




Attachment 2 Project Update Frequently Asked Questions

 354 Davis Road, Suite 100
Oakville, Ontario L6J 2X1
 905-465-4500
 algonquinpower.com

Q: How does the noise output of the new turbine model (Nordex N163-6.X-7MW) compare to the previously proposed turbine model (Siemens Gamesa 6.6-175)?

A: Although each turbine model can differ in the amount of noise generated, the new turbines will operate within the same noise limits prescribed by the AUC *Rule 012 – Noise Control*. SPWC has updated its noise modelling and confirmed that cumulative changes in noise generation will be compliant with AUC requirements (**Attachment 1B**). Generally, potential night-time cumulative sound levels would be restricted to the equivalent ambient sound as typically experienced in a quiet office or library.

Q: Will the change in layout and model of wind turbines change potential shadow flicker?

A: The maximum potential daily and annual shadow flicker is predicted based on the proximity and orientation of wind turbine generators relative to residences in the study area and is based on overly conservative assumptions that describe a probable, upper limit of the duration of potential shadow flicker that residences could experience. Refer to **Attachment 1C** for residence-specific durations of shadow flicker. SPWC is committed to working with its neighbours to minimize the nuisance of shadow flicker that may potentially be experienced in their homes and welcomes the opportunity to respond to any questions or concerns you may have.

Q: Will the Project layout changes reduce potential impacts on the environment?

A: Yes, the Project layout has been changed specifically to reduce the potential impacts on the environment. With fewer turbines, the revised layout will reduce the risk of mortality for birds and bats. There will also be fewer turbines near the Belly River valley which exhibited a relatively higher rate of migratory bat activity than that observed elsewhere in the Project Area.

Additionally, one turbine (T5) was moved outside of the setback from a Ferruginous Hawk nest.

To minimize crossing of native grassland areas, SPWC has aligned collector routes with existing fences and disturbances to the greatest extent possible. It will utilize minimum disturbance construction techniques, as detailed in its prior submissions to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.

Q: Will the changes reduce the Project's impact on agricultural lands?

A: Yes, by reducing the number of turbines being used, the Project will occupy less land used for agricultural purposes (fewer access roads and pad sites will be needed).

Q: Will the proposed changes to the BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) enhance public safety?

A: Yes, the BESS (with its increased capacity) is sited and will be designed to maintain public safety. Each unit will adhere to applicable safety standards and incorporate fire detection and liquid cooling system elements. Further, SPWC will prepare a Neighbour Response Plan, providing contact information and communication procedures to inform the community of a safety-related incident associated with the BESS or the wind turbines.

Q: How will SPWC address concerns regarding possible impacts to aviation safety for the Alcock Airstrip during operation?

A: SPWC does not believe the Willow Ridge Wind Project will impact regular airstrip operations at the Fort Macleod (Alcock) Airstrip. However, in an effort to address concerns raised during the AUC review, SPWC has removed turbines within the vicinity of the Fort Macleod (Alcock) Airstrip. Further, SPWC will implement a targeted turbine shutdown procedure to reduce potential turbulence effects during aerial spraying operations for specific turbines located near the Fort Macleod (Alcock) Airstrip, when provided with 24-hour advance notice. SPWC anticipates that these measures will mitigate potential interactions between the Willow Ridge Wind Project and the ongoing use of the Fort Macleod (Alcock) Airstrip.

Do you have questions not addressed in this FAQ? Please contact Dillon Consulting Limited at WillowRidgeWind@algonquinpower.com or 403.215.8885 ext. 4322.