2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

The following discussion describes the proposed Project in terms of purpose, need and benefit, Project location, and layout. This Project description also describes construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning. In addition, a list of regulatory approvals is provided.

2.1 Introduction

This SDEIS assesses the environmental effects of constructing and operating the proposed Project. Provided below are descriptions of the Project, the Project Applicant, the Project's purpose, need, and benefit; the Project’s potential environmental impacts and related proposed mitigation measures; the alternatives analyzed in this SDEIS; and the regulatory approvals necessary for the Project to be constructed and operated.

The Applicant, SLW, is proposing to develop a wind-powered electrical-generating facility of up to 53 turbine locations with a total capacity of approximately 79.5 MW. The proposed Project would be located in the Towns of Cape Vincent and Lyme in Jefferson County, New York. All 53 turbines, temporary construction laydown areas, access roads, underground interconnect lines, operations and maintenance building, meteorological towers, an electrical substation and other components would be located in the Town of Cape Vincent; most of the overhead electrical transmission line and the interconnection to the existing transmission grid would be located in the Town of Lyme.

The wind turbines proposed for the project are 1.5 MW Acciona AW-82/1500 turbines manufactured by Acciona Windpower, S.A. The blade-tip height is approximately 390.5 feet, and the rotor width (diameter) is approximately 269 feet (82 meters). Each turbine will consist of a 262-foot (80-meter) tall steel tower; a rotor consisting of three composite blades; and a nacelle, which houses the generator, gearbox, and power train. A transformer will be located adjacent to the base of the tower, to raise the voltage of the electricity produced by the turbine generator to the voltage level of the underground collection system. The steel towers used for this Project will be manufactured in multiple sections. The towers will have a base diameter of approximately 20 feet. Each tower will have a locked access door and an internal safety ladder to access the nacelle, and will be painted (off-white) to make the structure less visually obtrusive.

The Project also would result in the construction of approximately 14.4 miles of gravel access roads, 37.1 miles of underground electric cables (of which approximately 9.8 miles will be co-located adjacent to gravel access roads), two electrical substations, and an operations and maintenance building (the collector substation will be co-located with the operations and maintenance building). An approximately 9 mile long (115 kV) overhead transmission line will be constructed to connect the Project with the existing transmission grid and electrical substation in the Town of Lyme.

The Project facilities will be developed on leased private land. SLW plans to begin construction in the spring/summer of 2010 and to complete construction by the end of 2010. However, SLW may initiate site clearing and tree removal during winter 2009-2010. SLW will begin site work as early as possible after all required permits and approvals are received. This will enable SLW to commence construction as early as possible after the 2010 spring thaw. The geotechnical investigation and other detailed engineering studies to support the civil design will be conducted prior to construction. Once the Project is in operation, the wind turbines and associated components operate in an almost completely automated fashion. SLW intends to permanently employ approximately four to six full-time workers for operation and maintenance of the wind energy facility.

2.2 Purpose and Scope of Environmental Impact Statement

The proposed Project is subject to review under New York's SEQRA because it requires the issuance of discretionary permits by state and local agencies (see Section 2.9, Regulatory Approvals). SLW submitted a Full Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) to the Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board on November 8, 2006, addressing the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project. The submittal of the EAF initiated the SEQRA process for the proposed action.

SLW voluntarily agreed to prepare a DEIS. SLW retained a team of experienced environmental consultants to study the proposed Project and develop a SEQRA DEIS which was submitted to the Town of Cape Vincent, as Lead Agency, on January 10, 2007.

The following steps in the SEQRA process for the Project have been completed:

- The DEIS was accepted as complete by Lead Agency (i.e., Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board) on January 24, 2007;
- The Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board filed a notice of completion of the DEIS and notice of public hearing and comment period on February 7, 2007;
- The Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board held a public hearing on the DEIS on March 24, 2007; and
- The public comment period on the DEIS ended on June 15, 2007.

After the public comment period on the DEIS, the Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board requested preparation of a SDEIS. SLW agreed and retained a team of experienced environmental consultants to prepare the SDEIS. The next steps in the SEQRA process for this Project include the following:

- A public hearing to be held on the SDEIS 30 days after its submission date.
- A public comment period of 60 days, starting from the acceptance of the SDEIS.

After the public comment period on the SDEIS, two alternative procedural pathways would be available to the Lead Agency. The Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board could require preparation of a Final EIS (FEIS). If that alternative pathway is chosen, the following steps would be taken:

- SLW prepares the Final EIS (FEIS);
- Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board reviews the FEIS, and determines whether to accept the FEIS as complete;
- Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board files notice of completion of the FEIS;
- 10-day public consideration period;
- The Planning Board, as Lead agency, issues its SEQRA Findings Statement; and
- Involved agencies consider the FEIS and issue their SEQRA Findings Statements as necessary to implement their permitting jurisdiction.

2.3 Project Purpose, Public Need and Benefits

The purpose of the Project is to develop a wind-powered electrical-generating facility at the proposed Project location. This Project will be a significant source of renewable energy to the New York electrical power grid, with the ability to annually power approximately 26,500 homes.

The Project will assist New York State in complying with the objectives of New York State PSC Order 03-E-0188, which was issued on September 24, 2004. This order established the New York State RPS to increase the proportion of electricity from renewable energy sources used in New York State to 25 percent by the end of 2013. The RPS helps to ensure that New York State's growing need for electricity will be satisfied in an efficient and environmentally sound manner. Wind generated electricity provides increased stability to the price volatility of fossil-fuel electricity generation in New York. In addition, the Project also assists in fulfilling objectives identified in the 2002 State Energy Plan (New York State Energy Planning Board, 2002), such as stimulating economic growth, increasing energy diversity, and promoting a cleaner and healthier environment.

The Project will generate a number of other benefits to the host communities and to New York State in general. The Project will result in increased tax revenues to local governments, annual income to participating landowners, and direct job creation during the development and construction of the Project, as well as indirect job creation during operation of the wind energy project. For a lengthier discussion of potential socioeconomic benefits, see Section 3.11 (Socioeconomics).

Wind energy benefits local ambient air quality and long-term health of the atmosphere because it produces electricity without emitting pollutants. Unlike conventional fossil fuel-fired electric power plants, no pollutant emissions are associated with wind power generation. To the extent that electricity produced by wind energy displaces electricity produced by fossil-fired power plants, pollutant emissions are reduced and air quality is improved. Pollutants that may be reduced from this energy displacement include "criteria pollutants" regulated by the Clean Air Act, such as nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, and volatile organic compounds, as well as "non-criteria pollutants," such as hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) including metals and other toxic compounds. The Project is estimated to result in annual reductions of approximately 138 tons of nitrogen oxides, 391 tons of sulfur dioxide, and substantial quantities of other pollutants including particulate matter (PM), carbon monoxide (CO), and volatile organic compounds. In addition, unlike fossil fuel-fired energy generation, wind power does not result in greenhouse gas emissions (such as carbon dioxide), which generally are considered the major factor in global warming. The Project will offset approximately 92,697 tons of carbon dioxide annually. By offsetting air pollutants and greenhouse gases, the Project will provide a benefit to environmental resources and human health.

The Project will also support the long-term economic viability of agricultural areas in the host communities, enabling the primarily agricultural landowners to augment their farm incomes by realizing the full potential of the wind asset on their lands.

