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06 February 2017

Via Email

Kayla Jonas-Galvin, M.A., CAHP
Team Lead - Heritage
Archaeological Research Associates Ltd
219 - 900 Guelph Street
Kitchener, ON N2H 5Z6

Project : **Loyalist Solar Project**
OPA Reference Number : **L-006345-SPV-001-054**
Report Title : **Loyalist Solar Project Cultural Heritage Assessment**
Applicant : **Loyalist Solar LP**
Location : **Town of Stone Mills, County of Lennox and Addington**
MTCS File No. : **0004559**

Dear Ms. Jonas-Galvin:

This office has reviewed the above-mentioned report (the "Report"), which has been submitted to this ministry as required under O. Reg. 359/09, as amended (Renewable Energy Approvals under the *Environmental Protection Act*) (the "REA regulation"). This letter constitutes the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (the "Ministry") comments for the purposes of section 23(3)(a) of the REA regulation regarding the heritage assessment undertaken for the above project.

The Report recommends the following:

Given the identified impacts, the following conservation/mitigation strategies are suggested moving forward:

- 1) As outlined in the *Decommissioning Report Plan* (Dillon 2016b) the project location should be returned to its former use (agricultural) at the end of the project's life;
- 2) The *Visual Screening Plan* that was developed which was approved by the Township of Stone Mills as part of the Community Vibrancy Agreement between the Township and Loyalist Solar LP should be implemented to provide a natural buffer to screen the new infrastructure from the landscape;
- 3) During the installation of the Connection and/or Collection lines either above or below ground, wood fencing (split rail, snake, boulder, etc.) should be avoided where possible. ARA has produced a *Construction Brief Concerning Wood Fencing* that should be provided by Loyalist Solar LP to construction personnel;
- 4) Based on the Aercoustics 2017 report, a setback distance from the construction activities related to the installation of poles near to sensitive buildings (e.g. heritage buildings/bridges) has been established i.e. to mitigate the potential impact of the erection of new poles, all construction activities associated with the installation of poles/overhead lines are to be setback to a distance greater than 13 m. Should this setback distance not be feasible due to other project constraints, it is recommended that a more detailed vibration analysis be undertaken by a qualified engineer to understand if impacts exist;

- 5) Documentation of BHR3 (679 Hinch Road) has been completed as part of this report. This documentation should be provided to the Township of Stone Mills for their records;
- 6) With respect to BHR87 (bridge on Sheffield Bridge Road), the mitigation of potential impacts from the installation of the Connection Line has been established;
- 7) In accordance with *Ontario Regulation 359/09* any changes in the project design should be reviewed by a qualified heritage professional to determine if an addendum to the Cultural Heritage Assessment is required;
- 8) Previously-unrecognized cultural heritage resources with CHVI discussed in this assessment *may* be worthy of inclusion on a Municipal Heritage Register; and
- 9) This report should be provided to the Township of Stone Mills and County of Lennox and Addington Planners.

Based on the information contained in the Report, the Ministry is satisfied that the heritage assessment process and reporting are consistent with the applicable heritage assessment requirements established in s. 23 of O. Reg. 359/09. Please note that the Ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of the heritage assessment report (please see Note 1).

This letter does not waive any requirements under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

This letter does not constitute approval of the renewable energy project. Approvals or licences for the project may be required under other statutes and regulations. Please ensure that you obtain all required approvals and/or licences.

Please ensure that the proponent is aware that, if new information or substantive project changes arise after issuance of this letter, the applicant should discuss them with you to determine if any additional assessment or reporting is required. If additional reporting or revisions are required, they should be submitted to the Ministry for review. Upon completion of that review, the Ministry will determine if any revisions to the content of this letter are required.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Kirzati
Heritage Planner
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cc. Tom Bird
BluEarth Renewables Inc.

Kathleen Hedley, Director
Environmental Approvals Branch, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

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Note 1: In no way will the Ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional heritage resources are identified or the Report is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.