

Invenergy Dutton-Dunwich Working Group
Meeting #4, April 23, 2015
Dutton-Dunwich Municipal Office
7pm – 8:30pm

Draft Minutes

In Attendance

John Bennetto, Norah Bennetto, Yvonne Brooks, Elaine Brown, Stan Campbell, Jim Ford, Jamie Littlejohn, Warren Nash, Wayne Noorloos, Ryan Ralph, Bonnie Rowe, Bert Zegers

Regrets: Duncan McCallum

Agenda

Meeting Open
Approval of March 26 th Minutes
Invenergy Update
Discussion: Health Impacts
Other Business
Timing for Next Meeting
Meeting Close

Minutes

- 7pm Opening of meeting, review of meeting agenda and approach to health impact discussion
- 7:05 Review and approval of March meeting minutes with one minor change to reflect differences of opinion tabled during economic discussion. Suggestion some time could be provided at the next meeting to continue the discussion of economics.
- 7:07 Invenergy Update: Booked delegation to Council on May 27; plan for public meeting in summer – exact date tbd, will try to give more than the 15 day mandated notice; MET tower update – building permit not yet issued.
- 7:09 Slide presentation provided in response to question from March meeting regarding insurance for landowners.

7:10 Health Impacts Discussion:

- Fundamental differences of opinion tabled.
- Permitting process.
- Review of setback requirements (550 meters) and discussion of impact of future building activities, and mitigation measures.
- Renewable energy approval process.
- Health Canada study summary presented and contrary opinions on the results tabled.
- Review of reported adverse health effects from other projects including review of paper from Kincardine written by a woman who ran a support group for about 20 families who experienced similar symptoms.
- CDC report garnered under freedom of information act about health complaints to McGuinty government.
- Discussion of indirect links – annoyance, chronic sleeplessness, low-frequency noise – that family physicians are dealing with.
- Robbie McMurtry listed symptoms doctors should be aware of and encourages a systematic approach to diagnosis.
- Council of Canadian Academics – Government of Canada think tank – cited as finding enough evidence to establish a causal relationship between wind turbine noise and annoyance and a probably causal relationship between wind turbine noise and sleep deprivation.
- Australian report about Cape Bridgewater where a researcher worked with three families and found adverse reactions correlated to changes in power outputs of turbines.
- Discussion of infrasound, what it is, how it's measured, how many people it effects and whether it's taken in account in the Ministry of Environment requirements.
- Discussion of concern about low frequency sound affecting wildlife.
- Discussion of how sound tests are performed and what criteria are taken into consideration.
- Discussion of effects and concerns about flicker and what measures are available to mitigate flicker.
- Observation that there hasn't been enough research.
- Discussion of electromagnetic fields and sounds and how they compare to household electrical devices – citing of a World Health Organization study.
- Report tabled, 'Health Impact in Two Local Wind Projects' found no conclusive data
- Comparison to fossil fuel health impacts
- Discussion of human noise tolerances, and direct and indirect impacts.
- Discussion of clean energy as part of the energy mix.
- Discussion of whether participating landowners would participate if they felt there were associated health risks.
- Confirmation there's no restrictive clauses that inhibit sharing concerns in the landowner agreements.
- Observation that Health Canada is responsible for the well-being of all Canadians and we must take the results of their study seriously.
- Citing of a comment from a representative of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario who says that association does not support a ban on wind turbines because adverse health effect claims are not supported by evidence.
- Observation that the sound is similar to that of Highway 401 which everyone in the community is accustomed to.

8:29 Discussion topic for next meeting established – thirty minutes around the table for more economic impacts and thirty minutes around the table for health impacts. Timing of next meeting established, closing remarks.

8:30 Close of meeting

Action Items

- Ryan to send a copy of his presentation out to Bonnie Rowe.
- Ryan to bring methodology for flicker studies at a future meeting.
- Bonnie to post the link to the Nicky Horton video.

Next Meeting

May 28, 2015, 7-8:30pm
Dutton-Dunwich Municipal Offices
199 Currie Road, Dutton
Council Chambers Meeting Room