# **Bolton Manor Resilient Generation Inc.**

## Bolton Manor Rural Power Resiliency Project 1 MW Project

Ref: IESO LT1 RFP

Indigenous & Community Engagement Plan November 2023

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## 1/ Purpose

Bolton Manor Resilient Generation Inc. ("the Proponent"), and CEM Engineering. ("the Qualified Applicant") are proposing to build and operate a biogas power generation facility ("the Project"), which will be submitted in response to the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO") Long-Term 1 Request for Proposals ("LT1 RFP"). This Community Engagement Plan (Plan) will serve as a guiding framework to facilitate the delivery of the consultation and reporting requirements for the overall Project.

## 2/ PROJECT AND PROPONENT INFORMATION

Bolton Manor Rural Power Resiliency Project is a 1 MW biogas power generation facility that will be located at 155532 15th Line, Thamesford, ON, using proven technology to generate and supply electricity to the Ontario electricity grid to increase its capacity and reliability. The Project is part of the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) Long-Term 1 (LT1) procurement to expand the Ontario electricity grid capacity, and it is subject to the IESO LT1 selection process, Municipal Support Resolution, municipal site plan approval, zoning amendments and all the applicable municipal permits.

#### **Project Details:**

**Proponent Name:** Bolton Manor Resilient Generation Inc.

**Qualified Applicant:** Cogeneration and Energy Management Inc. (dba) CEM Engineering Inc.

Project Name: Bolton Manor Rural Power

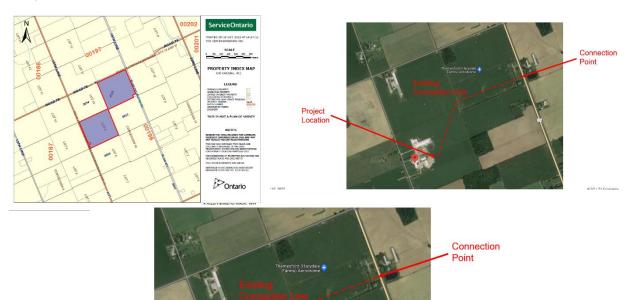
Resiliency Project

Nameplate Capacity: 1 MW

Project Location

**Technology**: Non-Energy Storage - Reciprocating Engine **Project Location**: 155532 15th Line, Thamesford, ON





## 2.1 About CEM Engineering Inc.

With over 20 years in the industry, CEM Engineering helps our clients develop and design custom-engineered clean energy systems.

With foundational experience in cogeneration and energy management projects, we are a leader in Canada's energy transition, with a focus on hydrogen, biogas/RNG and carbon reduction and carbon capture.

Family owned/operated with a multi-disciplined team of mechanical engineers, process engineers, electrical engineers, and 3D designers, CEM has a vision of a more functional world. To get there, CEM's mission every day is to leave the world a better place than we found it.

## 2.2 About the Project

The Bolton Manor Rural Power Resiliency Project is a pioneering initiative that aims to harness the power of biogas for electricity generation. The project will feature a 1 MW genset installed at a dairy farm equipped with a biogas facility. This integration of renewable energy sources in a rural setting represents a significant step towards sustainable and resilient power generation.

The engine for the project will be housed in a purpose-built metal enclosure, equipped with sound attenuation to minimize noise pollution. This enclosure will be installed on a solid foundation, either concrete or pile, ensuring the stability and durability of the installation.

The engine will utilize biogas as its fuel source, a renewable energy derived from the dairy farm's own biogas facility. This not only provides a sustainable energy solution but also effectively utilizes waste products, contributing to a circular economy.

The electricity generated from the engine will be exported to the local Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI) grid at 4.32 kV onto the F3 feeder from the Kintore Distribution Station (DS). This project exemplifies the potential of rural areas in contributing to the power grid, promoting energy independence, and supporting the transition to a greener future.

## 2.2.1 <u>Safety & Operational Considerations</u>

Bolton Manor Rural Power Resiliency project has prioritized safety and operational efficiency. The engines are expected to operate for 1,500 - 2,000 hours per year during peak electricity demand periods in Ontario. The operation of the engines will be based on the needs of the grid and will be dispatched by the IESO.

Air emissions will be controlled to meet the standards set by the Ministry of Environment through the use of Selective Catalytic Reducers (SCR). Noise emissions will also be mitigated by the use of enclosures and exhaust silencers, in accordance with the approval of the Ministry of Environment.

Furthermore, the engines are equipped with automatic fire detection and fire suppression systems, ensuring a high level of safety. These measures demonstrate the project's commitment to safe and environmentally responsible operations.

