

Ref: 94782

Date: August 23, 2004

To: Honourable George Abbott
Minister of Sustainable Resource Management

Honourable Bill Barisoff
Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection

Honourable Richard Neufeld
Minister of Energy and Mines
Responsible Minister for purposes of the *Environmental Assessment Act*

From: Derek Griffin
A/Executive Director

Re: Knob Hill Wind Farm Project – Environmental Assessment Certificate Package

The Environmental Assessment Office has completed the review of the Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate for the above Knob Hill Wind Farm Project (the Project), submitted by the Sea Breeze Energy Inc. (the Proponent).

The Proponent applied to construct and operate a 450 megawatt wind energy farm on northern Vancouver Island, near the town of Holberg. The Project includes up to 150 wind turbines, access roads, a substation and transmission lines.

I am pleased to enclose for your review and approval, copies of the following:

1. An Information Note dated August 23, 2004;
2. Advice to Ministers;
3. Recommendations of the Executive Director and Reasons for Recommendations;
4. Two copies of the Environmental Assessment Certificate;
5. Knob Hill Wind Farm Project Assessment Report;
6. Copies of the correspondence listed in Schedule A of the Certificate; and
7. Knob Hill Wind Farm Project Application.

Based on the enclosures, and in accordance with section 17 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* S.B.C. 2002, c.43 (the Act), having taken into account the Assessment Report, the Application and supporting documentation, I am referring the Application to you for a decision under section 17 of the Act.

According to the Act, Ministers are provided 45 days from the date of this referral to issue a decision to approve or reject the Environmental Assessment Certificate Application, or to order that further assessment be carried out. The Minister of Sustainable Resource Management may issue an order to extend the time limit to make a decision, if more time is needed.

If you decide to issue the Environmental Assessment Certificate as recommended (see attached "Recommendations of the Executive Director and Reasons for Recommendations"), each Minister must sign both copies of the Environmental Assessment Certificate.

Full details of the project, and its review under the Act, are presented in the Project Assessment Report. A meeting has been requested to discuss the review of the Project and the recommendations of the Environmental Assessment Office.



Derek Griffin
A/Executive Director

Enclosures

pc: Gordon Macatee
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection

Sheila Wynn
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Energy and Mines