2.4 Project Description and Location

The Project will be located in the Towns of Cape Vincent and Lyme in Jefferson County, New York. Figure 2-1 illustrates the proposed location of the Project. The Project facilities will have a permanent footprint of disturbance equal to approximately 60 acres. Nearly all Project facilities would be located on individual leased land parcels located within a larger area of approximately 7,900 acres (Project Area). However, SLW is seeking an easement from the NYSDEC for a portion of the overhead transmission line, (approximately 1.6 miles), that would traverse the Ashland Wildlife Management Area. The Project Area will be located southeast of the St. Lawrence River and New York State Route 12E, which generally parallels the riverbank. As proposed, the Project and associated turbines will be located within the Agricultural Residential District of Cape Vincent and part of the electric overhead transmission line will be located within the Agricultural and Rural Residence District in Lyme. The Project Area extends from approximately one-half mile from the river bank to about two and one-half miles inland and extends from one mile south of the Village of Cape Vincent northeasterly about 10 miles southeast of Route 12E. The overhead transmission line will extend several miles in an easterly direction from the Project Area to an existing transmission grid substation within the Town of Lyme. Land use in the Project Area is mostly agricultural, with farms and single family rural residences occurring along road frontage.

The general Project Area will be served by a network of state, county and local highways and roads that vary from two-lane highways to gravel roads. The New York State (NYS) Highway system in and adjacent to the Project Area includes Interstate Route 81, NYS Route 12E, State Route 12, NYS Route 180, and several County roads. The extensive road network provides excellent site access for construction vehicles and delivery of Project equipment.

2.5 Proposed Facility Layout and Design

The following section describes the proposed Project layout as shown on Figure 2-1, and provides a description of the major components of the Project. The St. Lawrence Windpower Project will consist of up to 53 wind turbines, each with a nameplate capacity of 1.5 MW and a rotor diameter of 82 meters (269 feet). All installed turbines will be the same make and model. The Project's installed capacity will be 79.5 MW. The Project will also require the construction of approximately 14.4 miles of permanent gravel access roads, 37.1 miles of underground interconnect (of which approximately 9.8 miles will be co-located adjacent to permanent access roads), an electrical substation, and an operations and maintenance building. An approximately 9 mile long (115 kV) overhead transmission line would be constructed to connect the Project with the existing transmission grid and electrical substation in the Town of Lyme.

The turbines will have a maximum height of approximately 395.5 feet from the tip of the rotor blade at the uppermost position to ground level, and the rotor diameter would be 269 feet. There is one temporary meteorological tower with guy wires currently on the site that will be removed when Project construction is complete. There will be up to three permanent meteorological towers located on site, the location of which will be determined after a final construction layout is completed. Existing roads will be used to the extent feasible to bring equipment and material to the site (see Section 3.4).

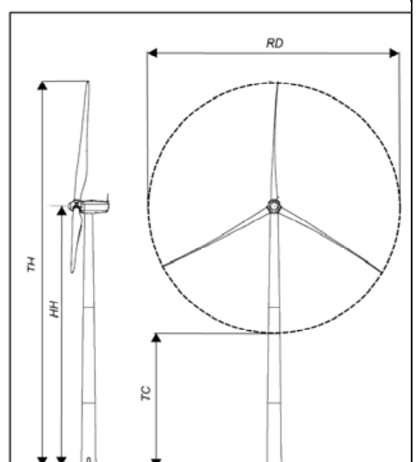
The proposed location and spacing of the wind turbines and support facilities were determined using results of a wind resource assessment, selection of a turbine model, a review of the site's land use constraints (see Section 3.5, Land Use and Zoning), landowner preferences, and the locations of currently existing sensitive environmental and cultural resources.

The Project will also require two substations: a collector substation, located on Swamp (Wilson) Road approximately 0.1 miles south of its intersection with Favret Road, for low-voltage step-up to transmission voltage; and a transmission owner interconnection facility, located south of the Chaumont River and north of County Route 179, opposite the National Grid Lyme Substation in the Town of Lyme. The collector substation will consolidate power from the 1500-kW wind turbine generators, and increase the voltage level from 34.5 kV to 115 kV. The collector system substation will receive power from feeders, through the underground collector system connected to the 53 wind turbine generators. The collector substation will be connected to the transmission owner interconnection substation by an approximately 9-mile 115 kV transmission line. The main function of the interconnection substation is to mechanically connect the Project to the utility grid and to provide fault protection.

2.5.1 Wind Turbines

Turbines used for the Project will be 1.5 MW Acciona AW-82/1500 turbines manufactured by Acciona Windpower, S.A. Each turbine will consist of a 262-foot (80-meter) conical, tubular steel tower; a 269-foot (82-meter) rotor consisting of three composite blades; and a nacelle, which houses the generator, gearbox, and power train as shown in Exhibit 2.5.1. The towers are slightly tapered, with diameter of approximately 20 feet at ground level. A service platform at the top of each section allows for access to the nacelle for routine inspection. The nacelle houses the main mechanical components of the WTG, which include the drive train, a gearbox and the generator. The nacelle sits atop the tower. A large flange protrudes from the front of the nacelle to which the hub is bolted. The rotor blades are all bolted to this central hub. Exhibit 2.5.2 provides a detail of the nacelle, hub and rotor assembly. A transformer will be located near the tower base, to raise the voltage of the electricity produced by the turbine generator to the voltage level of the collection system. The steel towers used for this Project will be manufactured in

Exhibit 2.5.1- Turbine Dimensions



	DIMENSION	LENGTH
HH	Hub Height	80 m/262 ft.
RD	Rotor Diameter	82 m/269 ft.
TC	Tip Clearance	35 m/115 ft.
TH	Tip Height	121 m/397 ft.

multiple sections. Each tower will have a locked access door and an internal safety ladder to access the nacelle, and will be painted (off-white) to make the structure less visually obtrusive. Specifications for the turbines are presented in Table 2-1.

Exhibit 2.5.2 - Nacelle Main Components

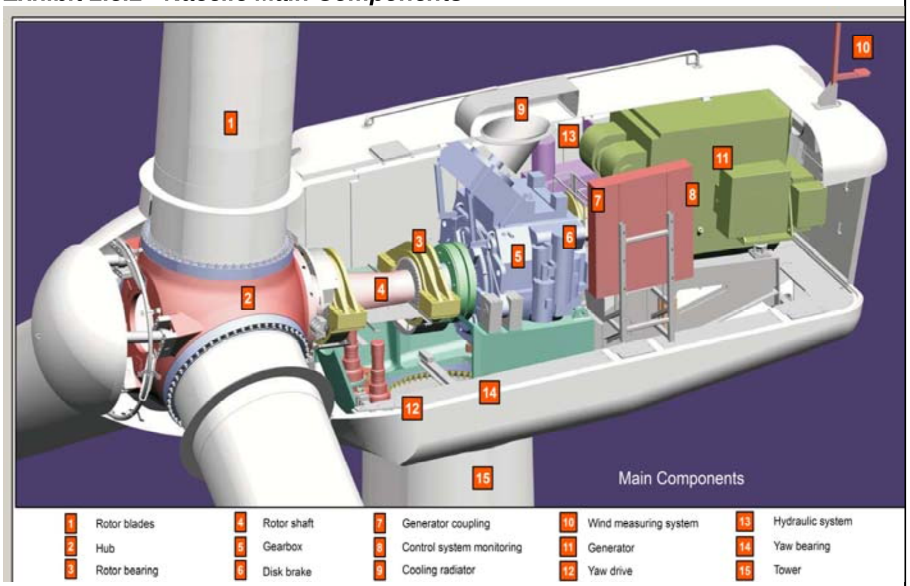


Table 2-1

Turbine Specifications

Type:	Acciona AW 82/1500 IEC IIIb T80A LM40.3P
Manufacturer:	Acciona Windpower, S.A.
Rated power:	1500 kW (1.5 MW)
Rotor manufacturer:	LM
Rotor blade type:	40.3P
Rotor diameter:	82.026 m (269.114 feet)
Rotor swept area:	5281 m^2
Number of rotor blades:	3
Rotor rated speed:	18.25 min^{-1}
Hub height above ground:	80 m (~262 ft)
Measurement distance R_0:	113 m (~371 ft)

