

Loyalist Solar LP

# **Community Engagement Summary Loyalist Solar Project**

# Report



Loyalist Solar LP

# **Community Engagement Summary Loyalist Solar Project**

### Prepared by:

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**Project Number:** 

60430686

Date:

August, 2015



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### 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Loyalist Solar LP, a subsidiary of BluEarth Renewables Inc. ("BluEarth"), is proposing to develop, construct, and operate the Loyalist Solar Project ("the Project"). The Project, as currently proposed, would provide up to 54 megawatts ("MW") of solar photovoltaic energy generation in the Township of Stone Mills, County of Lennox & Addington.

The Project is being developed in response to the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO") Request for Proposals for the Procurement of up to 565 MW of New Large Renewable Energy Projects ("LRP I RFP"). The LRP I RFP is a competitive procurement process for renewable energy projects generally with a generation capacity of over 500 kilowatts. Further information on the LRP I RFP can be found on the LRP website at www.ieso.ca/lrp.

In November 2014, BluEarth was selected as a Qualified Applicant under the LRP Request for Qualifications ("LRP RFQ") process and therefore is eligible to submit proposal(s) under the LRP I RFP. BluEarth has registered Loyalist Solar LP as the Registered Proponent for the Project under the LRP I RFP process and will subsequently submit the Project to the IESO in accordance with the LRP I RFP process in September 2015.

If in accordance with the LRP I RFP the Project is awarded a Large Renewable Procurement I Contract ("LRP Contract"), Loyalist Solar LP would proceed to obtain all required approvals for the Project.

### 1.2 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this Public Consultation Summary is to provide a summary of Community Engagement activities undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.2.5 of the IESO LRP I RFP. The sections that follow detail the establishment of the project website, circulation of the Community Engagement Plan and Site Considerations Information to the municipality, a summary of meetings with the project community, discussions with abutting landowners and the Public Community Meeting.

### 1.3 About BluEarth

With offices in Calgary, AB and Guelph, ON, Canada, BluEarth is a private company focused on commercial scale renewable energy development. As an independent renewable power producer, BluEarth's goal is to sustainably build, own, and operate wind, run-of-river hydroelectric, and solar generation projects across North America. BluEarth currently has 58 MW of hydro and solar facilities in operation, and has another 112 MW (83 net to BluEarth) of wind, with additional projects scheduled to go into operation in 2015. More information on BluEarth can be found at <a href="https://www.bluearth.ca">www.bluearth.ca</a>.



### 2. Summary of Community Engagement Activities

### 2.1 Project Website

The Project website - <a href="https://www.bluearth.ca/Loyalist">www.bluearth.ca/Loyalist</a> - was launched for the Project in June 2015. This website was publically accessible more than fifteen (15) days prior to the first Public Community Meetings, held on July 8, 2015 and remained available on the project website more than fifteen (15) days ahead of the second public meeting on August 24, 2015. Project materials, including the Community Engagement Plan, Site Considerations Information, Notice of Public Community Meeting as well as other supporting documentation, were also available on the website fifteen (15) days prior to the Public Community Meetings. The website also included a posting of the name of the Qualified Applicant and the Registered Proponent that is proposed to develop the Loyalist Solar Project. The website and documents noted above will remain available to the public at least until the time of the LRP I RFP contract award announcements.

### 2.2 Community Engagement Plan

A Community Engagement Plan ("CEP") for the Project was developed to outline the consultation activities that would be completed as part of the LRP I RFP submission. As noted above, the CEP has been posted on the website since June 22, 2015 and was delivered to the clerk at the Township of Stone Mills on June 23, 2015. Copies were also available for review at the Public Community Meetings.

### 2.3 Meeting with Project Communities

The Township of Stone Mills is the sole Project Community for the Project. Several in-person meetings were held to discuss the details of the Project with representatives from the Township of Stone Mills. Meetings were held on the following dates:

- May 7, 2015 meeting with Township of Stone Mills Deputy Clerk to introduce the Project
- July 21, 2015 presentation to Township Council
- August 5, 2015 meeting with Township of Stone Mills Deputy Clerk to discuss Visual Screening Requirements

### 2.4 Discussions with Abutting Landowners

In addition to sending mailed notices to nearby residents in accordance with the IESO LRP I RFP requirements, efforts were made to have meetings with all landowners owning properties abutting the Project Site. These meetings were held either face-to-face or via telephone. The purpose of the meetings was to provide an opportunity for landowners to learn about the Project and discuss any questions or comments that they may have. The comments that were received during these meetings have been incorporated into Table 2-1.