## 3/ COMMUNICATIONS

## 3.1 Stakeholder Communications

These communications will be focused on transparency and responsiveness to the needs and concerns of all stakeholders including government agencies and communities about the project and its impacts and benefits.

## 4/ COMMUNITY AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT PLAN

This plan is to establish the framework and process for meaningful engagement with all stakeholders and communities throughout the duration of the project.

Key strategies to achieve successful engagement will include:

- Identify contact list of relevant stakeholders.
- Provide advance notification to stakeholders on consultation opportunities and key milestones.
- Facilitate timely, meaningful and ongoing consultation.
- Build trust through transparent and open dialogue.
- Track and document consultation activities, comments received, and their influence on the project.

## 5/ COMMUNICATIONS PROCESS

The communication information will be routed through - Bolton Manor Rural Power Resiliency Project who are committed to hearing directly from the community and encourages the stakeholders to contact - Bolton Manor Rural Power Resiliency Project directly with any questions or feedback regarding the Project. Contact information is available on the project website to facilitate external communications.

As Project planning advances, stakeholder contacts may be refined, or additional stakeholder groups may be added as appropriate. The consultation plan provides additional detail on the stakeholder-specific consultation approach for each group.

## 6/ STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

## 6.1 Introduction

The objective is to engage with potentially affected and interested communities, government agencies, members of the public and others (all referred to as Stakeholders) to better understand their issues, concerns, interests and how to effectively address these during project development. Recommendations and comments from Stakeholders will be documented and appropriately addressed and incorporated into the project documentation, design and implementation.

The purpose of this plan is to provide a basic outline for the proposed approach to consultation for planning purposes. The details of the plan will be confirmed on an ongoing basis on the Proponent's project website as planning progresses.

## 6.2 Engagement Objectives

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan provides an outline of consultation opportunities for interested parties so that the Project is well understood by potentially affected Stakeholders, and that their feedback and concerns can be considered and incorporated into Project planning, to the extent practicable. With that in mind, the following objectives for consultation have been developed:

- Provide consultation opportunities that address the particular interests and needs of Stakeholders.
- Understand the stakeholders' priorities, expectations and concerns.
- Provide for timely, open, accurate, effective, consistent and proactive communications.
- Notify stakeholders of planned consultation activities for the Project.
- Foster and maintain positive and constructive relationships with parties that may be affected by decisions regarding the scope of the Project.
- Facilitate dialogue that is based on trust, understanding and support of the stakeholders.

## **6.3 Engagement Process**

The Proponent has issued a Notice of Public Community Meeting and will conduct minimum one Public Community Meeting for the Project. Although these are the main methods to see the feedback from the stakeholders, the stakeholders' consultation will be ongoing during the Project development process.

## 6.4 Engagement of Interested Parties

The contact list for the Project is expected to evolve throughout the Project development process, based on the level of interest expressed by individuals or additional guidance received by stakeholders during the Project and based on which locations are chosen.

Stakeholder and engagement activities completed will be incorporated as a section in the Project website. The section will include the following information:

- Which engagement methods were used, and how
- Complete list of stakeholders that were engaged.
- Summary of incoming and outgoing correspondence with stakeholders.

The following is an overview of proposed methods to engage each Stakeholder group (e.g., government agencies, municipalities, Indigenous communities, etc.) and a preliminary list of expected interested parties by group.

## 6.5 Key Stakeholders

The contact list for the Project is expected to evolve throughout the Project, based on the level of interest expressed by individuals or additional guidance received by the stakeholders and decision-makers during the Project. Key Stakeholder groups that will be consulted on the Project include:

- Township of Zorra
- Government Agencies
- Utilities
- Members of the Public and Community Organizations
- Adjacent Property Owners
- Indigenous and Municipal Communities
- Non-profit/non-governmental interest groups

Contact lists will be regularly updated to include all people or groups who have submitted comments or demonstrated an interest in the Project will be notified of Project milestones, events and opportunities for involvement via the Project websites.

Key strategies and considerations to engage these groups are described below.

## 6.5.2 Municipalities

The Township of Zorra, including the office of CAO, municipal staff and municipal council will be informed about the Project and appropriately engaged.

#### 6.5.3 Government Agencies

Provincial government agencies that may have a regulatory mandate or decision-making authority linked to the Project will be sent the required notices and can direct the Proponent on future correspondence. Following initial contact, identifying the permits and approvals needed for the Project will be provided for the agencies to confirm that regulatory requirements are met. No federal agencies are anticipated to be included on the contact list given the mandates of the federal agencies and the Project components, anticipated effects and permits/approvals expected for construction and operations.