2.5.2 Turbine Spacing

Development of the Project layout has been an iterative process. The first step in siting the wind turbines for this Project was to assess the wind resource and place conceptual turbine locations where wind would appear to be the strongest and steadiest. Appropriate buffers (see Figure 2-2) from roads, property lines, residences, and sensitive environmental resources were taken into account in developing the first conceptual layout. Once the conceptual layout was set, land rights specialists, environmental consultants, and engineers reviewed the possible turbine locations in the field. Adjustments were made to the proposed turbine locations based upon land use, environmental, and engineering considerations. Each suggested change in turbine locations based upon field conditions must then be reviewed by a meteorologist, who ensures the adjustments in turbine positioning will not unreasonably impact the efficiency of the layout. This review process has been repeated multiple times over the course of Project development as additional information has become available. Factors considered when siting the turbines include:

Wind resource assessment: In order to find the most efficient turbine sites for generating electricity, SLW uses computer models that combined wind resource data from meteorological towers in the Project Area with long-term weather data, topography, and environmental factors.

Sufficient spacing: Wind turbines create turbulence, or wake, immediately downstream of the rotor. Wake can interfere with the operation of neighboring wind turbines, creating extra wear and tear, and decreasing the efficiency of producing electricity. Using computer models, SLW ensured that turbines were spaced correctly to avoid wake losses and turbulence.

Distance from residences: In conformance with setback comments issued by the Town of Cape Vincent in July 2007, the turbine locations were selected to maintain a buffer of 750 feet from the nearest outer wall of an existing occupied participating residence to the center of the tower foundation and 1,250 feet from that of an existing occupied non-participating residence. The turbine buffer minimizes the visual and sound effects of the turbines on local residences.

Distance from roads: The turbine locations were also selected to maintain a buffer from existing road rights-of-way of 615 feet or 1.5 times the turbine tip height, whichever is greater.

Distance from adjacent property lines: The turbine locations were also selected to maintain a buffer of 1,000 feet from adjacent non-participating property lines in conformance with setback comments issued by the Town of Cape Vincent in July 2007.

Sensitive Environmental and Cultural Resources: In addition to the above the following factors were taken in to consideration during the planning process for the facility layout: implementation of siting guidelines developed by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (Ag & Markets), minimization of impacts to sensitive biological and cultural resources, consideration of unusual landforms, avoidance and minimization of impacts to wetlands and surface water bodies, and minimization of visual and noise impacts. These factors involved evaluation of setback distances from such resources as the St. Lawrence River and Lake

Ontario, the Seaway Trail Scenic Byway, historic properties listed or eligible for the State and National Register of Historic Places, designated Coastal Zone areas including Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats and Local Waterfront Revitalization areas, and designated Wildlife Management Areas.

2.5.3 Access Roads

As described in Section 3.4, most of the transportation infrastructure needed for the Project is already in place. However, because turbine sites must be located a distance from existing roads, it will be necessary to create access roads from the existing roadways to the turbines. Approximately 14.4 miles of permanent access roads will be constructed. An additional 1.5 miles of temporary access roads will also be constructed to allow for construction equipment turnaround. Turbine sites have been selected to optimize efficiency and avoid environmental impacts. Similarly, the locations of access roads have been selected to minimize impacts to agricultural land uses and environmental resources, and to account for engineering and constructability concerns.

SLW is currently developing the Project construction plan, which would include transportation considerations. Existing roads and intersections will need to be improved to accommodate construction traffic, as described in Section 3.4. The proposed access road system is shown on Figure 2-1. SLW would be responsible for the maintenance of new private roads.

2.5.4 Underground Interconnect Line

Electricity from the wind turbines will be generated at a specific voltage and transported through underground cables that will connect groups of turbines together electrically. Approximately 37.1 miles of underground electrical lines will be constructed to interconnect the Project to the collector system substation. Approximately 9.8 miles (26 percent) of these lines would be co-located adjacent to permanent access roads. These gathering lines will feed to the collector substation within the Project Site. At the collector substation, the electrical power from the entire wind energy project will run through a transformer and be converted to a higher voltage (increased from 34.5 kV to 115 kV) to allow for transmission to the proposed transmission owner interconnection substation in Lyme and the existing system transmission grid.

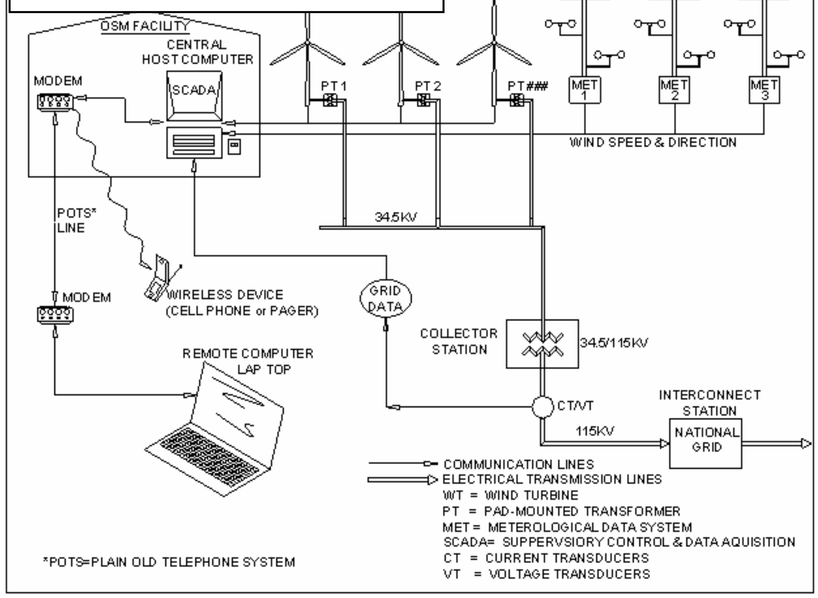
2.5.5 Overhead Interconnect Line

Interconnection to the transmission grid will be accomplished through an approximately 9-mile overhead line. The line will consist of a single circuit 115 kV line to accommodate the Project. SLW proposes to locate the overhead line primarily following an abandoned railroad bed and existing water line (see Figure 2-1). The transmission line will be supported by mostly wooden poles approximately 80 feet tall. The location of the poles will be determined through detailed engineering and design. Pole locations will be designed to avoid impacts to the operation of the water line. The overhead interconnection line will connect to an existing substation in the Town of Lyme, owned and operated by National Grid. The Chaumont River will be crossed by an overhead wire (conductor) crossing.

