Frequently Asked Questions about the Eigg Mountain Wind Project

➢ Environment

What benefit do wind turbines have on the environment?

Wind turbines as a sustainable energy source benefit the environment. Studies have shown that the greenhouse gases emitted during their production, transportation, and installation are typically offset within the first year of operation. Over their lifespan, wind turbines contribute significantly to reducing carbon emissions compared to traditional energy sources. Additionally, considerable research has gone into improving the recyclability of turbine components. Today, approximately 85–90% of a wind turbine can be recycled, and significant advancements in blade recycling are being made across the industry and around the world. **Sustainable Energy - CanREA** (https://renewablesassociation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/CanREA-factsheet-Recycling-wind-turbine-components.pdf)

Will the Eigg Mountain Wind Project impact local wildlife?

RES is committed to environmental stewardship. As part of the regulatory approval process, a comprehensive environmental assessment is being conducted to understand the relationship between wind turbines and the local environment, including wildlife habitats. This assessment will guide adjustments to the project to avoid or minimize potential impacts on wildlife.

Will studies be conducted on local wildlife, such as bats, eagles, hawks, and mainland moose?

Yes, detailed studies, including multiple field surveys, will be carried out by independent environmental consultants to assess the impact on local wildlife, including birds and protected species like the mainland moose and bats. These studies are part of the environmental assessment required by provincial legislation.

How much land clearing is anticipated for the project?

By utilizing existing roads and previously cleared areas whenever possible, the Eigg Mountain Wind Project aims to minimize tree clearing. While the exact acreage will depend on the final turbine layout and site conditions, efforts will be made to reduce environmental disturbance.

What is the operational footprint of each turbine?

Each turbine will have a cleared area of approximately 3-4 acres. This is to allow for the delivery, staging and erection of the turbine. Once erected the area directly under the turbine will remain grubbed, with a small crane pad and beauty ring around the tower pedestal.

What impact may there be on groundwater contamination from turbine construction?

Protecting water resources is a priority. The environmental assessment will include studies on wetlands, watercourses, fish habitats, and groundwater. Based on these studies, necessary measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize any potential impacts on water resources.

What impact may there be on hunting?

Hunting will not be restricted, and the land will remain accessible for activities such as hunting, fishing, and woodcutting, unless there are safety concerns during specific construction activities. Shooting near turbines is strictly prohibited as per the provincial firearm regulations.

➢ Wind Turbines

How much power will the project generate?

The Eigg Mountain Wind Project is expected to have a total installed capacity of up to 150 megawatts (MW), expected to comprise of no more than 25 turbines. Each turbine will have a generation capacity between 5.7 to 8 MW.

What will the turbines look like?

The look of the turbines will be an off-white cylindrical structure, with a nacelle, hub and 3 rotor blades; these specific turbines will be very similar in appearance to the other turbines across the province. The visibility of each turbine will vary depending on the viewer's location and can be significantly affected by factors such as topography, distance, and landscape features like trees or buildings. Preliminary visual simulations will be prepared based on community input and identified areas of interest around the community.

How tall will the turbines be?

The turbines are expected to have hub heights ranging from approximately 100 to 125 meters, with blade lengths between 60 to 90 meters. The exact dimensions will be determined based on the wind profile and site-specific conditions. Once a final turbine selection has been reached, we will update with the turbine specifications.

Will safety lights will there be?

Due to the height of the turbines, Transport Canada regulations require aviation lighting to be installed. It may not be necessary for all of the turbines within the project to have an aviation warning light and once we have a finalized layout, will consult with Transport Canada and they will determine which ones require lighting. RES is also exploring the feasibility of light mitigation options to reduce visibility from the ground while ensuring aviation safety.

Will the turbines generate noise?

The noise of the wind turbine varies depending on operating conditions and distance away from turbine. A noise impact assessment will be conducted to predict sound emissions in relation to nearby residential properties. The project will be designed to meet or exceed Nova Scotia's regulations regarding audible sound criteria. The Province requires all wind turbines to meet a 40dBA or lower at the outer wall of residential dwellings.

What is infrasound and does it have any impacts?

Infrasound refers to sound waves with frequencies below the lower limit of human hearing. Humans are regularly exposed to infrasound from natural and engineered sources at levels that generally exceed those produced by wind turbines. The project will comply with Nova Scotia's regulations regarding audible sound criteria to ensure public health and safety. Additionally, extensive research, including over 100 peer-reviewed scientific articles, has found no scientific based evidence linking low-frequency noise or infrasound from wind turbines to adverse health effects such as headaches, nausea, sleep problems, or tinnitus. Infrasound levels produced by wind turbines are typically lower than those encountered in everyday human environments.

What is shadow flicker?

Shadow flicker occurs when the sun passes behind a turbine's rotating blades, casting a moving shadow on nearby areas. This can only happen during specific weather and sun-angle conditions.

What is being done to limit shadow flicker?

The project is designed to limit shadow flicker at nearby residences to less than 30 minutes per day and 30 hours per year. Factors like cloud cover, topography, and vegetation further reduce exposure.

Will shadow flicker and noise impact assessments be conducted for individual homes?