### 2.5 Public Community Meeting

Two Public Community Meetings were held to present the Project the public, the first on July 8, 2015 and the second on August 24, 2015. Both public meetings were held at the Newburgh Community Hall in the Township of Stone Mills. A Notice of Public Community Meeting was circulated more than fifteen (15) days in advance of each meeting to all landowners within 120 metres (m) of the Project Site and Connection Line. Notices were also distributed to the



Township of Stone Mills, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), local conservation authorities and local First Nations communities. In addition, the notice was published in the Napanee Beaver and Napanee Guide on June 18, 2015 for the July 8, 2015 Public Community Meeting and in the Napanee Beaver on July 30, 2015 and the Napanee Guide on August 6, 2015 for the August 24, 2015 public meeting. The notice was also made available on the Project website for review by the general public.

A copy of the Notice of Public Community Meeting for both the July 8, 2015 and August 24, 2015 meetings are included Appendix A.

During the public meeting the Community Engagement Plan, the Site Considerations Information and the Notice of Public Community Meeting were available for review. Additional supporting information about the Project was also made available on display boards which are included in Appendix B. Any comments received during the public meetings are included in Table 2-1.

### 2.5.1 Summary of Comments Received at Public Meeting and Responses

The following table summarizes the comments received to date regarding the Project.

Table 2-1: Summary of Public Comments and Responses

Comments/ Questions Received	Response
Interest in participating in the Project	We will contact you to discuss your interest and determine how your property might be compatible with our Project
Inquiry regarding the size and location of the Project	The Project may use up to approximately 544 acres of land. Additional description of Project location provided
Concern about impacts to wildlife including Loggerhead Shrike	If awarded a contract, the Project would be subject to the Renewable Energy Approval process under which studies will be conducted in accordance with the Natural Heritage Assessment Guide. Potential wildlife impacts would be assessed by Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry which would require mitigations to be implemented that would minimize or avoid impacts.
Concern about impacts to property values	There is no evidence that proximity to a solar facility will result in a loss to property values. A common concern related to property values is the perceived visual impact of the Project. As part of the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement, Loyalist Solar LP has committed to work with the Township of Stone Mills to implement a visual screening plan which will minimize any visual concerns.
Concern about visual impacts	The ability to see the solar panels will be limited due to setbacks from the roadways and by leaving existing vegetation where possible. In some cases additional vegetation can be planted. Loyalist Solar LP has committed to meet the comprehensive visual screening requirements of the Township of Stone Mills through the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement
Concern about pesticide use and groundwater contamination	A stormwater management and grading plan will be completed to ensure proper management of surface water flows during construction and operation. Additionally, Loyalist Solar LP has agreed to complete a hydrogeological assessment in accordance with the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement executed with the Township of Stone Mills. Pre- and post-construction well water monitoring will be also be undertaken by the Project. During operation, vegetation control is carried out using mechanical means, with herbicide application limited to localized spot-spraying. The rate of herbicide application for spot spraying is a fraction of that customarily used in conventional agricultural production.
Concern about improper decommissioning of the Project	The Project will be subject to a Renewable Energy Approval which requires that a Decommissioning Plan Report be completed that details how the Project will be decommissioned. Loyalist Solar LP, or the owner of the project at the time, is bound under the Environmental Protection Act to comply with the Decommissioning Plan Report. In addition, under the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement the Project is required to post securities to ensure monies are available for decommissioning.



### 3. Conclusion

This document summarizes the consultation efforts taken to date and confirms that they were in accordance with the process described in the CEP. This document will be provided to the Township of Stone Mills and will also be posted to the Project website for public review. Should the Project be awarded a contract under the LRP I RFP, additional public consultation will take place in accordance with the Renewable Energy Approval process.



# Appendix A

Loyalist Solar Project – Public Notice of Open House

### **Notice of Public Community Meeting**

### For a Project Proposal Under the Large Renewable Procurement

The proponent identified below is proposing to submit a proposal to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to design, build, and operate a Large Renewable Project for the generation of electricity under the IESO's Large Renewable Procurement (LRP).

The LRP is a competitive process for procuring large renewable energy projects generally larger than 500 kilowatts. At the conclusion of the LRP, the IESO may award contracts for successful projects up to the specified procurement targets for each renewable fuel: 300 megawatts (MW) for wind, 140 MW for solar, 75 MW for waterpower, and 50 MW for bioenergy.

This notice is being distributed to notify members of the public of a public community meeting that has been scheduled to discuss the Large Renewable Project proposal. Information regarding the proponent, the Large Renewable Project proposal, and the meeting details are described below.

