Ontario

Ministry of<br/>Natural ResourcesMinistère des<br/>Richesses naturellesRenewable Energy Operations Team300 Water Street4<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Tower<br/>Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8M5

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013

NextEra Energy Canada 5500 Service Road, Suite 205 Burlington, ON L7L 6W6

## **RE: Modifications to Bluewater Wind Energy Centre project location**

Dear Tom Bird,

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has received the document dated December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 which describes modifications to the Bluewater Wind Energy Centre project location made subsequent to MNR's letter confirming the Natural Heritage Assessment in respect of the project.

In accordance with Appendix D of MNR's Natural Heritage Assessment Guide, a commitment has been made to complete pre-construction assessments of habitat use for candidate significant wildlife habitats. This is in addition to pre-construction assessments detailed in the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 confirmation letter. MNR has reviewed and confirmed the assessment methods and the range of mitigation options. Pending completion of the pre-construction assessments and determination of significance, the appropriate mitigation is expected to be implemented, as committed to in the environmental impact study for the following candidate significant wildlife habitats:

- Bat Maternity Colony (features BMC-015)
- Amphibian Woodland Breeding Habitat (features AWO-013)

Upon review of the modifications, MNR is satisfied that the Natural Heritage Assessment requirements of Ontario Regulation 359/09 have been met. Please add this letter as an addendum to the confirmation letter issued March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 for the Bluewater Wind Energy Centre project.

If you wish to discuss any part of this confirmation or additional comments provided, please contact Jim Beal at jim.beal@ontario.ca or 705-755-3203.

Sincerely,

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Kazia Milian Regional Planning Coordinator Ministry of Natural Resources Southern Region Planning Unit

cc Ian Hagman, District Manager, Guelph District, MNR Narren Santos, Environmental Approvals Access & Service Integration Branch, MOE Zeljko Romic, Environmental Approvals Access & Service Integration Branch, MOE