

April 25, 2014

To Whom it May Concern:

**Subject: Northland Power - Cochrane Solar Project -
Notice of Minor Project Design Change**

As you may be aware, Northland Power Solar Abitibi L.P., Northland Power Solar Empire L.P. and Northland Power Solar Martin's Meadows L.P. (hereafter referred to collectively as "Northland Power") has begun construction of the Cochrane Solar Project, located in the northern portion of the Town of Cochrane, in the geographical township of Glackmeyer. An approximately 20-km transmission line will be constructed from the facility location, progressing west to the connecting point with the HONI electricity grid in Hunta, ON. The project will have an installed nominal capacity of 30 MW upon completion. In accordance with the provisions of the Ontario *Environmental Protection Act* Part V.0.1 and Ontario Regulation 359/09, Northland Power applied to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) for a Renewable Energy Approval (REA). REA Number 1290-9A4KSE was issued on August 29, 2013.

This notice is provided to make you aware that Northland Power is applying to the MOE for an amendment to the REA for the Project. This amendment is being made in order to take into consideration the following changes:

- Inclusion of 0.08 ha (40 m x 40 m x 55 m in a triangular shape) of additional land between the Empire and Martin's Meadows properties to satisfy legal land rights requirements.
- Use of directional drilling for the connection line between the Empire and Martin's Meadows properties in order to minimize vegetation removal requirements around the watercourse, and reduce shading on adjacent solar panels. Previously, an overhead line was proposed.
- Additional archaeological studies were completed within the boundaries of the approved Project Location in order to ensure that the locations of all proposed Project components associated with the solar project and associated transmission have been adequately surveyed. These archaeological studies include the following areas:
 - ◆ Small areas within the Abitibi and Empire properties.
 - ◆ Areas associated with the transmission line and switching station near the intersection of Highway 668 and Calder Concession 8&9 in Hunta, ON.

Significant negative effects will not result of these changes. An amendment application was submitted to the MOE, which describes the proposed changes and impacts and a copy of the amendment application is available for review on the Project website: <http://cochrane.northlandpower.ca/> under the Reports tab. Two archaeological assessment reports document the additional archaeological studies that were



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completed and are also available under the Reports tab on the project website. These reports conclude that no archaeological resources were discovered during the surveys and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport has provided corresponding acceptance letters.

In addition, a newspaper notice is to be published in the *Cochrane Times and Post* on Thursday, May 1, 2014 and Thursday, May 8, 2014 and in the *Wawatay News* on Thursday, May 1, 2014 and Thursday, May 15, 2014 to provide additional notification with respect to this proposed change. A copy of this notice is attached to this letter.

Your comments, queries or information relevant to the proposed Project changes would be greatly appreciated.

Correspondence should be directed to:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean K. Male".

Sean K. Male, M.Sc.
Environmental Coordinator
SM:mg

Attachment
Notice of Project Change



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NOTICE OF PROJECT CHANGE

Project Name: Cochrane Solar Project

Project Applicant: Northland Power Solar Abitibi L.P., Northland Power Solar Empire L.P. and Northland Power Solar Martin's Meadows L.P. (hereafter referred to as Northland Power)

Project Location: The Abitibi property is on Part Lot 14 & 15, Concession 8, the Martin's Meadows property is on Lot 16, Concession 8 and the Empire property is on Part Lots 17 & 18, Concession 7, in the northern portion of the Town of Cochrane, in the geographic township of Glackmeyer.

Project Description

Construction of this 30 megawatt facility has commenced. The project will generate electricity using photo-voltaic panels mounted on fixed racking structures. Electricity generated by the solar photo-voltaic panels will be converted from direct current to alternating current by an inverter, and increased to 27.6 kV by the inverter house transformer, and subsequently stepped up (via the substation transformer) to 115 kV prior to being connected to the Project's transmission line. An approximately 20 km transmission line will be constructed from the facility location, progressing west to the connecting point with the HONI electricity grid. Other project components include access roads, a control building and site fencing. OPA reference numbers are FIT-FAQLBA0 (Abitibi), and FIT-QJ0FUC (Empire), and FIT-FM5F42U (Martin's Meadows). The REA number is 1290-9A4KSE.

Project Change

Three changes were identified from the originally proposed Project. Firstly, an inclusion of a 0.08 ha (40 m x 40 m x 55 m) triangular piece of additional land between Empire and Martin's Meadows to satisfy legal land right requirements is proposed. Secondly, it was determined that directional drilling for the connection line between Empire and Martin's Meadows is needed in order to minimize vegetation removal requirements around the watercourse and to reduce shading on adjacent panels. Lastly, two additional archaeological studies were completed within the previously approved Project location in order to ensure the area had been adequately surveyed. Due to these changes, the applicants have submitted an application to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) to amend the REA for the Project. The MOE is currently reviewing this application.

Project Documents

Copies of the Project documents including the two new Archaeological Assessment Reports and the Project Change letter, detailing the changes to the REA supporting documents are available online at: <http://cochrane.northlandpower.ca/>

Project Contact and Information:

To learn more about the changes or to communicate any concerns please contact:

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