This public community meeting is being held as part of the early community engagement requirements of the LRP. The public community meeting will present details about the Large Renewable Project and its proposed connection line. Representatives of the proponent will be available to discuss the Large Renewable Project and the overall LRP process. Should this Large Renewable Project be awarded a contract, the Large Renewable Project would need to obtain all required permits and approvals and conduct any further required community engagement activities.

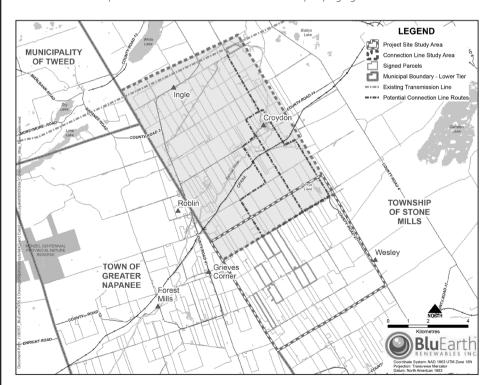
Further details regarding the LRP are available at www.ieso.ca/lrp.

### Proponent and the Large Renewable Project proposal

Proponent:	Loyalist Solar LP
Qualified Applicant from the LRP Request for Qualifications stage associated with the proponent:	BluEarth Renewables Inc.
Name of the Large Renewable Project proposal:	Loyalist Solar Project
Renewable fuel of the Large Renewable Project:	Non-rooftop Solar
Proposed capacity of the Large Renewable Project (MW):	up to 96 MW
Proposed connection point of the Large Renewable Project:	Along Hydro One Networks Inc. H23B transmission line north of Ingle. Please see map.

### Proposed location of the Large Renewable Project and proposed connection line

The Project is proposed to be located in the Township of Stone Mills. The Project Site will be located on leased lands between County Rd 41 to the west, County Rd 27 to the east, and the Salmon River to the north. A Connection Line will be generally located between Centreville Rd, County Rd 41, east of Miller Rd and north of Frizzell Rd and Youngs Rd and connect to the existing 230 kV transmission line located north of Ingle. The final Connection Line location has not been determined. Some potential routes are shown on the accompanying figure.



### Public community meeting information

Location: Newburgh Community Hall 2 Factory Street, Newburgh, KOK 2SO Date: July 8, 2015 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm

### Contact information for the proponent:

Tom Bird, Regulatory Lead BluEarth Renewables Inc. 1–844–214–2578 projects@bluearth.ca 34 Harvard Rd, Guelph, ON N1G 4V8 Project website: bluearth.ca/loyalist

### **Notice of Public Community Meeting**

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Further details regarding the LRP are available at www.ieso.ca/lrp.

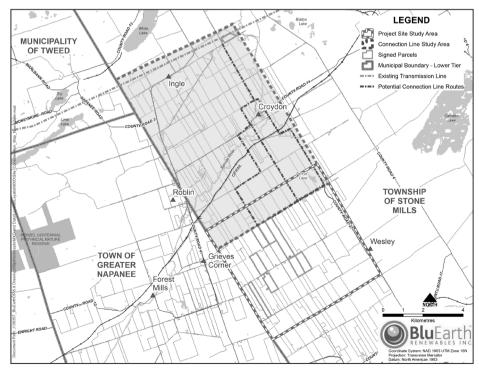
### Proponent and the Large Renewable Project proposal

Proponent:	Loyalist Solar LP
Qualified Applicant from the LRP Request for Qualifications stage associated with the proponent:	BluEarth Renewables Inc.
Name of the Large Renewable Project proposal:	Loyalist Solar Project
Renewable fuel of the Large Renewable Project:	Non-rooftop Solar
Proposed capacity of the Large Renewable Project (MW):	up to 54 MW
Proposed connection point of the Large Renewable Project:	Along Hydro One Networks Inc. H23B transmission line north of Ingle. Please see map.

### Proposed location of the Large Renewable Project and proposed connection line

The Project is proposed to be located in the Township of Stone Mills. The Project Site will be located on leased lands between County Rd 41 to the west, County Rd 27 to the east, and the Salmon River to the north. A Connection Line will be generally located between Centreville Rd, County Rd 41, east of Miller Rd and north of Frizzell Rd and Youngs Rd and connect to the existing 230 kV transmission line located north of Ingle. The final Connection Line location has not been determined. Some potential routes are shown on the accompanying figure.

