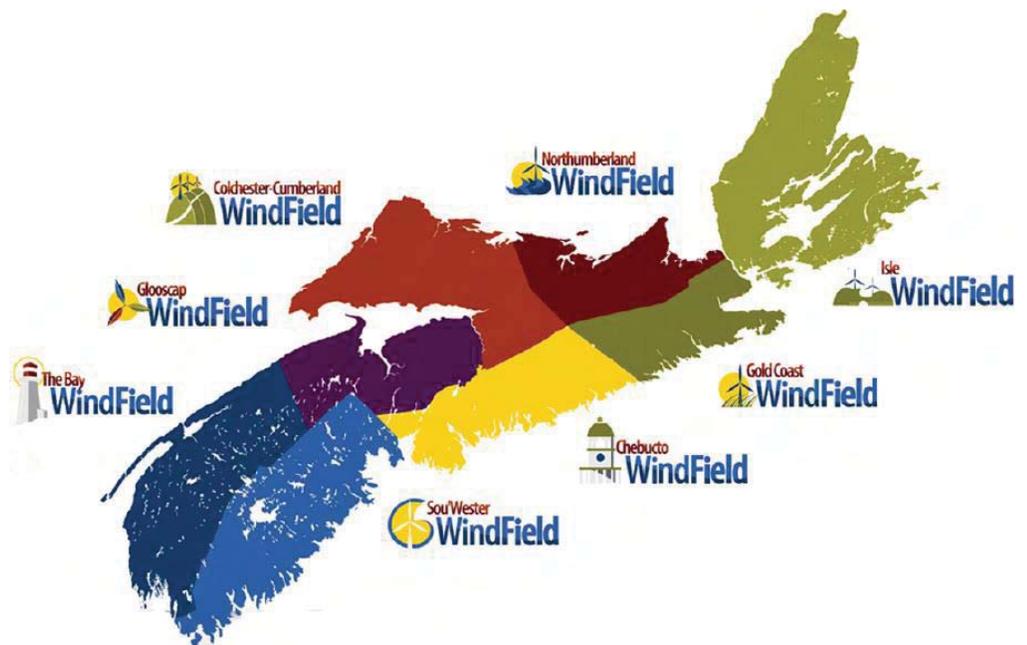
### What happens to the turbine at the end of the 20 year Power Purchase Agreement?

A wind turbine is like a building. The capital up front to develop and build the project means that the value of the structure is likely to continue for as long as there is demand for energy. After the end of the 20 year Power Purchase Agreement, we expect the value in the location and the electricity will allow us to continue selling electricity. Turbine components have a life span, but with proper maintenance and replacement parts, the site can continue producing electricity indefinitely.

Funds for decommissioning are held in reserve so that in the unlikely event that there is no value in the site or the turbine needs to be decommissioned for any reason, the means will be there to ensure it happens. This is a requirement of both our contract with the landowner, and the way in which we finance all of our projects.

### How does the COMFIT community investment work? Does it require local ownership?

A requirement of the Community Feed-In-Tariff program is community ownership. In order to meet the ComFIT criteria, at least 25 investors in the qualifying Community Economic Development Investment Fund (CEDIF) must reside in the District of Yarmouth. Local investment for renewable energy is directed through The Bay Wind Field, one of the oldest and most successful CEDIFs in the province. The Bay Wind Field has shareholders from across the province, but their main focus is Yarmouth, Digby, and Annapolis Counties. The Bay Wind Field is a significant shareholder in Scotian Wind Inc, the lead community developer for this project. For more information about The Bay Wind Field and investment opportunities see their web site at [baywind.ca](http://baywind.ca).



### How many jobs does it create?

More than 30 short term jobs and 2 long term jobs will be created by this project. The 2 long term jobs will be permanent, and the location has yet to be determined. Local contractors will be invited to bid on road construction, foundation installation, concrete supply, landscaping, snow removal, security and other roles.

## How will Scotian Windfields address some of the nuisances that can be created (ie shadow flicker and noise)?

The noted nuisance impacts of wind turbine installations are addressed by the setback distance from residences. When larger wind energy projects are reviewed by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment, a standard allowable noise level of 40dB(A) at the nearest receptor is applied to ensure sound levels do not create nuisances. In practice, this level is typically found at a distance around 550m from the turbine. The Brenton turbine is more than 1350 m from the nearest house. While the sound of the turbine may be discernable at such distances under certain circumstances, the noise level of this project will be well under established regulations, and typically be lower other background environmental noise. Similarly, due to the substantial setback distances the areas that may be negatively impacted by shadow flicker are limited to vacant lands, generally to the north of the turbine.

## I have heard of negative health effects surrounding the infrasound or low frequency vibrations produced by wind turbines. How will this installation affect the health of people in the area?

Scotian Wind is sensitive to that concern and takes care to ensure that our turbines will be integrated safely into the Nova Scotia grid and surrounding communities. Some of the early problems with wind turbines were a result of very tight setbacks, with turbines located as close as 300m to homes, as is the case at Pubnico Wind Farm. Since those early days, municipalities have increased setback distances to a range that greatly exceeds the distance at which it is possible to be negatively impacted by infrasound or low frequency vibration.

We have compiled a body of credible studies and reports on our web page regarding sound and health impacts (<http://www.scotianwindfields.ca/wind/wind-energy-studies-and-reports>). These are drawn from peer reviewed science and meta-level surveys of the literature. These are produced by the most credible scientists and government bodies in the world today. The overwhelming body of scientific evidence supports the safety of wind turbines and specifically debunks the false causality of health effects from wind turbine proximity.

## What are some of the community benefits of this project?

Scotian Wind donates a community dividend of 1% of gross revenue from projects into the communities where projects are located. The funds will be administered by a Community Liaison Committee comprised of local citizens and community group representatives. The definition of local community will follow the provincial government's ComFIT program's definition of community, which in this case means the District of Yarmouth. 1% of gross revenue from this project should provide on the order of \$8,000per annum. Funds will be distributed through an application process and will fund sports groups, local facilities, scholarships, arts programs, or any other cause or activity that benefits people and groups in the community.

## Have More Questions?

Didn't find everything you were looking for, or thought of additional questions after the meeting? Feel free to call or email, we'll do our best to provide you with the most current information available.

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