2.5.6 Substation and Interconnection Facilities

The collector substation located on Swamp Road will step up the voltage of the electricity so that it can be reliably transmitted through the 9-mile overhead line to the transmission owner interconnection substation located on County Route 179 and interconnected with the 115 kV transmission line at the existing National Grid substation in Lyme. At the transmission owner interconnection substation, electricity delivered will be metered and a protection system put into place to ensure reliability and integrity of the infrastructure. SLW anticipates that structural elements at both substations will be installed on concrete foundations. In addition, SLW anticipates that both substations will consist of a graveled footprint area, a chain link perimeter fence, and an outdoor lighting system. The design of the transmission owner interconnection facilities to the 115 kV line will be finalized based on a facility study conducted by the transmission line owner and the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) in accordance with the NYISO's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission-approved Open Access Transmission Tariff. The Proposed Revised Project Layout in Figure 2-1 shows the general routing paths of the underground and overhead electrical lines as well as the proposed substation locations. Exhibit 2.5.3 illustrates the overall electrical collection system schematically.

Exhibit 2.5.3 Electrical and Central Control System



2.5.7 Meteorological Towers

A maximum of five meteorological towers will be installed during the construction and operations phases of the Project to monitor wind resources. Towers will be permitted according to local and state requirements. Three 80-meter lattice towers will remain for the life of the Project to collect data on wind speed and direction, and ambient temperature. They will be supported by three to four guy wires and rest on concrete footings. In addition, two temporary 80-meter guyed lattice towers will be installed during construction to calibrate the site for power performance testing. Two meteorological towers are currently in place: a 60-meter tubular guided tower and an 80-meter guyed lattice tower. The 60-meter tower will be decommissioned prior to construction.

2.6 Construction

The following section describes the various activities that will occur as part of Project construction. Project construction will be performed in several stages and will include the following main elements and activities:

- Clearing and grading of the temporary field construction office, substation, access roads, crane pads, turnaround areas and turbine locations;
- Construction of access roads;
- Construction of turbine tower foundations and, if necessary, transformer pads;
- Installation of the underground interconnect lines;
- Construction of the approximately 9 miles of overhead transmission line;
- Assembly and erection of the wind turbines;
- Construction and installation of the substation;
- Plant commissioning and energizing;
- Final grading and drainage; and
- Site restoration.

Project construction will likely occur over one construction season (April through mid-December 2010) and will require the involvement of approximately 200 construction-related personnel depending on the stage of construction. However, tree clearing and site preparation work, and hazard tree clearing for the transmission line may occur from November 2009-April 2010.

2.6.1 Geotechnical Investigation

Prior to construction, a detailed final geotechnical investigation will be performed to identify subsurface conditions necessary for final design and engineering of the Project. The geotechnical investigation will include drilling test borings at designated locations to evaluate subsurface geology and groundwater conditions, and performing field tests and geotechnical laboratory tests on recovered samples to evaluate the physical and engineering properties of the strata encountered. SLW will also perform engineering analyses to develop design and construction specifications for foundations, site subgrade, and fill preparation. Soil borings, or test pits as necessary, are required at each wind turbine location, the substation, and at certain intervals along access roads. Borings will be performed in accordance with local requirements, such as filling boreholes with grout after testing is complete.

2.6.2 Design and Construction Specifications

The design and construction specifications are based on proven and established sets of construction standards set forth by standard industry practice and are used to generate the impact assumptions provided in Table 2-2. However, during detailed engineering design additional needs and constraints may be identified, requiring that site specific plans be developed. Under those circumstances, qualified engineers would tailor the design and construction specifications for site-specific conditions and the area of impact required may deviate from the assumptions in Table 2-2. For the remainder of this SDEIS, the Project Site is defined as the total area, temporarily and permanently disturbed for the construction and operation of the Project facilities.

2.6.3 Access Road Installation

The Project will include approximately 14.4 miles of gravel access road construction. To the greatest extent possible, SLW will use and upgrade existing roads and farm drives for use as Project access roads in order to minimize agricultural and environmental impacts. New gravel access roads will also be constructed. Road construction will typically involve clearing and grubbing of the right-of-way and topsoil stripping in active agricultural areas, as necessary. Stripped topsoil will be stockpiled along the road corridor for use in site restoration. Agricultural protection measures will be followed so that topsoil is not mixed with subsoils or gravel. The topsoil, when replaced, will retain its unique characteristics. These agricultural protection measures were developed during the construction of past wind energy projects in New York and are suggested for use by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

For evaluation purposes, it is assumed that access road construction will disturb, at most, a temporary 39-foot wide area. In certain locations, vegetation clearing activities might extend slightly beyond the footprint of anticipated ground disturbance. Cleared vegetation will be chipped and properly spread on-site or hauled to an off-site location for disposal or reuse. Topsoil will then be stripped and segregated. Subsoil will then be graded, compacted, and surfaced with gravel or crushed stone in accordance with the requirements of the wind turbine supplier and recommendations from the geotechnical engineer. Any excess topsoil will be stockpiled on the landowner's property in an agreed upon location for landowner use, or be hauled to an off-site location for disposal or reuse. Geotextile fabric or grid may be installed

Table 2-2
Construction and Operations Impact Assumptions

Project Components	Area of Total Disturbance (temporary and permanent)	Area of Permanent Disturbance
Wind Turbines and Workspaces (radius)	150 ft per turbine	10 ft per turbine
Crane Pads (length x width)	Included in 150 ft workspace for each turbine	100 ft x 50 ft
Crane Paths (width)	35 ft (in non-public road or access road areas only)	None
Access Roads (width)	39 ft	17 ft
Access Roads Temporary "T" Turnaround Areas	16 ft x 200 ft	-
Buried Electrical Interconnects	2 ft wide trench per cable plus 10 ft separation between additional circuits	None
Buried Electrical Interconnect Work Area	Single Cable: 100 ft Multiple Cables: 150 ft	- -
Overhead Electrical Interconnect (width)	100 ft	17 ft[1]
Meteorological Towers	1 acre per tower	0.10 acre per tower
Collection Substation/ Operations and Maintenance Building	11.5 acres	11.5 acres
Transmission Owner Substation	0.6 acres	0.6 acres
Staging Areas	12.25 acres	None
Concrete Batch Plant	10 acres	None

[1] This represents the permanent right-of-way width to be periodically maintained where required. No permanent access road will be created.

beneath the road surface to provide additional support, if engineering studies indicate it is necessary. Permanent access roads will generally be 17 feet wide, including side slopes. Cross-sections at turning radii and pull-offs to accommodate passing vehicles will be slightly wider, as necessary for safety. Where needed to facilitate cross drainage, culverts will be placed in wetland/stream crossings in accordance with state and federal permits. Appropriate sediment and erosion control measures will be installed prior to construction of the Project and maintained throughout the construction phase with specific measures addressing access road construction near sensitive environmental resources. These measures will be described in the Project SWPPP in the FEIS.

2.6.4 Foundation Construction

Turbine foundation construction would begin only after access roads to turbine locations are constructed. Foundation construction includes drilling, hole excavation, outer form setting, rebar and bolt cage assembly, casting and finishing of the concrete, removal of the forms, backfilling and compacting, if required, and foundation site area restoration.