### $NOTE: The \ Project information is the same as what was presented at the July 8, 2015 \ meeting.$



### Public community meeting information

Location: Newburgh Community Hall 2 Factory Street, Newburgh, KOK 2SO Date: August 24, 2015 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

### Contact information for the proponent:

Tom Bird, Regulatory Lead BluEarth Renewables Inc. 1–844–214–2578 projects@bluearth.ca 34 Harvard Rd, Guelph, ON N1G 4V8 Project website: www.bluearth.ca/loyalist



# **Appendix B**

Loyalist Solar Project – Material on Display at Public Community Meeting



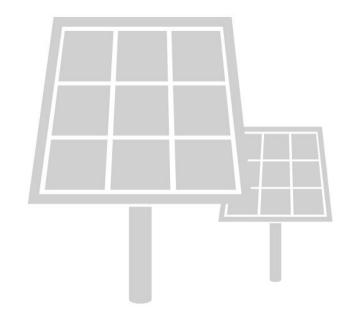
# **Community Meeting**

Please sign in at the front desk and provide your contact information if you would like to receive project updates.

We invite you to walk around and look at the displays.

If you have questions or comments, please ask one of our representatives.

Thank you for attending!



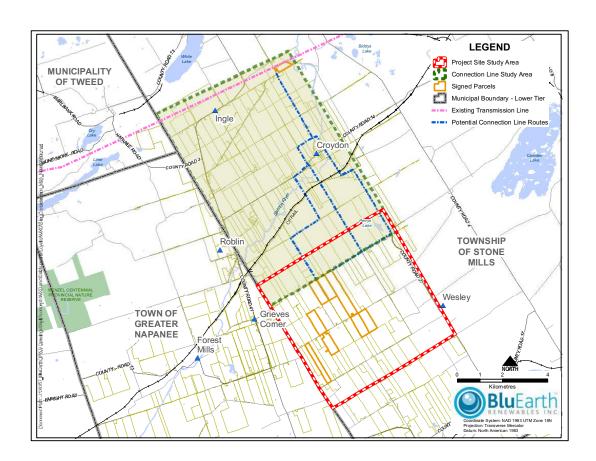
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# **Project Description**

- Up to 54 megawatt (MW AC) solar project
- •Located in the Township of Stone Mills, County of Lennox & Addington, Ontario
- The Project Site consists of solar panels, racking, direct current (DC) electrical collection system, alternating current (AC) electrical system, inverters, and associated infrastructure. The Project Connection Line includes overhead and underground electrical circuits, electrical transformer stations, communication lines, and related electrical infrastructure required to connect the Site to the existing Hydro One Networks Inc. transmission system
- The project is being developed in response to the Independent Electricity System Operator Request for Proposals for the Procurement of up to 565 MW of New Large Renewable Energy Projects



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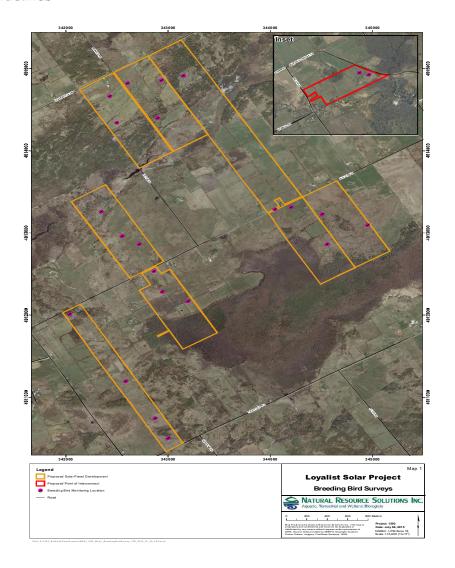
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# **Preliminary Breeding Bird Summary**

### Methods:

- Preliminary breeding bird surveys were completed on July 2–3, 2015
- Surveys included a combination of 23 point count locations and area searches between monitoring locations
- The level of breeding evidence was recorded according to Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas Guidelines





# Preliminary Breeding Bird Summary

### Results:

- A total of 53 bird species were documented during preliminary breeding bird surveys
- Most records are of common species with secure populations within Ontario
- 3 Provincially Threatened species, eastern meadowlark (Sturnella magna), bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus), and barn swallow (Hirundo rustica), and 1 federal Special Concern species, grasshopper sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum), were documented during the surveys
- No loggerhead shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) observations were made during any of the preliminary bird surveys

### Next Steps (should the Project be awarded an LRP I RFP contract):

- A complete Natural Heritage Assessment will be completed to document significant natural areas, woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat
- Comprehensive breeding bird surveys will be completed to build upon the preliminary results of the 2015 monitoring
- Species at Risk observations and considerations will be summarized in a Species at Risk Report that will be completed and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for consideration of any potential permitting requirements
- Where appropriate, permit applications under the Endangered Species Act may be obtained to ensure Species at Risk are properly protected



### Notice of Public Community Meeting For a Project Proposal Under the Large Renewable Procurement

The proponent identified below is proposing to submit a proposal to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to design, build, and operate a Large Renewable Project for the generation of electricity under the IESO's Large Renewable Procurement (LRP).

