

Wind Farms in Lake Erie ?

Communications from SouthPoint regarding Completion of Environmental Screening Review (ESR)

SouthPoint Wind Power is planning the installation of three (3) separate Windfarm projects in the waters of Pigeon Bay on the north shore of western Lake Erie. The first stage of construction will be for 9.99 Megawatts at each wind farm site located off Kingsville, Union and Leamington (total of 15 turbines) with the provision for future expansion of 1400 Megawatts (an additional 700 turbines) located in Lakes Erie and St. Clair from Port Alma to Belle River, including a farm directly offshore of Wheatley Provincial Park. The electrical connection from the wind farms will be via 27,600 volt (AC) submarine cable from the towers to separate on shore electrical collector stations, ultimately supplying power to the Ontario electrical grid. At present, easements are being secured to land the submarine cables on shore. The turbines will be mounted on a "mono-pile" foundation anchored through the lake bottom into bedrock. It is not known at this time whether a rock cribbing will be at the base of each tower. The first stage is for a total output of the three farms is forecasted to be approximately 30 Megawatts of electrical power with development planned for completion on or before December, 2011. A grassroots group, Citizens Against Lake Erie Wind Turbines (CALEWT) supports the development of alternative, renewable and green energy sources, including wind turbines placed in the proper locations but is strongly opposed to the proposed location of the Southpoint Wind project. Representatives from CALEWT recently spoke to the membership of the Leamington Yacht Club after which LYC passed a motion favoring CALEWT's position and drafted a Letter of Concern relating to the wind project, which is now part of their support documentation.

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