Key contact points will include initial Project introductions to confirm interest in the Project, and ongoing consultation based on each agency's level of interest, regulatory issues raised and appropriate strategies to resolve issues.

Key government agencies that will be consulted on the Project include:

## 6.5.4 Provincial Agencies

- Infrastructure Ontario
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Ministry of Energy
- Members of Provincial Parliament
- Ontario Heritage Trust
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

#### 6.5.5 Utilities

Engagement with HONI distribution teams will be focused on identifying existing and planned infrastructure based on publicly available information.

#### 6.5.6 Members of the Public and Organizations

Public consultation is a requirement IESO LT1 RFP process and will include the issuance of notices at key milestones. In addition, information will be provided to the public focused on simplified communications related to Project plans, potential effects and mitigation measures, with a core focus on the benefits of the Project. Local sensitivities will need to be gauged on a case-by-case basis to confirm particular issues and the need for targeted meetings.

Key organizations will include:

- Local communities, landowners, businesses and the general public
- Other Community Organizations (consumer groups, resident associates and interest groups)

#### 6.5.7 Municipal Elected Officials

Consultation with elected officials will form an important part of Project planning, with a focus on early notification of upcoming activities related to municipal meetings and public communication. Prior to any key consultation activities, elected officials will be made aware of what is planned and be provided with an opportunity to discuss the material that will be presented. The Proponent will lead consultation with elected officials, including identifying key officials to be contacted, and arranging necessary communications and meetings.

## 6.5.8 <u>Indigenous and Municipal Communities</u>

Indigenous consultation is required to fulfill IESO LT1 RFP requirements, and ongoing consultation will be provided to keep communities informed of the Project and engaged in decision-making, depending on their individual levels of interest.

The Proponent will be responsible for leading Project consultation with Indigenous communities, early in the Project development process, and for certainty before commencement of any site work. The Proponent will confirm and modify the list as appropriate prior to initial engagement through:

- Contacting the Ministry of Energy as a part of the IESO LT1 RFP process.
- Including consultations in the Record of Consultation Log
- Sending the Record of Consultation Log to the Ministry of Energy for evaluation if the Duty to Consult has been completed.
- Submitting a Duty to Consult Sufficiency Letter or a letter from Ministry of Energy to IESO.

Project information, particularly on potential environmental impacts, will be provided by the Proponent to the communities to determine their levels of interest and additional information on specific areas of interest will be provided as needed. As communities are contacted, they will be asked to confirm their interest, if any, in the Project, provide input on how they perceive their Aboriginal or Treaty rights to be affected by the Project, and confirm preferred engagement methods.

Feedback and input received from communities regarding any potential impacts will be addressed during the project development process and incorporated as appropriate into Project design as appropriate.

## 7/ OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Stakeholders will be engaged in a number of ways throughout the Project, including the following general activities.

## 7.1 Public Notices

The following public notices will be prepared and issued to the Municipalities:

- Notice of Public Community Meeting
- Minutes of Community Meeting

Notices will be posted on the Project website by the Proponent and mailed to the Project contact list. All notices will be made available in English.

## 7.2 Public Meetings

The Proponent will hold minimum one (1) public community meeting for the Project at a venue in a close proximity to the Project location to gather input into Project planning. The need for public community meetings may be revisited as the Project progresses, based on issues, trends, consultation needs and input from the Proponent. Additional public meetings may be held virtually.

Presentation and meeting materials will be developed by the Proponent.

The Proponent will provide the public meeting information on the Project Website.

• The Proponent will keep written documentation of all consultation activities in the Record of Consultation log and provide a Public Meeting Highlight email the day following a public meeting, as well as a Public Meeting Summary Report for the public meeting within three (3) weeks from the public meeting. The summary report will detail the topics and information presented, attendees, issues raised, and responses provided.

## 8/ **MEETINGS**

The Proponent will hold, and remain open to having, ongoing discussions with Stakeholders throughout the Project development process with the intent to solicit feedback on the Project and resolve any outstanding concerns. Initial engagement will include offers for introductory meetings with key regulators and Indigenous communities, to introduce the Project and answer questions regarding the Project.

## 8.1 Document Distribution

Document distribution will be conducted through the various means of engagement:

- Minutes of the Public Meetings will be available on the Project website.
- Upon request, hard copies of the environmental assessment report will be distributed to interested Indigenous communities and government agencies. Electronic copies will be made publicly available for download or distribution.

## 9/ PROJECT WEBSITES

The proponent will maintain a dedicated website with information on the project including relevant documents and contact information. This website can be accessed at <a href="https://cemenergy.ca/cem-energy-bolton-manor-farms/">https://cemenergy.ca/cem-energy-bolton-manor-farms/</a>.