The LRP is a competitive process for procuring large renewable energy projects generally larger than SOU kilowatts. At the conclusion of the LRP, the IESO may award contracts for successful projects up to the specified procurernent targets for each renewable fuel-SOU megawatts (MW) for wind, 140 MW for solar, 75 MW for waterpower, and 50 MW for bioenergy.

This notice is being distributed to notify members of the public of a public community meeting that has been scheduled to discuss the Large Renewable Project proposal. Information regarding the proponent, the Large Renewable Project proposal, and the meeting details are described below.

This public community meeting is being held as part of the early community engagement requirements of the LRP. The public community meeting will present details about the Large Renewable Project and its proposed connection line. Representatives of the proponent will be available to discuss the Large Renewable Project and the overall LRP process. Should this Large Renewable Project be awarded a contract, the Large Renewable Project would need to obtain all required permits and approvals and conduct any further required community engagement activities.

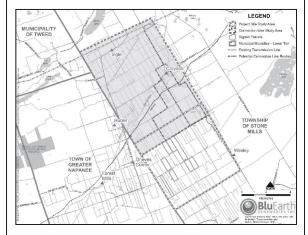
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#### Proponent and the Large Renewable Project proposal

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Qualified Applicant from the LRP Request for Qualifications stage associated with the propo nent:	BluEarth Renewables Inc.
Name of the Large Renewable Project proposal:	Loyalist Solar Project
Renewable fuel of the Large Renewable Project:	Non-rooftop Solar
Proposed capacity of the Large Renewable Project (MW):	up to 96 MW
Proposed connection point of the Large Renew able Project:	Along Hydro One Networks Inc. H25B transmission line north of Ingle: Please see map.

#### $Proposed\ location\ of\ the\ Large\ Renewable\ Project\ and\ proposed\ connection\ line$

The Project is proposed to be located in the Township of Stone Mills. The Project Site will be located on leased lands between County Rd 41 to the west, County Rd 27 to the east, and the Salmon River to the north. A Connection Line will be generally located between Centreville Rd, County Rd 41, east of Miller Rd and north of Frizzell Rd and Youngs Rd and connect to the existing 250 kV transmission line located north of Ingle. The final Connection Line location has not been determined 5 owne potential routes are shown on the accompanying figure.



#### Public community meeting information

Location: Newburgh Community Hall 2 Factory Street, Newburgh, KOK 2S0 Date: July 8, 2015 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm

#### Contact information for the proponent:

Tom Bird, Regulatory Lead BluEarth Renewables Inc. 1–844–214–2578 projects; abluearth.ca 34 Harvard Rd, Guelph, ON NIG 4V8 Project website: bluearth.ca/loyalist

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# **Community Benefits**

- Additional long-term tax revenue. Over the course of the Project's lifespan, it will provide ongoing contributions to the Township's tax base without requiring municipal services such as water and wastewater services
- Employment. The jobs that are created during construction include: land surveying, notary services, tree/brush clearing, road construction, set-up of electrical and communication networks, excavation, concrete and aggregates supply and installation, foundations, assembly of solar facility, construction of the sub-station, and material transportation. The Project will also require permanent employees during operations
- Boosting the local economy. Construction supplies, components and contractors will be sourced locally to the extent reasonably possible subject to meeting quality, quantity, and workmanship requirements
- Renewable energy. Renewable energy provides clean, sustainable, zeroemission electricity and reduces the risk of climate change.





# Your questions answered!

### How could the proposed project impact property values?

There is no evidence that solar facilities decrease property values of surrounding properties. Generally speaking, when new infrastructure projects are proposed, potential buyers may be hesitant until project construction is complete. With proper visual screening and reasonable setbacks from homes, we believe that the project will not have any long-term negative impact for adjacent landowners.

### How are visual concerns addressed?

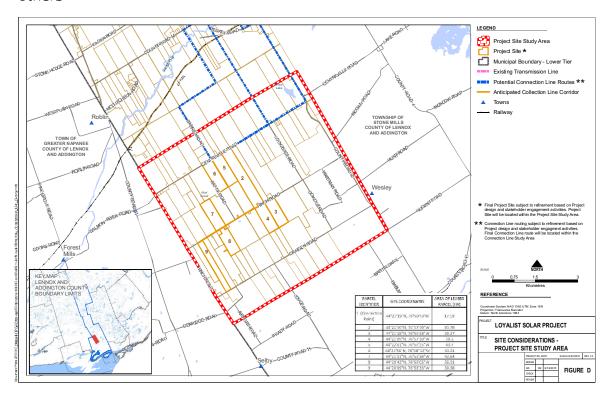
The ability to see the solar panels will be limited due to setbacks from the roadways and by leaving existing vegetation where possible. In some cases additional vegetation can be planted. BluEarth will be meeting with individual residents to help understand their concerns and discuss how these can be reasonably addressed.