A construction work area consisting of a temporary 150-foot radius around each turbine foundation is necessary for wind turbine assembly and erection. This will typically involve clearing and stripping/stockpiling topsoil. Backhoes will then excavate a foundation hole. In agricultural areas excavated subsoil and rock will be segregated from stockpiled topsoil. If bedrock is encountered it is anticipated it will be excavated with a backhoe. If this is not possible, drilling, pneumatic jacking, hydraulic fracturing or blasting, as a last resort, would excavate the bedrock. The Project geotechnical/civil engineer will specify the foundation type. Typical wind turbine foundations are approximately 7 to 10 feet deep and approximately 50 to 60 feet across, such as the one shown in Exhibit 2.6.1. Foundations typically require approximately 320 cubic yards (cy) of concrete. After the concrete is cured, it is backfilled with the excavated on-site material. Permanent loss of usable land will be restricted to the tower diameter, which for the Project is 20 feet. To provide adequate foundation for the erection cranes, a gravel crane pad (approximately 100 feet by 50 feet) will be constructed at the base of each tower. Excess subsoil or other excavated material generated from foundation work will be used to backfill or fine grade roads and wind turbine erection areas. Any excess topsoil, subsoil or gravel will be stockpiled on the landowner's property in an agreed upon location for landowner use, or be hauled to an off-site location for disposal or reuse.

Exhibit 2.6.1 – Typical Turbine Foundation

Large quantities of concrete necessary for foundations and constraints imposed by the need for continuous pour will require either a nearby source of concrete or an on-site cement batch plant. The Applicant's first preference is to contract with a local supplier to provide the concrete for turbine foundations. In the event that a local source is not available, a temporary concrete batch plant will be installed on an approximately 10 acre parcel located in the northeast portion of the Project. The plant would occupy only a portion of the parcel and would be surrounded by an earthen berm to contain water runoff. It would operate during Project construction hours (10 hours per day during daylight hours, 5 to 6 days per week) for approximately 8 months. The on-site batch plant would be provided by a local supplier and would require a stand-alone generator that would draw fuel from a self-contained, fail-safe storage tank. The batch plant would be supplied by water dawn from an adjacent onsite water storage tank that would be refilled as required.

The batch plant would use stockpiled sand and aggregate stored outdoors. These stockpiles would be placed to minimize exposure to wind and the possibility of airborne dust. Cement would be discharged from a screw conveyor directly into an elevated storage silo. Trucks would be loaded from the silo. Temporary concrete washout facilities will be constructed for rinsing out concrete trucks. Concrete waste solids and liquids will be collected and disposed of properly in accordance with the Project SWPPP and any state permit conditions. This location will be more than 50 feet away from any storm drain, open ditch, surface water or wetland. Construction managers would exercise good housekeeping practices and conduct regular cleanings of the plant, storage and stockpile areas to minimize buildup of fine materials. Upon completion of turbine construction the batch plant will be removed and the area restored.

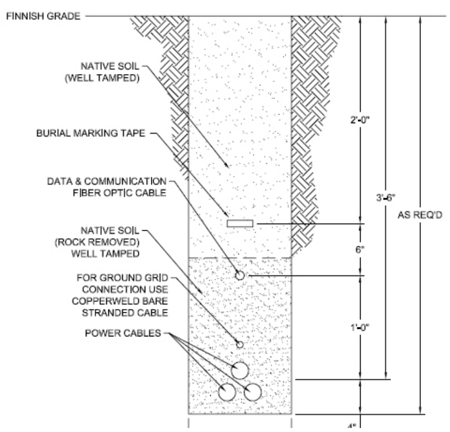
2.6.5 Underground Interconnect Line Installation

A work area width of approximately 100 feet, centered on the interconnection route, will be cleared prior to installation of the underground lines. The project is designed to minimize the cutting of trees and other vegetation. This 100-foot wide corridor will be accessed by cable installation machinery, which is not anticipated to involve excavation of soil. Electrical interconnects will follow Project access roads whenever practicable (approximately 9.8 miles of the approximate 37.17 miles of interconnect will be co-located adjacent to access roads). In areas where co-location adjacent to access roads is not practical, interconnect design will follow field edges as much as possible and avoid cutting directly across fields. Where the interconnect must cross active agricultural fields, the location of any subsurface drainage (tile) lines will be determined (through consultation with the landowner[s]) to ensure that these sites are not damaged during cable installation, or, if damage is unavoidable, that the tiles are subsequently restored. Cable plow methods using a PLC trencher will be used during the installation of underground interconnect lines. Interconnect installation will disturb an area approximately 24 inches wide in which bundled cable will be placed at a minimum depth of 48 inches where soil conditions allow (or 6 inches beyond the depth of bedrock). Generally, no restoration of the interconnection line is required, as the opening closes in on itself following installation (see Exhibit 2.6.2). Similarly, surface disturbance associated with the passage of machinery in the 100-foot wide work corridor will be minimal, and should not require restoration. However, should disturbance require surface restoration, it will be carried out shortly after installation, and will be accomplished by a small bulldozer, or equivalent. Any tiles that are cut or damaged during construction of the interconnect will be repaired during restoration.

Exhibit 2.6.2 – PLC Trencher

Installation of interconnect cable via an open trench will be avoided, if possible. Areas where open trench installation may be required include unstable slopes, excessive unconsolidated rock, and standing or flowing water. Open trench installation would be performed with a backhoe and would result in a disturbed trench approximately 36 inches wide and a minimum of 48 inches deep. Excavated material would be sidecast immediately adjacent to the trench. In active agricultural areas, agricultural protection measures in accordance with the guidelines of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets will be followed (Appendix A); and the cable will be placed at a minimum depth of 48 inches or 6 inches beyond the depth of bedrock (Exhibit 2.6.3). Replacement of excavated material will occur immediately after installation of the underground interconnect. Any damaged tiles will be repaired, and all areas adjacent to the open trench would be restored to original grades and surface condition.

Exhibit 2.6.3 – Typical Underground Interconnect Installation



Although not currently anticipated, portions of the interconnect could be installed aboveground. Aboveground installation would be indicated when burial would not be economically feasible or could result in significant environmental impacts. If that occurs, the interconnect would be installed aboveground on treated wood utility poles.

2.6.6 Wind Turbine Assembly and Erection

Wind turbines consist of three main components: the tower, the nacelle, and the rotor blades. Turbine components will be delivered to the Project Site on uncovered transport trucks. Turbine erection is typically performed in six stages: (1) setting of the electrical components in the foundation, (2) erection of the tower, (3) erection of the nacelle, (4) assembly and erection of the rotor, (5) connection and termination of the internal cables, and (6) inspection and testing of the electrical system.

Turbine assembly and erection is performed with large track mounted cranes, smaller rough terrain cranes, boom trucks and rough terrain fork-lifts for loading and off-loading materials. The erection crane(s) will move from one tower to another along a designated crane path. This path will generally follow existing public roads and Project access roads, but in a few places may traverse open fields. If this approach is not feasible, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled in accordance with agricultural protection measures and 39-foot-wide temporary roads will be installed in these areas. In addition, the use of construction mats will be considered during constructability review of the Project. The crane may also be partially disassembled and carried by a flatbed tractor-trailer, but this is inefficient and expensive.

After a turbine is erected, site restoration activities will begin. Restoration of crane paths will include removal of temporary fill and gravel materials. In agricultural fields, restoration will also include subsoil de-compaction (as necessary) and rock removal, spreading of stockpiled topsoil, and re-establishing pre-construction contours. Exposed soils at restored tower sites and along roads and crane paths will be stabilized by seeding with native species and/or mulching.

