

**St. Lawrence Windpower Project  
Assessment of State Coastal Management Policies**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the Federal Consistency regulations (15 CFR 930.57), the following reviews and analyses the proposed St. Lawrence Windpower Project with respect to the New York State Coastal Policies enumerated in the New York State (NYS) Department of State Coastal Management Program (CZM Program).

The proposed SLW turbine windpower farm is not located in the state designated coastal zone. The only structure in the SLW Project that is within the state-designated coastal zone is a portion of the proposed overhead transmission line where it would cross the Chaumont River in the Town of Lyme (see Coastal Zone Boundary maps attached with this analysis). The inland coastal boundary of the coastal zone is variable by region (the Town of Lyme is in the Great Lakes Region) but generally is 1,000 feet from the shoreline in non-urbanized areas, and 500 feet or less from the shoreline in urbanized areas.

The SLW Project is eligible for the Federal Clean Water Act Nationwide Permit program (NWP), namely, NWP 24 and 14. Pursuant to 15 CFR Part 930.41, the NYS Department of State concurs with the Corps consistency determination for many Nationwide Permits, including NWP 12 and 14, where the activities to be authorized would occur outside of areas covered by the following Coastal Zone Management Program (CMP) special management areas:

- 1) The Long Island Sound Regional Coastal Management Program;
- 2) Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs;
- 3) Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats;
- 4) Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance; and
- 5) Harbor Management Plans.

All activities relating to the proposed SLW Project would occur outside of areas covered by the five preceding special management areas (See Attachment E); thus the Project has programmatic concurrence from NYSDOS with coastal zone consistency. However, St. Lawrence Windpower has included herein, for general purposes, the Coastal Zone Consistency Form and an assessment of the State Coastal Management Policies that would otherwise be applicable, if such concurrence was not already made through the NWP 12 and NWP 14.

The SLW project consists of the construction and operation of a wind-powered electric-generating facility with up to 53 turbine locations, totaling a capacity of approximately 79.5 megawatts (MW). All 53 turbine locations, temporary construction lay-down areas, access roads, underground interconnect lines, operation and maintenance (O&M) building, meteorological towers, electrical substation and all other components will be located in the Town of Cape Vincent; whereas most of the proposed overhead electric transmission line and new Attachment/substation facility would be located in the Town of Lyme near an existing substation. As shown on Figure 1A, the only component of the SLW Project located in the coastal zone management area in the Town of Lyme is the proposed overhead electric transmission interconnection. This facility, three (3) single wood pole structures and overhead wires (conductors) and the Attachment Facility would be located within the state designated coastal zone of the Chaumont River.

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**1.1 Project Purpose**

The purpose of the proposed Project is to generate and transmit electricity clean renewable energy from wind. The wind powered electrical-generating facility is proposed in an area pre-determined to be one of New York's suitable wind speed areas capable of sustained wind power generation.

This Project would be a significant source of renewable energy to the New York power grid. The Project is in compliance with New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) Order 03-E-0188, issued on September 24, 2004, which created the New York State Retail Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). The Project also supports several objectives identified in the 2002 State Energy Plan (New York State Energy Planning Board, 2002).