# **Project Site**

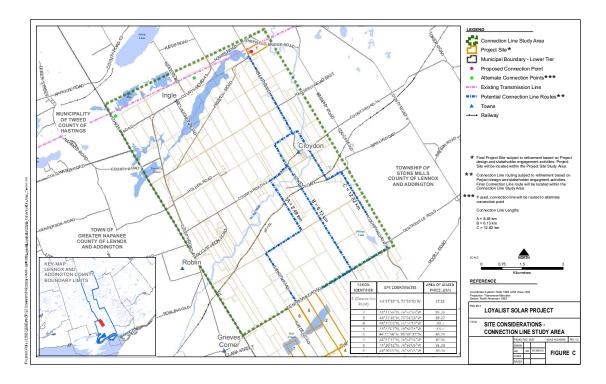
- Consists of the lands on which the generating facility is proposed to be located, and includes solar panel arrays, electrical collection system, inverters, operations and maintenance building, and ancillary equipment
- Lands have been identified that are anticipated to be sufficient for the Project, however other lands within the Project Site Study Area may be added if needed
- Studies and stakeholder consultation will determine the final lands to be used within the Project Site Study Area
- Studies will include geotechnical and engineering assessments, archaeological and natural heritage assessments, noise studies, grading and drainage assessments, among others
- Consultation will include engagement with Township of Stone Mills, local residents, First Nations, Quinte Conservation Authority, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, among others





### **Connection Line**

- Consists of above and below ground electrical cabling used to connect the Project to the existing 230kV transmission line north of Ingle
- Potential routes have been identified, however the final route will be determined through additional studies and consultation
- Studies will include geotechnical and engineering assessments, archaeological and natural heritage assessments, among others
- Consultation will include engagement with Township of Stone Mills, local residents, First Nations, Quinte Conservation Authority, Hydro One Networks Inc., Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, among others
- Final route will be within the Connection Line Study Area shown, however not necessarily one of the potential routes shown
- May be installed in road rights-of-way or on private lands or a combination of the two
- If on private lands, this will be done through agreements with the landowners involved



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# Why here?

- Suitable solar resource
- Compatible with land use requirements (e.g. not on lands designated as Prime Agricultural)
- Close to existing electrical transmission circuit with sufficient capacity for 54 MW of generation
- Landowners willing to host the Project



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# Why now?

- Project is being developed in response to the Independent Electrical System Operator's (IESO) Large Renewable Procurement Request for Proposals (LRP I RFP)
- Ministry of Energy directed IESO to implement the LRP I RFP to procure up to 565 MW of large renewable energy projects, 140 MW of which will be solar projects
- BluEarth was selected as a Qualified Applicant under the LRP I RFP because of considerable experience in developing and operating large renewable energy projects
- BluEarth intends to register Loyalist Solar LP as the Registered Proponent for the Project under the LRP I RFP process
- LRP I RFP is a competitive process projects are awarded contracts based on best evaluated proposal price Consideration for community, municipal and First Nation engagement
- Submission into LRP RFP on Sept 1 2015 with contracts awarded Dec 2015

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### What's next?

The Project schedule is comprised of two parts. The first consists of activities leading up to the submission of Project in response to the LRP I RFP. The second will be undertaken if the Project is awarded a contract, and consists of activities related to obtaining the various approvals under the Renewable Energy Approval ("REA") process that are necessary for the construction and operation of the Project.

### **LRPIRFP**

Community Engagement Plan activiites | June to September 2015

Public Meetings | July 8, 2015

Summary of Public Meetings | July 2015

Submission of LRP RFP bid | September 1, 2015

LRP RFP contract awarded | December 2015

### **REA**

Additional community engagement activities | September 2015 and onward

Completion of REA-related studies | July 2016

Submission of REA September 2016

Approval of REA | May 2017

Construction start | June 2017

Completion of Project | Q2 2018



If awarded a contract, and subject to receiving required approvals, the Project is expected to start construction in 2017 and become operational in 2018.

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Links Fig. 2





With offices in Calgary, AB and Guelph ON Canada, BluEarth is a private company focused on commercial scale renewable energy development. As an independent renewable power producer, our goal is to sustainably build, own, and operate wind, run-of-river hydroelectric, and solar generation projects across North America. BluEarth currently has 60 MW of hydro and solar facilities in operation, and has another 92 MW of projects scheduled to go into operation in 2015. BluEarth also owns and interest eight hydroelectric facilities on northern Ontario through H20 Power Limited Partnership.

