Ministry of Tourism and Culture Culture Programs Unit Programs & Services Br. 900 Highbury Avenue London, ON N5Y 1A4 Tel: 519-675-6898 Fax: 519-675-7777 e-mail: <u>shari.prowse@ontario.ca</u> September 21, 2010 Ministre du Tourisme et de la Culture Unité des programmes culturels Direction des programmes et des services 900, av. Highbury London, ON N5Y 1A4 Tél: 519-675-6898 Téléc: 519-675-7777 e-mail: shari.prowse@ontario.ca



Mr. Thomas Bird NextEra Energy Canada, ULC 205-5500 North Service Road Burlington, Ontario L7L 6W6

## RE: Summerhaven Wind Energy Centre, Geographic Township of Walpole and Rainham, Haldimand County, FIT-FCX557W, MTC File HD00520, PIF # P243-036-2009

Dear Proponent:

This letter constitutes the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's written comments as required by s. 22(3)(a) of O. Reg. 359/09 under the *Environmental Protection Act* regarding archaeological assessments undertaken for the above project.

Based on the information contained in the report you have submitted for this project, the Ministry believes the archaeological assessment complies with the *Ontario Heritage Act's* licensing requirements, including the licence terms and conditions and the Ministry's 1993 Archaeological Assessment Technical Guidelines. Please note that the Ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of the Report.\*

The report recommends the following:

## Stage 1 (P243-036-2009), August 2010

The archaeological potential for pre-contact Aboriginal and historic Euro-Canadian sites was deemed to be moderate to high on these properties. For pre-contact Aboriginal sites this assessment is based on the presence of nearby potable water sources, level topography, agriculturally suitable soils and known archaeological sites. The determination of historic Euro-Canadian archaeological potential is based on the documentation indicating occupation from the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards as well as the presence of historic transportation routes. As a result, Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended for potential wind turbines sites and their associated infrastructure.

Further Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended for any areas to be impacted by turbine construction, access road construction, or other infrastructure construction related activities.

Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with sec. 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The Cemeteries Act requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries, Ministry of Consumer Services.

The Ministry is satisfied with these recommendations.

This letter does not waive any requirements which you may have under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. A separate letter addressing archaeological licensing obligations under the Act will be sent to the archaeologist who completed the assessment and will be copied to you.

This letter does not constitute approval of the renewable energy project. Approvals of the project may be required under other statutes and regulations. It is your responsibility to obtain any necessary approvals or licences.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Shari Prowse Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Ms. Carla Parslow, Golder Associates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>\*</sup>In no way will the Ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report(s) or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the Report(s) is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.