Both shadow flicker and noise impact assessments will be conducted for all receptors around the project area, as a requirement of the environmental assessment. This impact assessment will include a map showing predicted sound emissions and amount of shadow flicker in relation to all nearby residential properties.

How have health issues been considered?

The project will be designed to meet or exceed all provincial regulations and guidelines currently in place to protect human health.

➢ Permitting

What is the permitting process for the Eigg Mountain Wind Project?

The Eigg Mountain Wind Project will undergo a comprehensive permitting process to ensure it meets all environmental, regulatory, and community standards. As part of this process, RES will prepare and submit an Environmental Assessment (EA) Registration Document to Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change (NSECC). This submission will include detailed environmental studies, project design information, and plans for mitigation and monitoring.

Why is the project sized at 150 MW?

The project's size is influenced by factors such as available land under contract, local electrical grid capacity, wind profile, local environmental features, and criteria outlined in the Green Choice Program Request for Proposals (RFP). The Eigg Mountain Wind Project is designed to optimize these factors to deliver efficient and sustainable energy production for Nova Scotia, in an effort to decarbonize our grid and help achieve the ambitious transition to clean energy infrastructure.

Where can I learn more about the Enviromental Assessment process?

The province has information available on their website about the process and other information. It can be found here: **novascotia.ca/nse/ea/**

➢ Public Engagement

What is the consultation process for the project?

RES values positive community relations and is committed to providing project updates at key milestones. We ensure that First Nations and local residents have opportunities to discuss and comment through various methods, including phone, email, video meetings, and face-to-face interactions. Community input is essential to the project's design and implementation. The Eigg Mountain Wind Project has also established a Community Liaison Committee (CLC), to help understand the concerns of

the community and to create open channels of communication to flow between the community and the project.

Has RES consulted with local Indigenous communities?

Yes. RES acknowledges that the proposed project is located within Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are committed to meaningful consultation and engagement with local Mi'kmaq communities and have initiated discussions to understand their perspectives and priorities. Ongoing collaboration with Indigenous communities is an essential part of the development process.

How will the community stay informed?

RES will provide regular updates via the project website (**www.eiggmountainwind.com**), mailouts to surrounding residents, and local advertising. We've also established a Community Liaison Committee to ensure consistent dialogue and bring forward community concerns throughout construction and operation. Community members can also reach us anytime through the contact form on the website.

What if I have more questions?

You can contact us anytime through the form at **www.eiggmountainwind.com**. We will continue updating project information online as it becomes available.

➢ Construction

What are you doing for emergency preparedness?

RES is developing a comprehensive Emergency Response Plan (ERP) informed by best practices, industry standards, and consultation with local emergency services. The ERP will include access and evacuation routes, fire prevention and suppression plans, and safety protocols for construction and operations.

How are turbine sites chosen?

Turbine siting considers wind resource data, environmental features, land use, access to transmission and transportation infrastructure, and community input.

What is the project's life expectancy?

The Eigg Mountain Wind Project is expected to operate for 25 to 30 years. Maintenance and operational planning will ensure long-term performance and safety throughout the project's lifecycle.

Who will maintain the turbines and infrastructure?

A local operations team, including turbine technicians and a site manager. Road maintenance, snow clearing, and other services will be contracted locally wherever possible.

➢ Energy and Technology

How much electricity will the project generate?

The project will generate up to 150 MW of clean electricity—enough to power approximately 55,000 Nova Scotian homes throughout the life of the project. This will make a meaningful contribution to Nova Scotia's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Where will the electricity go?

Electricity generated by the project will be fed into the Nova Scotia grid and will go towards offsetting the coal generated energy that is currently powering the province.

➢ Land and Property

Will a turbine be built on my property?

Only landowners who have signed voluntary agreements with RES will host wind infrastructure. Turbines will not be placed on your property without your consent.

How close will a turbine be to my home?

All turbines have been sited a minimum of 1,000 meters from any existing occupied dwelling, unless otherwise agreed to by the property owner—this exceeds current provincial setback requirements.

Will the project affect property values?

Studies across Canada, including by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation ,MPAC and the University of Guelph, have found no consistent evidence that proximity to wind turbines negatively impacts property values.

Can I continue using my land?

Yes. RES will work with landowners to ensure activities like hunting, snowmobiling, and woodcutting can continue, wherever safe and feasible.

➢ Decommissioning

What happens at the end of the project's life?

After 25–30 years, the project will either be repowered with updated technology or decommissioned. Decommissioning includes the removal of turbines and restoration of the land. This process is governed by land agreements and provincial regulations. Salvageable materials like steel and copper may offset some costs.

What if RES goes bankrupt?

In the unlikely event of bankruptcy, the wind farm remains a valuable operating asset. Ownership typically transfers to protect investor interests and maintain operations. Decommissioning and land restoration obligations remain in force under regulatory oversight.

➢ Local Benefits

What local jobs and opportunities will be available?

The project will create substantial local employment during construction, including roles in earthworks, electrical installation, transportation, and logistics. Both full-time and part-time technicians will be employed during operations, along with a number of other direct and indirect employment roles associated with the operational project.

Will RES prioritize local hiring?

Yes. RES is committed to hiring local businesses and workers whenever possible and emphasizes opportunities for Mi'kmaq and other underrepresented groups in its procurement and staffing processes.