2.6.7 Substations

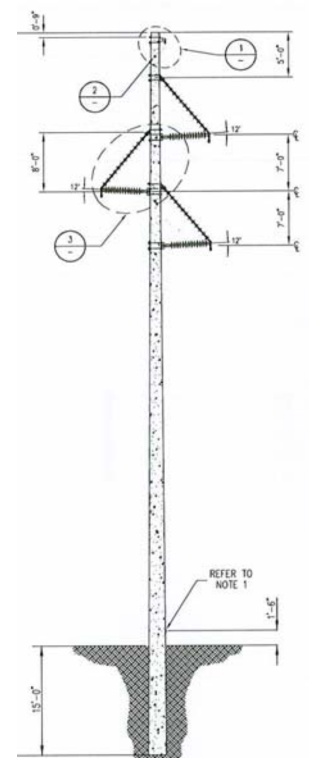
Construction of two substations will be required for the Project, a collection substation for low-voltage step-up to transmission voltage located in the southwest portion of the Project and transmission owner interconnection facilities at the National Grid Substation located in the Town of Lyme. The collection substation will be located on an approximately 11.5-acre parcel in the Town of Cape Vincent, and co-located with the facility’s Operations & Maintenance building. This substation will be accessed by Swamp (Wilson) Road. The substation construction area will be cleared, grubbed, and graded. Concrete foundations and gravel surfacing will be placed prior to the installation of the electrical infrastructure. The substation will include a gravel parking area and be enclosed by a chain link fence. The main elements of the collection substation include a control house, a power transformer, outdoor medium-voltage and high-voltage breakers, relaying and protection equipment, high-voltage bus work, steel support structures, overhead lightning suppression conductors, and a sub-surface grounding grid.

The transmission owner interconnection substation will be located across the street from the existing Lyme substation on Route 179, in the town of Lyme. The main elements of the transmission owner interconnection substation include a control house, utility-quality metering, outdoor high-voltage breakers, relaying equipment, 115 kV bus work, dead-end steel support structures, overhead lightning suppression conductors, and a sub-surface grounding grid.

2.6.8 Overhead Transmission Line

The temporary construction right-of-way for the overhead transmission line may be up to 100 feet, as necessary for construction equipment. The construction right-of-way will be cleared and grubbed. The construction right-of-way will serve as access for construction vehicles. Additional access to the work area will include use of existing farm roads and drives. To the extent new access roads are necessary, the siting criteria described in Section 2.6.3 will be employed. Construction vehicles and equipment will then set the treated wood utility poles and associated transmission infrastructure. Later, stringing crews will install electrical cable on the utility poles (see Exhibit 2.6.4). The system will be tested prior to energizing the wind generating facility. Restoration of the construction right-of-way will be done as required through use of agricultural protection measures. The final overhead transmission line right-of-way will be identified post-construction on as-built drawings which will be filed with the Towns of Cape Vincent and Lyme.

Exhibit 2.6.4 – Typical Overhead Line Pole



The proposed overhead transmission line will deviate from the old railroad bed approximately 0.1 miles northwest of Old Town Springs Road in the Town of Lyme. At this point it will turn 90 degrees and head in a generally northeast direction for approximately 0.6 miles, at which point it will turn 90 degrees and head in a generally southeast direction crossing the Chaumont River and connecting to the existing National Grid Substation in the Town of Lyme. The Chaumont River will be crossed by an overhead wire (conductor). Existing shrubs and trees will be cleared and chipped, or hauled from the right-of-way corridor. Single trees or small clusters of trees within the proposed right-of-way will be avoided and will not require removal. Tree clearing adjacent to the transmission line will be limited to “danger trees” associated with the electric transmission line conductors. “Danger trees” adjacent to the transmission line that pose a threat to the reliability of the overhead line include trees that could fall or strike the conductors and take the transmission line out of service. These trees will be selectively cut by hand (i.e., non-mechanized clearing) to avoid heavy equipment access and adverse impacts to adjacent wetlands.

2.6.9 Operations and Maintenance Facility

The proposed Operations and Maintenance Facility will be located on an approximately 11.5-acre parcel in the Town of Cape Vincent. The facility will be accessed from Swamp Road. The facility construction area will be cleared, grubbed, and graded. Concrete foundations and gravel surfacing will be completed prior to the installation of the infrastructure. The facility will include a gravel parking area.

2.6.10 Environmental Construction Compliance

An environmental construction compliance program will be prepared by SLW and implemented prior to and during construction. At a minimum, this program will consist of the following components:

- Planning – Compilation of all environmental requirements into a construction environmental management implementation document.
- Training – All contractors and subcontractors will attend an environmental training program prior to the start of construction. Throughout construction, new crews will also receive Environmental Training. Retraining in specific areas will occur periodically, as needed, during construction.
- Preconstruction Coordination – The Environmental Inspector, Contractor and any Subcontractors will conduct a site walkover of areas to be affected by construction activities identifying landowner restrictions, sensitive resources (biological, geological, and cultural), limits of clearing, proposed stream crossings, location of drainage features, and layout of sediment and erosion control features. A pre-construction checklist will be completed during the walkover. Wetland and any other sensitive resource features will be flagged in the field prior to construction. The limits of work areas, especially in agricultural areas, will also be defined.
- Inspection During Construction Operations – The Environmental Inspector will visit each construction work site at least once per day and will be present during construction at environmentally sensitive areas.
- Reporting and Agency Audits/Inspections – As required, weekly, monthly, or quarterly reports will be prepared for the federal, state, and local agencies that monitor compliance.
- Restoration – An environmental "punch list" will be created based upon the restoration requirements in the permits to ensure that restoration activities occur as required.

2.7 Operations and Maintenance Plan

The Project will be operated and maintained by SLW. Once operational, the Project will be almost completely automated. SLW will employ a staff of four to six full-time administrative/operations and maintenance personnel.

Electrical power generated by the wind turbines will be collected through a network of underground cables. Overhead cables would be used as a last resort, if necessary due to environmental or geological concerns. Turbines will be grouped along individual electrical circuits that terminate at the Project's collection substation, where the voltage level will be increased from 34.5 kV to 115 kV. The wind turbines will be equipped with sophisticated computer control systems which constantly monitor variables such as wind speed and direction, air and machine temperatures, electrical voltages, currents, vibrations, blade pitch and yaw angles, etc. The main functions of the control system include nacelle and power operations. Nacelle functions monitored include yawing (or rotating) the nacelle into the wind, pitching the blades, and braking. Power operations controlled at the bus cabinet inside the base of each tower include operations of the main breakers to engage the generator with the grid as well as control of ancillary breakers and systems. The control system continually monitors the turbines to assure their efficient and safe operation.

In the event of turbine or plant facility outages, the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system would send alarm messages to the on-call technician via pager or cell phone to notify him of the outage (see Exhibit 2.5.3 for a schematic of the electrical and control system). The Project will always have an on-call local technician who can respond quickly in the event of emergency notification or critical outage.

Wind turbines will receive scheduled preventative maintenance inspections. In certain circumstances, heavy maintenance equipment such as a lifting crane might be required to effectively repair an exposed turbine problems (such as, in rare instances, nacelle component replacement).

2.8 Decommissioning

The projected life of the project is 20 years. After the end of the Project's life, the wind turbines may be replaced or repaired for continued operation. Except for the underground collection system, which is provided for under a perpetual easement, SLW's lease agreements with the landowners provide that all wind Project facilities will be removed to a depth of four feet below grade following the end of the Project's useful life. The following sections provide descriptions of the decommissioning and restoration processes.

