



REPORT TITLE									
IESO's LT2 Procurement and Wind Turbines									
FROM (Name and Position)									
Morgan Calvert, CAO									
Council Meeting Date:	January 13, 2025				Report Date:	January 8, 2025			
Decision Required:	Yes	X	No		Type of Meeting:	Open	X	Closed	
Outcome:	Information Only		Direction	X	Priority:	High		Low	X

BACKGROUND

From the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) website:

“Ontario’s electricity sector today is seeing growing demand, an evolving supply mix and a drive toward grid decarbonization. Combined, these factors are spurring the IESO’s ongoing large-scale resource acquisition effort to ensure sufficient supply will be available into the 2030s and beyond.”

In an effort to respond to the growing demand within the electricity sector, the IESO is expected to run multiple Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure resources to meet the system’s needs.

Through the IESO’s RFP process, there are a number of requirements that will need to be addressed. However, more specifically there is a requirement for a proponent to include a municipal support resolution from a Municipality declaring itself a willing host of a particular project or a blanket willing host to any projects captured within its jurisdiction by the RFP process.

On September 16, 2024 Township Council received a delegation from Peter Budd of Venfor Inc. with regard to a potential proposed wind turbine project within Adelaide Metcalfe and Brooke-Alvinston as well.

ANALYSIS

The IESO’s procurement of [green] energy (wind turbines, solar panels, etc.) has created significant discussion within the municipal sector, in particular the more rural communities. Discussion generally highlights the challenges around potential negative community impacts and the lack of municipal tools, skillsets, or capacity to support the IESO’s procurement of new green energy production.

From a community perspective, there are a number of questions that should be considered whether social or economic.

Through discussions with individual Council members regarding the IESO’s RFP process generally, various items were brought forward as key pieces of information that Council would need to better

understand if it were to support a particular project. Some of these questions were also asked during the September 16, 2024 Council meeting through the delegation from Venfor Inc's Peter Budd.

1. What would a Community Benefit Agreement look like?
2. What would a Road Use Agreement look like?
3. Who will pay for the costs associated to this project?
4. How will the municipality ensure the appropriate review of any technical information? I.e: peer reviews of any technical information (engineering, environmental, planning)
5. Has the community been appropriately engaged/consulted?
6. Where will the green energy technology be constructed?
7. What are the technical specifications of the equipment? I.e, wind turbine technology, size, shape, scope, etc.
8. What are the proposed timelines from project start to project completion, if the project was awarded in our jurisdiction?
9. Council will want to retain its ability to make decisions in the future beyond the compilation of the information required by Council to make an informed decision.
10. The Township will want to ensure that by having a developer compile this information, that it does not supersede any permit approvals or zoning changes that may be required.
11. As the Township has identified its agricultural lands throughout the community as Prime Agricultural Lands, how will the Agricultural Impact Assessments be completed and subsequently paid for?

Given that Venfor Inc's Project Area also includes Brooke-Alvinston, it may be appropriate for Adelaide Metcalfe and Brooke-Alvinston to work together from an administrative perspective while maintaining the respective and separate decision making of the two municipal Councils.

This will allow some alignment and efficiencies as both communities will have many of the same questions outlined above.

Brooke-Alvinston has retained legal counsel from Miller Thompson who is specialized in the renewable energy sector from development, procurement, construction, financing, acquisition and sale, regulatory to litigation.

In saying this, it is the recommendation from staff to partner with Brooke-Alvinston to work with our respective Council's to compile the information needed to make an informed decision regarding whether or not Adelaide Metcalfe Council would like to support Venfor Inc's energy project.

The partnership would exist at the administrative level, ensuring that the respective Council's retain their individual decision-making ability.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There will be no costs to the Adelaide Metcalfe taxbase as any costs associated to this project would be the responsibility of the developer proposing the energy project.

There will be staff time associated to organizing and facilitating various discussions, while reviewing and advising on any information received throughout the process.

A Community Benefit Agreement could result in new revenues for the Township based on how much energy is being produced within the Township's jurisdiction.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council direct the CAO to partner with Brooke-Alvinston to compile the necessary information required by Council to make an informed decision regarding whether or not the Township wishes to be a host to any particular project through the IESO's procurement process

APPROVED by the CAO
Morgan Calvert