BluEarth strives for timely and meaningful consultation with all stakeholders and First Nation communities. As one of the most experienced renewable energy teams in Canada, we fully appreciate the importance of communication with those that live near our projects. BluEarth is committed to consulting with and involving stakeholders in the decision—making process for our proposed and existing facilities. We believe that trust is the foundation for long—term successful relationships, and we know that trust is only earned over time, by working together with honest and transparent communications.



For more information, visit bluearth.ca.







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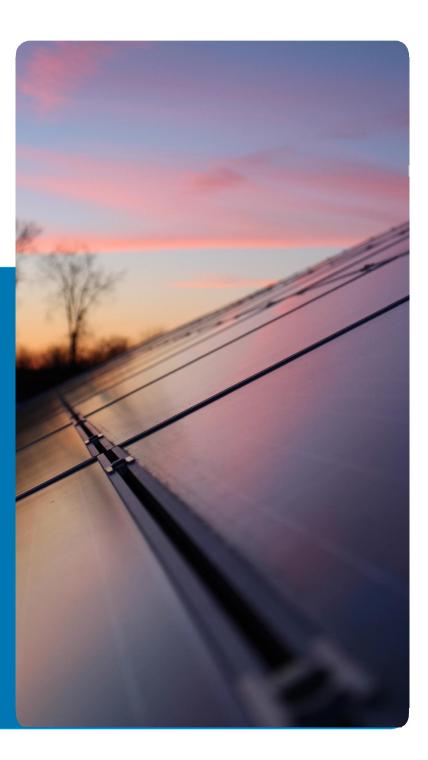
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# Loyalist Solar Project



For more information on BluEarth and the Loyalist Solar Project, visit:

bluearth.ca/loyalist projects@bluearth.ca 1.844.214.2578



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# Visual Simulations

# LOYALIST SOLAR PROJECT

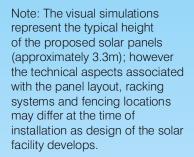




KEY MAP - VISIBLE VIEWSHEDS

### **Developing Viewsheds**

For the purpose of this study, viewsheds were developed by establishing viewpoints through site reconnaissance, aerial photographs and GIS mapping. Viewpoints were limited to regions of existing liveable areas and close to existing homes that were located adjacent to the proposed solar facility.











# Visual Simulations

# LOYALIST SOLAR PROJECT

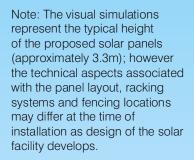




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# Non-Visible Viewsheds

# LOYALIST SOLAR PROJECT

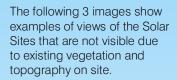




KEY MAP - NON-VISIBLE VIEWSHED:

### **Developing Viewsheds**

For the purpose of this study, viewsheds were developed by establishing viewpoints through site reconnaissance, aerial photographs and GIS mapping. Viewpoints were limited to areas of existing liveable areas and close to existing homes that were within 300.0m of the proposed solar facility. In addition, viewsheds have been categorized as major and minor, basing the analysis on the viewpoint proximity to the subject site and the quality of existing buffering.











### What's next?

The Project schedule is comprised of two parts. The first consists of activities leading up to the submission of the Project in response to the LRP I RFP. The second will be undertaken if the Project is awarded a contract, and consists of activities related to obtaining the various approvals under the Renewable Energy Approval ("REA") process that are necessary for the construction and operation of the Project.

#### **LRPIRFP**

Community Engagement Plan activiites | June to September 2015

Public Meetings | July 8 & August 24, 2015

Summary of Public Meetings | August 2015

Submission of LRP RFP bid | September 1, 2015

LRP RFP contract awarded | December 2015

### **REA**

Additional community engagement activities | September 2015 and onward

Completion of REA-related studies | July 2016

Submission of REA September 2016

Approval of REA | May 2017

Construction start | June 2017

Completion of Project | Q2 2018



If awarded a contract, and subject to receiving required approvals, the Project is expected to start construction in 2017 and become operational in 2018.