2.8.1 Decommissioning Process Description

All decommissioning and restoration activities will adhere to the requirements of appropriate governing authorities, and will be in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local permits. The decommissioning process will be carried out and completed within 12 months after the end of the useful life of the Project. The Project will be presumed to be at the end of its useful life if no electricity is generated for a continuous period of 12 months.

The decommissioning and restoration process comprises removal of above-ground structures, removal of below-ground structures to a depth of 48 inches or greater, removal of access roads if required by the landowner, restoration of topsoil, re-vegetation and seeding, and a two year monitoring and remediation period.

Above-ground structures include the turbines, transformers, overhead collection lines, wind farm owned portions of the substation, maintenance buildings, and access gates. Below-ground structures include turbine foundations, collection system conduits, drainage structures, and access road sub-base material.

The process of removing structures involves evaluating and categorizing all components and materials into categories of recondition and reuse, salvage, recycling, and disposal. In the interest of increased efficiency and minimal transportation impacts, components and material may be stored on site in a pre-approved location until the bulk of similar components or materials are ready for transport. The components and material will be transported to the appropriate facilities for reconditioning, salvage, recycling, or disposal. The sequence for removal of the system components would be: turbines, turbine foundations, underground collection cables, substation, and access roadways and construction pads. The remainder of the decommissioning would involve earthwork and topsoil restoration.

2.8.1.1 Turbine Removal

The modular nature of wind turbine towers, blades, and generators allows for relative ease in the removal, reconditioning, and reinstallation. Access roads to turbines will be widened to sufficient width to accommodate movement of appropriate sized cranes or other machinery required for the disassembly and removal of the turbines. Control cabinets, electronic components, and internal cables will be removed. The blades, hub and nacelle will be lowered to grade for disassembly. The tower sections will be lowered to the ground where they will be further disassembled into transportable sections. The blades, hub, nacelle, and tower sections will either be transported whole for reconditioning and reuse or dissembled into salvageable, recyclable, or disposable components.

2.8.1.2 Turbine Foundation Removal

The decommissioning of the turbine foundations will consist of sufficiently excavating completely around the foundations to provide access to, and a working platform around, the foundation pad. Topsoil will be removed from an area surrounding the foundation and stored for later replacement. Turbine foundations will be excavated to a depth sufficient to remove all anchor bolts, rebar, conduits, cable, and concrete to a depth of 48 inches below grade. Each foundation pad will be removed to a depth of 48 inches and properly disposed of. The remaining excavation will be filled with clean sub-grade material of quality comparable to the immediate surrounding area. The sub-grade material will be compacted to a density similar to surrounding sub-grade material. All unexcavated areas compacted by equipment used in decommissioning will be de-compacted in a manner to restore the topsoil and sub-grade material to the proper density consistent and compatible with the surrounding area. The turbine site will ultimately be revegetated with a seed mix chosen by the landowner.

2.8.1.3 Underground Collection Cables

The cables and conduits contain no materials known to be harmful to the environment and will be cut back to a depth greater than 48 inches. All cable and conduit buried greater than 48 inches will be left in place and abandoned.

2.8.1.4 Overhead Collection Lines

The conductors will be removed and stored in a pre-approved location. The supporting poles will be removed and the holes filled in with compatible sub-grade material. In areas where environmental damage from complete removal may outweigh the benefits, the poles will be sawed flush with the surrounding grade (determined by appropriate governing authority). The poles will be stored in a pre-approved location. Stored conductors and poles will be later removed and transported to appropriate facilities for salvage or disposal.

2.8.1.5 Substations

Disassembly of the substations will include only the areas owned by the Applicant (any System Upgrades made by the Applicant and conveyed to the New York Power Authority or any improvements made to the local National Grid distribution system will remain in place). Steel, conductors, switches, transformers, etc. will be reconditioned and reused, sold as scrap, recycled, or disposed of appropriately depending upon market value. Foundations and underground components will be removed to a depth of 48 inches and the excavation filled, contoured, and re-vegetated.

2.8.1.6 Access Roads and Construction Pads

Depending on permit requirements and terms of the land lease agreements, the Applicant will coordinate with each landowner to determine whether access roads or construction pads will remain in place. The Applicant will also seek recommendations from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. The applicant will work with the landowner and the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to resolve any differences between the agency's recommendations and a landowner's preferences with respect to leaving a specific Project component in place.

After decommissioning activities at a turbine site are completed, access road and construction pad removal will commence. The decommissioning process for access roadways will involve excavation and transportation of the gravel materials to a nearby quarry or aggregate preparation site for reprocessing. The geotextile fabric will be removed and properly disposed. Gravel will be removed from access roads and construction pads and transported to a pre-approved disposal location. Drainage structures integrated with the access road or construction pad will be removed and backfilled with sub-grade material, the topsoil replaced, and the surface contoured and re-vegetated.

Access gates will remain operational until completion of decommissioning, at which time they will be removed unless requested by the landowner that they remain. Ditch crossings connecting access roads to public roads will be removed unless requested that they remain by the landowner.

Improvements to Town and County roads that were not removed after construction at the request of the Town or County will likely remain in place.

2.8.2 Site Restoration Process Description

Topsoil will be removed and stockpiled prior to removal of structures from work areas. Prior to topsoil replacement, rocks 4 inches or greater will be removed from the surface of the subsoil. The topsoil will be de-compacted to match the density and consistency of the immediate surrounding area. The topsoil will be replaced to original depth and original surface contours reestablished where possible. Rocks 4 inches or larger will be removed from the surface of the topsoil. Any topsoil deficiency and trench settling will be mitigated by importing topsoil consistent with the quality of soil at the affected site.

In accordance with guidelines provided by New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, topsoil de-compaction and replacement will be avoided after October 1, unless approved by the landowner in consultation with Ag. and Markets because areas restored after October 1st may not obtain sufficient growth to prevent erosion over the winter months. If areas are restored after October 1st, provision will be made to restore eroded areas in the springtime to establish proper growth.

Following decommissioning activities, the sub-grade material and topsoil from affected agricultural areas will be de-compacted and restored to a density and depth consistent with the surrounding fields or to a depth of 18 inches. The affected areas will be inspected, thoroughly cleaned, and debris removed.

Disturbed soil surfaces within agricultural fields will be seeded with a seed mix agreed upon with the landowner in order to maintain consistency with the surrounding agricultural uses. Other disturbed areas will be restored to a condition and forage density reasonably similar to original condition. Restoration will include, as reasonably required, leveling, terracing, mulching, and other necessary steps to prevent soil erosion, to ensure establishment of suitable grasses and forbs, and to control noxious weeds and pests.

In accordance with the guidelines of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, a monitoring and remediation period of two years immediately following the completion of any decommissioning and restoration activities will be provided. The two-year period allows for the effects of climatic cycles such as frost action, precipitation and growing seasons to occur from which various monitoring determinations can be made. Remaining agricultural impacts can be identified during this period and follow-up restoration efforts will be implemented.

In addition, agricultural protection measures will be implemented in accordance with New York State Agriculture and Market guidelines as included as Appendix A. These mitigation measures will include:

- Avoiding disturbance of surface and subsurface drainage features (e.g., diversions, ditches, tile lines).
- Prohibiting vehicular access to turbine sites until topsoil has been stripped and permanent access roads have been constructed.
- Stockpiling topsoil from work areas separate from all other excavated material (e.g., gravel, subsoil).
- Removing excess subsoil and gravel and transporting them off-site for disposal or reuse.
- Temporarily fencing work areas in active pastureland to protect livestock.

