

Jones says deal means dire consequences

By DAN PELTON
Staff Reporter

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones says the Ontario government's recent \$7 billion deal with a South Korean consortium to bolster the province's green technology industry will have dire consequences for electricity consumers.

Premier Dalton McGuinty signed an agreement with Samsung C and T and the Korea Electric Power Corporation that will see \$7 billion invested in Ontario to create 16,000 new jobs over six years.

Samsung will build wind and solar farms across Ontario that will generate 2,500 megawatts of power, and will also build four plants to manufacture components for green energy projects, creating the 16,000 jobs in the process. Most of those will be temporary, but 1,440 permanent manufac-

turing and related jobs are promised.

"If looking at your current winter hydro bill fills you with dread, then you may not want to hear what the government has in store for you," Ms. Jones warned in a press release. "The sad truth is, hydro is about to get a whole lot more expensive."

Ms. Jones pointed out that the province has signed a contract "agreeing to pay a foreign multi-national a premium price for the large renewable energy projects - 13.5 cents per kilowatt hour for wind and 44.3 cents for solar. That compares to five cents per kilowatt hour for existing Ontario energy production."

According to daily tallies released by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), the body responsible for the day-to-day operation of Ontario's electrical system, wind power now

accounts for approximately one per cent of the province's daily consumption.

On Tuesday, for example, the peak output for wind power was 203 megawatts, compared to 11,296 for nuclear and 5,000 for Hydro.

Ms. Jones is among a number of politicians and business people who are angry at what they see as a government dealing exclusively with a foreign company and leaving the Ontario green energy industry out of the mix.

"I have a philosophical problem with signing a single source untendered contract," said Ms. Jones. "The McGuinty Liberals are clearly favouring one foreign multi-national over struggling Ontario businesses. Ontario businesses that have green energy technology will now need to partner with Samsung if they want to participate in these renew-

able energy projects."

The government has argued that the agreement with the South Koreans gives Ontario the opportunity to take a substantial leap in the alternative energy sector.

While there is capacity in the province to build the towers for a wind turbine, the rest of the equipment is imported.

Premier McGuinty envisions green technologies as being a major export to the U.S. market, much like cars currently are. "What we want to do is take the green energy economy in Ontario to a higher level," he told the Canadian Press. "It can't just be about Ontario it's got to be about making technology for the U.S."

Progressive Conservative leader Tim Hudak called the Samsung agreement the "mother of all untendered contracts," an allegation Premier McGuinty said was

"nonsensical," noting that when Toyota wanted to build a new plant in Ontario, the government didn't insist that it bring Ford and General Motors into the deal as well.

"Picking winners and losers is not the role of government," countered Ms. Jones. "The government's track record is abysmal dating back to the famous Suncor deal. We should focus instead on targeting taxes that would make Ontario desirable for investment for all companies. Ontario based companies should be given an opportunity to become leaders in green technology."

"So, the Liberals have signed a very expensive single source contract that I believe will cost each of us a great deal in the future. All of this from the guy who promised solemnly that he would freeze electricity rates and not raise taxes."

The "famous Suncor deal" she referred to was the decision in 1981 of former premier William Davis to purchase a 25 per cent share of Suncor Corporation for \$625 million to give his government a "window" on the oil industry. In 1985, David Peterson's Liberal minority government wrote off the investment.



Photo/DAN PELTON

WESTMINSTER UNITED CHURCH was a musical venue on Saturday as the Bluesberries were in town to perform, and teach those in attendance about, the various forms of jazz music; from Dixieland to Beebop to Cool to Fusion.

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Invernergy Wind Canada ULC

Renewable Energy Approval
Notice of a proposal to engage in a Renewable Energy Project
Notice of Public Meeting
s. 15(1)(a)(b) Ontario Regulation 359/09

NOTICE OF A PROPOSAL
by Invernergy to Engage in a Renewable Energy Project

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
To be held by Invernergy Canada regarding the Belwood Wind Farm Project and Proposal to Engage in a Renewable Energy Project

Project Name: Belwood Wind Farm
Project Location: Townships of Centre Wellington and East Garafraxa, in Wellington and Dufferin Counties
Dated at: The Municipality of Wellington this 29th day of January 2010.

Invernergy Canada is planning to engage in a renewable energy project in respect of which the issuance of a renewable energy approval (REA) is required. The proposed Belwood Wind Farm would be located approximately five kilometres northwest of the Town of Belwood, in the Townships of Centre Wellington and East Garafraxa. The proposal to engage in the project and the project itself are subject to the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act* Part V.0.1 and Ontario Regulation 359/09. The REA replaces approvals formerly required under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, *Planning Act*, and *Environmental Protection Act*. This notice is distributed in accordance with REA requirements.

Meeting Information:
In order to provide information to and consult with community members, stakeholder groups, First Nations communities and government agencies, Invernergy and Dillon Consulting are hosting a public information session in each township.

DATE: Tuesday, March 9th
TIME: 5pm – 8pm
PLACE: Belwood Hall, 37 Queen Street (corner of Queen and George streets), Belwood, ON

DATE: Wednesday, March 10th
TIME: 5pm – 8pm
PLACE: Marsville Community Hall, 191282 13th Line, (corner of 13th Line and Dufferin Road 3), Marsville, ON

Project Description:
The proposed wind farm would be rated as a Class 4 Wind Facility pursuant to the relevant Act and Regulation. If approved, this facility would have an estimated name plate capacity of 54 MW. The project location is outlined in the map above.

Documents for Public Inspection:
The Draft Project Description Report entitled *Invernergy Wind Canada ULC – Belwood Wind Farm Project Description Report* describes the project in more detail. A written copy of the Draft Project Description Report will be made available for public inspection as of February 3rd, 2010 and on the proponent's website: <http://belwood.invernergylc.com/>.

Project Contacts and Information: To learn more about the project proposal and upcoming public information session, or to provide comments in writing please contact:

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