# **Municipal Agreement**

- The Township of Stone Mills Council has passed a Council Resolution of Support and executed a Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement for the Loyalist Solar Project
- Through the Vibrancy Fund Agreement, the Township of Stone Mills has set out several requirements for how the Project will be developed, including:
  - ♦ Visual screening and setbacks
  - ♦ Stormwater management and grading design review
  - ♦ Hydrogeological study requirements
  - ♦ Establishment of a Technical Review Committee
  - ♦ Community Vibrancy Fund contributions to be used for community initiatives at the descretion of the Township, including:
    - Land stewardship
    - Recreation
    - · Community & protective services
    - · Roads & public infrastructure
    - · Community inprovement projects
  - ♦ Preference for qualified local labour and supplies
  - ♦ Financial security requirements for Project decommissioning
  - Reimbursement for reasonable Township expenses associated with review of Project permits



# Your questions answered!

### How could the proposed project impact property values?

There is no evidence that solar facilities decrease property values of surrounding properties. Generally speaking, when new infrastructure projects are proposed, potential buyers may be hesitant until project construction is complete. With proper visual screening and reasonable setbacks from homes, we believe that the project will not have any long-term negative impact for adjacent landowners.

### How are visual concerns addressed?

The ability to see the solar panels will be limited due to setbacks from the roadways and by leaving existing vegetation where possible. In some cases additional vegetation can be planted. The Project has committed to meet the comprehensive visual screening requirements of the Township of Stone Mills through the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement.

### How are water resources being protected??

In accordance with Provincial and Township requirements, the Project will be completing a stormwater management and grading plan to ensure proper management of surface water flows during construction and operation. Additionally, the Project has agreed to complete a hydrogeological assessment in accordance with the Community Vibrancy Fund Agreement executed with the Township of Stone Mills. Pre and post–construction well water monitoring will be also be undertaken by the Project.

During operation, vegetation control is carried out using mechanical means, with herbicide application limited to localized spot-spraying. The rate of herbicide application for spot spraying is a fraction of that customarily used in conventional agricultural production.





### Notice of Public Community Meeting

#### For a Project Proposal Under the Large Renewable Procurement

The proponent identified below is proposing to submit a proposal to the independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to design, build, and operate a Large Renewable Project for the generation of electricity under the IESO's Large Renewable Procurement (LRP).

The LRP is a competitive process for procuring large renewable energy projects generally larger than S00 kilowatts. At the conclusion of the LRP, the IESO may award contracts for successful projects up to the specified procurement targets for each renewable fuel: 300 megawatts (NW) for wind, 140 MW for solar, 75 MW for waterpower, and 50 MW for bioenergy.

This notice is being distributed to notify members of the public of a public community meeting that has been scheduled to discuss the Large Renewable Project proposal Information regarding the proponent, the Large Renewable Project proposal, and the meeting details are described below.

This public community meeting is being held as part of the early community engagement requirements of the LRP. The public community meeting will present details about the Large Renewable Project and its proposed connection line. Representatives of the proponent will be available to discuss the Large Renewable Project and the overall LRP process. Should this Large Renewable Project be awarded a contract, the Large Renewable Project would need to obtain all required permits and approvals and conduct any further required community engagement artivities.

Further details regarding the LRP are available at www.ieso.ca/lrp.

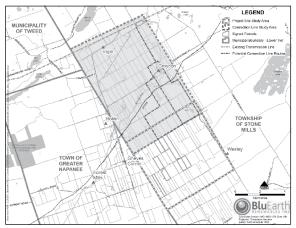
#### Proponent and the Large Renewable Project proposal

Proponent:	Loyalist Solar LP
Qualified Applicant from the LRP Request for Qualifications stage associated with the proponent:	BluEarth Renewables Inc.
Name of the Large Renewable Project proposal:	Loyalist Solar Project
Renewable fuel of the Large Renewable Project:	Non-rooftop Solar
Proposed capacity of the Large Renewable Project (MW):	up to 54 MW
Proposed connection point of the Large Renewable Project:	Along Hydro One Networks Inc. H23B transmission line north of Ingle. Please see map.

#### ${\bf Proposed \, location \, of \, the \, Large \, Renewable \, Project \, and \, proposed \, connection \, line}$

The Project is proposed to be located in the Township of Stone Mills. The Project Site will be located on leased lands between County Rd 41 to the west, County Rd 27 to the east, and the Salmon River to the north. A Connection Line will be generally located between Centreville Rd, County Rd 41, east of Miller Rd and north of Frizzell Rd and Youngs Rd and connect to the existing 230 kV transmission line located north of Inglic. The final Connection Line location has not been determined. Some potential routes are shown on the accompanying figure.

#### NOTE: The Project information is the same as what was presented at the July 8, 2015 meeting.



#### Public community meeting information

Location: Newburgh Community Hall 2 Factory Street, Newburgh, KOK 2S 0 Date: August 24, 2015 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

#### Contact information for the proponent:

Tom Bird, Regulatory Lead BluEarth Renewables Inc. 1-844-214-2578 projects@bluearth.ca 34 Harvard Rd, Guelph, ON NIG 4V8 Project website: www.bluearth.ca/loyalist