

POWERING LOCAL SUCCESS

The Goose Harbour Lake Wind Farm Project

Located in the Municipality of the District of Guysborough

About the Project

Port Hawkesbury Paper (PHP), through its sister organization, Port Hawkesbury Paper Wind (PHP Wind), is building the Goose Harbour Lake Wind Farm, located on lands in Guysborough County that are currently under license to Port Hawkesbury Paper for sustainable forest management. The wind farm will consist of up to 31 wind turbines (*depending on the final selection of wind turbine technology).

This green energy project will have an annual capacity equivalent to more than 40 percent of PHP's required electrical power demand. By diversifying Nova Scotia's electricity supply, PHP and all other ratepayers will be operating with a cleaner energy mix, continually improving a local business that will continue to benefit the region's economy and provide well-paying jobs in Eastern Nova Scotia.

This project represents another step towards improving the long-term viability of one of the largest industrial employers in Nova Scotia. During its development, the wind farm will generate approximately \$320 million in investments and construction will create local employment opportunities with approximately 150 temporary full-time jobs, up to five permanent jobs, and several opportunities for contracted services. Direct tax and lease payments are estimated at \$1.4 million per year and there are additional economic benefits for the region. The Nova Scotia Minister of Environment and Climate Change granted approval of the Goose Harbour Lake Wind Farm project following a rigorous Environmental Assessment (EA) process in March, 2023. Next, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables issued a letter of authority to undertake a geotechnical investigation program. During the summer months of 2023, PHP Wind gathered soil and rock information in order to complete the wind turbine foundation designs and site configuration. This included minimal tree clearing and drilling 31 boreholes to determine depth of bedrock.

Various environmental studies pertaining to wind patterns, wildlife (e.g. birds, bats, and moose), noise, and water, which were initiated as part of the EA submission, are ongoing to better everyone's understanding using the data that is being captured and analyzed. As per Provincial regulations for wind facilities, the noise within the vicinity of the turbines will be less than the equivalent of a refrigerator (40 dB).

To provide access to the site for transportation of components and ongoing maintenance once the facility is constructed, we are currently planning transportation routes for the turbines that will minimize impacts (especially to major roadways) and that are most cost effective. We plan to clear the turbine sites this fall/ winter and start upgrading the forestry roads in 2024.

The paper making facility in Port Hawkesbury is one of the longest-term employers in the region's history.



ENSURING PHP'S VIABILITY and Local Economic Impact for Surrounding Communities

Port Hawkesbury Paper celebrated ten years of successful operations under current ownership in Nova Scotia in 2022. It directly employs approximately 325 people, and sustains another 910 indirect jobs, employing hundreds of forestry contractors and suppliers (source: 2022 Economic Impact Study).



Community Engagement and Dialogue

PHP and PHP Wind are proud to be part of the local community and we are committed to meaningful and open engagement and dialogue with our neighbours, local Mi'kmaq communities, and all our project stakeholders. We invest in projects and programs to help strengthen the communities where our most important resource, our people, live, play, work, and where we conduct business.

Projects like this are better when there is community involvement and engagement. Port Hawkesbury Paper has long benefited from community perspective through its Forest Advisory Committee/Public Advisory Group, which will be broadened to include wind project considerations throughout its sustainable forest management area. A project-specific Community Liaison Committee is also being established with a specific focus on Guysborough County. If you would like to participate, please contact via info@phpwind.ca.

The map displays the region in which the wind farm would be located. Utilizing the existing road network, only a very small footprint of the area will be used for the actual wind farm infrastructure, including the placement of the turbines (approximate sites only).



A photo simulation of the visual impact of the project from along Route 16, Tracadie Road near Lincolnville



PROJECT TIMELINE

