

**Renewable Energy Public Meeting and Workshop February 28, 2013  
Municipality of Dutton Dunwich, Community Centre**

**Summary Notes to  
Workshop Discussion Questions**

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The following is a summary of notes combining all of the comments from each of the workshop tables. The notes are presented under each of the three questions in point form.

- 1. What may be the benefits of renewable energy development for the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich?**
  - More municipal and land owner revenue
  - Production of green energy
  - Green energy is needed as an alternative energy sources
  - Potential to reduce property tax as long as property value does not decrease
  - Production of energy for own use beneficial vs. large projects in the municipality
  - Possible road improvements
  - Wind into big grid – all benefit
  - Land values may increase for some and decrease for others
  - Individual land use, money and local jobs
  - Money directly to land owners
  - Revue for the municipality – more services; reducing debt
  - No pollution to create energy, except for noise
  - Possible work for skilled workers
  - Possible tourism
  - Revenue for certain landowners and neighbours who sign contracts
  - Encourage industry

## 2. What may be challenges of renewable energy development for the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich?

- Cost to build and maintain infrastructure for renewable projects
- Reduces the view of the landscape
- Furthering health issues; ie. Grey \ Bruce
- Does the property owner pay property tax? No. Revenue only lasts 20 years
- Proceeding ahead of health studies may not be necessary
- Other countries who are wind energy leaders are getting out of wind energy we should not start
- Environmental issues related to wind, impact on trees and woodlots
- Paying more for electricity
- Are there net benefits in property tax; reduction in overall tax benefits possible
- Potential to split the community
- Municipal taxes actually are shared between the municipality\school board\ county
- Efficiency and cost to power the turbine blades; Is the energy needed
- Money goes offshore
- Very few Canadian companies benefit
- Noise impact = change in property values (Urban)
- Health impacts or perceived health problems
- Turbines in the flight path of private air strips
- Poor for tourism eyesore; would not vacation in Chatham Kent
- Reduce attractiveness for people moving into Dutton\Dunwich
- Cost to remove the equipment – who will pay
- Long range degradation of the quality of life/economy/divisiveness in the community
- 550 m setback is too small – 2.0 km setback would not have any concerns
- Negative benefit\False economy
- Natural wind is not noise
- Accounting of CO2 does not account for the CO2 emitted to manufacture the turbines
- Potential impact on livestock
- Impact on wildlife – deer\ birds\bats
- Do the turbines change the micro climate?
- \$0.80 /kwh for small scale vs. \$0.13 /kwh large scale
- Municipality is in the middle between the Province and land owners
- Infrastructure deficit along corridors to move turbines and cost
- What happens if the political parties change
- Are green energy sources economically viable
- Impact on municipal drains

### **3. How may the Municipal Council address these benefits and challenges?**

- Get the price of hydro down
- Lobby the provincial government for local control; more say
- More public meetings
- Send the information out as soon as it becomes available
- Keep the wind company's away
- We have hydro that we sell to the U.S. for less money than we pay
- Wait until the turbines are more efficient and smaller
- Noise impact could wipe out investment
- Too close to urban areas
- Impacts on roads and other costs – reimbursement
- Setback issue from the site and from noise to the dwelling
- Liability for decommissioning and the need to have a funded security
- Have a municipal referendum
- Provide for anaerobic digester instead of wind
- Dutton\Dunwich may benefit by delaying as long as possible
- Refuse wind projects in terms of keeping the municipal appeal for residents moving and staying
- Resist turbines by writing to MPP to complain
- Market Dutton\Dunwich as a wind free zone
- Hold a referendum for property owners; the whole municipality should have a say
- Have meetings like tonight
- Lobby for local input with the Provincial Government
- Lobby that a certain proportion of the turbines are manufactures in Ontario