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March 19, 2007

Sunil Kumar
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Markham, ON L3R 5K3

Received By GENIVAR ONTARIO INC.			
MAR 21 2007			
Route To			
		C.C.	
		File No.	

Dear Mr. Kumar:

**RE: FPLE Canadian Wind, ULC - Conestogo (Grand Valley) Wind Farm Project
Notice of Study Commencement**

Thank you for contacting this office regarding the release of the Notice of Commencement for the above noted project, which is subject to the Ministry of Environment's Environmental Screening process under the *Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects*. The Ministry of Natural Resources does have an interest in this project and provides the following comments for your consideration at this early stage in the process.

The Ministry's interests lie in ensuring that natural heritage features such as significant wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), fish and wildlife habitat, and Species at Risk (SAR) are protected from incompatible development. The Ministry also has a responsibility to protect areas of known mineral aggregate resource potential.

An initial review of the study area indicates that there are natural features of potential concern located within the study area, including:

- o Luther Marsh (provincially significant wetland and provincially significant life science ANSI);
- o North Cumnock Wetland Complex (provincially significant);
- o Alma Wetland Complex (provincially significant);
- o Rich Tract Swamp (non-provincially significant); and
- o Damascus Southeast Complex (non-provincially significant).

The Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) has identified and mapped a number of wetlands within the study area. The GRCA should be contacted for further information if you have not already done so.

The Ministry notes there are a number of woodlands within the study area, some of which are relatively large. Some of these may be identified as 'significant' by the County of Wellington or Dufferin County. Some of these areas have been identified by the Ministry as deer wintering areas, including Rich Tract and portions of Luther Marsh. There may be other potentially significant wildlife habitats within the study area such as interior forests and animal movement corridors. Site-level assessment and surveys will be required to make this determination.

There are no specific approval requirements from the Ministry of Natural Resources for a wind farm on private land. However, permits may be required from the Ministry for some water crossings or Crown land occupations.

Please continue to circulate notices and new information as it becomes available. You may contact the undersigned if you have questions or clarification is required.

Sincerely,



Mike Stone
District Planner

Cc: Art Timmerman, MNR