- Removing and disposing of all construction debris offsite at the completion of restoration.
- Restricting heavy equipment to designated access roads, crane paths, and work pads at the structure sites for all breakdown activities.
- Restoring agricultural land based on a seasonal schedule.
- Decompacting all disturbed agricultural areas to a depth of 18 inches after construction.
- Grading decommissioned access roads to allow for farm equipment crossing and to restore original surface drainage patterns.
- Stabilizing restored agricultural areas with seed and/or mulch.
- Repairing all surface or subsurface drainage structures damaged during construction.
- Providing a monitoring and remediation plan of no less than two years immediately following completion of the final restoration.

2.8.3 Cost of Decommissioning

The following discussion describes the estimated cost of decommissioning in current dollars and does not represent an absolute value of decommissioning costs at the end of the project life. Based on recent estimates for similar projects, a reasonable presumption of salvage or resale value of the above ground wind turbine components is between 5 to 10 percent of the new turbine value. The most conservative figure of 5 percent salvage or resale value ($1,650,000/turbine x 0.05 or $82,500/turbine) for the wind turbine components will essentially pay for the removal of all components, including; turbine, foundations, electrical equipment, access roads, and crane pads. As a worst-case scenario, the above ground turbine components may be independently sold and removed with the surface and subsurface components remaining to be decommissioned.

Decommissioning turbine foundations was estimated at approximately $2,000 per unit for mobilization and excavation, and $15,000 per unit for transportation. Removal of access roads and crane/construction pads were estimated based on $0.50 per square yard for removing geotextile fabric, and $8.00 per cubic yard for pit-run gravel and crushed gravel. Salvage values for the items removed during access road and crane pad decommissioning were based on an applied recovery value factor of 0 percent for geotextile fabric, 50 percent for pit-run gravel and 75 percent for crushed gravel using a base material value of $8.50 per cubic yard. Earth work and soil restoration estimates were based on unit costs of $7.50 and $10.00 per cubic yard, respectively.

Based on the above assumptions, the estimated cost of decommissioning the wind turbines will be offset by the salvage value of the towers and the turbine components. Table 2.3 provides the estimated decommissioning cost per tower, in current dollars, in comparison to the salvage value of Project turbines. The estimated cost of decommissioning and expected salvage value of wind components will be reassessed and certified by a Professional Engineer at appropriate intervals throughout operation of the project. SLW will pay for any costs of decommissioning that are not covered by the salvage value.

Table 2.3
Decommissioning Costs Summary

Component	Total [a]
Salvage Values	
Turbine Components Salvage Value	$4,372,500
Decommissioning Costs	
Turbine Removal	$0
Turbine Foundation Removal	$901,000
Access Roadway Removal	$199,866
Crane/Construction Pad Removal	$40,977
Cable Removal	$0
Earthwork & Topsoil	$114,506
Subtotal Decommissioning Cost	$1,256,349
Salvage Value Less Decommissioning Costs	$3,116,151
Total Salvage Value Per Turbine (53)	$58,795.31

[a] values are based on current costs and do not assume any inflation costs or other fluctuations.

2.9 Regulatory Approvals

Development of the Project would require permits, approvals, and consultations with local, state, and federal agencies. The permits and approvals that are expected to be required are listed in Table 2-4.

2.10 Public and Agency Involvement

Extensive agency interaction and public outreach preceded and followed the formal submittal of the DEIS in January 2007 and preparation of this SDEIS. The Applicant has had numerous informational sessions, meetings, and discussions with the Towns of Cape Vincent and Lyme regarding the Project. Several formal and informal meetings have been held with the Town

Table 2-4
Permits and Approvals for the St. Lawrence Wind Energy Project

Agency	Description of Permit or Approval Required
Towns	
Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board	Administration of SEQRA Process, and issuance of findings (as Lead Agency under SEQRA) Site Plan Approval for construction of wind energy project and transmission line to Town boundary
Town of Cape Vincent Code Enforcement Officer	Zoning Permit
Town of Cape Vincent Departments	Issuance of building permits/certificates of compliance Review and approval of highway work permits/road agreements
Town of Lyme Planning Board	Participation in SEQRA Process as an involved agency
Town of Lyme Zoning Board of Appeals	Special Use Permit (Zoning Board of Appeals) and other land use considerations for construction of transmission line to substation
Town of Lyme Departments	Issuance of building permits Review and approval of highway work permits/road agreements
Jefferson County	
Planning Department	Completion of a NYS General Municipal Law Section 239-m review and issuance of recommendations
Highway Department	County road work permits
New York State	
Department of Environmental Conservation	ECL Article 17 SPDES General Permit for construction stormwater discharges including creation of SWPPP and SPCC/Oil Contingency Plans (6NYCRR Part 750) Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (6NYCRR Part 608) Issuance of SEQRA Findings as an involved agency
Department of State Division of Coastal Resources	Coastal Zone Management Act Consistency Determination
Department of Transportation	Special Use Permit for oversize/overweight vehicles, Highway work permits.
Department of Agriculture & Markets	Participation in SEQRA Process as an interested agency Agricultural District Law Article 25AA, Section 305-a Coordination of local planning and land use decision-making with the agricultural districts program
Public Service Commission	Participation in SEQRA Process as an interested agency
NYSOPRHP (SHPO)	Cultural Resources Consultation.
Federal Agencies	
FAA	Notice of Construction and Aviation Lighting Plan.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	USACE Nationwide Section 10 Permit for aerial crossing of the Chaumont River. USACE Section 404 Nationwide Permit for placement of fill in federal jurisdictional wetlands/waters of the U.S.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Consultation regarding special status species.
OSHA	29 CFR 1910 regulations (standard conditions for safe work practices during construction).

Boards and Town Planning Boards. In addition, SLW has met with various township, county and regional agencies, and organizations throughout the project development process, including local historians and councilman, the Cape Vincent Fire Department, Thousand Island Central School Superintendent, Save The River, Thousand Islands Land Trust, the Development Authority of North County (DANC), and Region 6 NYSDEC Wildlife Offices in Brownville and Watertown.

The Applicant also opened an office in the Town of Cape Vincent in the fall of 2006 that is open 4 days a week, providing the opportunity for the general public to obtain information and ask questions about the Project. To further inform the Public, SLW has also created a website (www.stlawrencewind.com), which provides an additional opportunity for interested parties to learn about the Project and submit comments. Posted on the website are the DEIS, results of studies, a transcript of the first public hearing, and comments received during and after the first public hearing and comment period.

The Town of Cape Vincent Planning Board held its first public hearing on the DEIS on March 24, 2007. The public comment period on the DEIS extended through June 15, 2007.
The first Open House meeting with local residents was held in June 2007 and an additional public information session regarding the proposed Project was held on August 28, 2008. SLW has also had numerous meetings with participating landowners and project neighbors, and the Project has been covered by articles in local newspapers, as well as stories carried by local radio and TV stations.

A further important aspect of the Applicant's interactions with involved and interested agencies has been the meetings held with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, New York Department of Transportation, New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). These meetings were initiated by the Applicant in order to obtain feedback and additional comments on the Project's various components.