



HISTORY: Wind Development in the Wentworth Valley Area (Higgins Mountain)

2004: Graham Finley of 3G Energy (Ontario) begins exploring a Wentworth/Higgins Mt. project.

2006: Springhill Riverhurst Wind Power Ltd. (SRWPL) proposes to install 3 industrial wind turbines on Higgins Mountain. Located to the west of Wentworth Station, it was expected that the turbines would generate approximately 3.5 MW of electricity. SRWPL named contact was Graham Findlay of 3G Energy Corp. of Ottawa. Partner in the project was Paul Pynn (NS). Environmental Assessment (EA) for the 3 turbines was submitted in September and approved in October. According to the EA, there was no consultation with residents of Folly Lake, Wentworth Valley, or the largest employer in the area most affected, Wentworth Valley Developments Limited, the owner and operator of Ski Wentworth.

2007: The 3 turbines are installed by SRWPL on Higgins Mountain, Cumberland Co. County has bylaws clearly stating rules for the decommissioning of turbines.

Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) requests proposals for generation of 130 MW of renewable energy.

SRWPL submits EA for development of 66 more industrial wind turbines in August along the ridge of the Wentworth Valley from Folly Lake to Ski Wentworth. It is expected that the turbines would collectively generate approximately 100MW of electricity. SRWPL proposal to NSPI was unsuccessful.

Local concerned residence group formed, known as Folly Lake Wentworth Valley Environmental Preservation Society.

2010: Cumberland County wind public engagement sessions, excludes Wentworth.

2011: Cumberland Wind Energy Development Plan created. No consultation in Wentworth.

2012: Renewable Energy Systems Canada (RES), proposes two industrial wind developments for the Folly Lake/Wentworth Valley area; one to the east and one to the west of Highway 4. Proposals were in response to the March 2012 Request for Proposal (RFP) from Nova Scotia's Renewable Energy

Administrator. Folly Lake-Wentworth Valley Environmental Preservation Society (FL-WVEPS) engaged with the developer, local and Provincial governments, and the media citing community concerns about the projects. The Society learned in August that RES was unsuccessful in its bid to develop either of the proposed projects.

2017: A consortium lead by One Wind Inc. of Dartmouth begins investigation of a potential wind development for Higgins Mountain. FL-WVEPS engage in communications with One Wind representative, Paul Pynn.

Emera Inc. releases RFP for production of 300 MW of renewable energy as part of a larger (1200 mw) Emera-sponsored project proposal to State of Massachusetts. One Wind was selected as a potential developer of 150 MW should Emera be successful in its bid.

2018: Emera was unsuccessful; State of Massachusetts chose another proponent.

The 3 wind turbines installed by SRWPL in 2007 develop mechanical problems no longer producing electricity after nine years of operation. Need to be repaired or decommissioned.

2019: Higgins Wind 3 non-functional turbines in non-compliance with Cumberland County by-laws. Must be repaired or dismantled.

One Wind (NS) sold to Spark Energy of Ontario. No longer local ownership, minimal local benefit.

Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meetings begin with Verterra Group as consulting partner.

2021: *October* - Cumberland County planning wind by-law update.

October 5 - Higgins Mountain Wind Farm LP hosted their first Open House at the Wentworth Recreation Centre 3 PM-8 PM, (despite requests from CLC to hold it on the weekend to hopefully attract more of the general public). At 3pm when the doors opened, there were no visual displays (arriving an hour later). An impromptu presentation ensued followed by Q&A.

Display boards that were available later in the afternoon, were inconsistent and totally lacking mapping accuracy.

Oct 24 - First meeting of the Protect Wentworth Valley committee, a group of concerned citizens alarmed by the level of professionalism exhibited by the Higgins Mountain Wind Farm LP on Oct. 5th. Take away message was between 30-35 Industrial Wind Turbines, the largest to date to be installed in North America. There were no accurate topographical maps showing the actual turbines locations on Higgins Mountain.

Nov 17 - Draft #2 of Nova Scotia Rate Base Procurement Request for Proposal (RFP) was released. www.novascotiarbp.com

Nov 27 - Protect Wentworth Valley committee hosted first community Information Session. Following the presentations, the floor was opened to the audience for questions they had for the proponents and wind turbines in general. The Committee would take these questions to the 2nd Open House. Scheduled for Sat. Dec 4, 2021.

Dec 4 - Second and final mandatory community Open House hosted by Proponents for the Higgins Mountain Wind Project. Formal presentation began at 3:30 (not advertised) followed by a 10 minute Q&A that expanded into 2 hours with multiple concerns from citizens.