

**Ministry of Natural Resources
Confirmation Letter**

Dated: May 9, 2012

**Ministry of
Natural Resources**

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**Ministère des
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GUE-2012-018

May 9, 2012

Sarah Palmer
Capital Power Corporation
Suite 1301, 200 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M5H 3C6

RE: NHA Confirmation for K2 Wind Power Project

Dear Ms. Sarah Palmer:

In accordance with the Ministry of the Environment's (MOE's) Renewable Energy Approvals (REA) Regulation (O.Reg.359/09), the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has reviewed the natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study for the K2 Wind Power Project in the County of Huron submitted by Capital Power on May 2, 2012.

In accordance with Section 28(2) and 38(2) (b) of the REA regulation, MNR provides the following confirmations with respect to review of the natural heritage assessment:

1. The MNR confirms that the determination of the existence of natural features and the boundaries of natural features was made using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR.
2. The MNR confirms that the site investigation and records review were conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR, if no natural features were identified.
3. The MNR confirms that the evaluation of the significance or provincial significance of the natural features was conducted using applicable evaluation criteria or procedures established or accepted by MNR (if required).
4. The MNR confirms that the project location is not in a provincial park or conservation reserve.
5. The MNR confirms that the environmental impact study report has been prepared in accordance with procedures established by the MNR.

In accordance with Section 28(3) (c) and 38(2) (c), MNR also offers the following comments in respect of the project:

- Please submit a final clean copy of the reports in digital and hard copy to MNR as soon as it is available
- All Appendix B tables reviewed on April 13, 2012 are included in final copy

In accordance with Appendix D of MNR's NHA Guide, a commitment has been made to complete pre-construction assessment(s) of habitat use for the following candidate significant wildlife habitats:

- **Amphibian Breeding Habitat/ Movement Corridors (Woodland)**
- **Bat Maternity Colony Roost Habitat**
- **Colonial Bird Nesting Habitat**
- **Waterfowl Nesting Habitat**
- **Winter Raptor Feeding and Roosting Habitat**

MNR has reviewed and confirmed the assessment methods and the range of mitigative options. Pending completion of the assessments and determination of significance, the appropriate mitigation is expected to be implemented, as committed to in the environmental impact study.

In addition to the NHA, Environmental Effects Monitoring Plans that address post-construction monitoring and mitigation for birds and bats must be prepared and implemented. These post-construction monitoring plans have been prepared in accordance with MNR Guidelines and reviewed and commented on by MNR staff.

This confirmation letter is valid for the project as proposed in the natural heritage assessment and environmental impact study, including those sections describing the Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan and Construction Plan Report. Should any changes be made to the proposed project that would alter the NHA, MNR may need to undertake additional review of the NHA.

Where specific commitments have been made by the applicant in the NHA with respect to project design, construction, rehabilitation, operation, mitigation, or monitoring, MNR expects that these commitments will be considered in MOE's Renewable Energy Approval decision and, if approved, be implemented by the applicant.

In accordance with S.12 (1) of the Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation, this letter must be included as part of your application submitted to the MOE for a Renewable Energy Approval.

Please be aware that your project may be subject to additional legislative approvals as outlined in the Ministry of Natural Resources' *Approvals and Permitting Requirements Document*. These approvals are required prior to the construction of your renewable energy facility.

If you wish to discuss any part of this confirmation or additional comments provided, please contact erin.harkins@ontario.ca or (519) 826-5121.

Sincerely,



Ian Hagman
District Manager
Guelph District MNR

Cc. Amy Cameron, Renewable Energy Provincial Field Program Coordinator, ROD, MNR
Cc. Jeff Balsdon, Terrestrial Ecologist, AMEC Environment and Infrastructure
Cc. Erin Cotnam, S. Region Renewable Energy Coordinator, Regional Operations Division, MNR
Cc. Narren Santos, Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, MOE