

CHRONICLE 4 - FEBRUARY 2016 MESGI'G UGJU'S'N WIND FARM

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Gwe, hello!

Construction of the Mesgi'g Ugju's'n (MU) wind farm is on hold for the winter and will resume next spring. The wind farm, with a capacity close to 150 MW, is a project of the Mi'gmaq communities of Gespeg, Gesgapegiag and Listuguj and their partner, Innergex Renewable Energy Inc.

PROGRESS AT THE WORK SITE

The MU wind farm took shape in 2015 thanks to numerous activities at the work site. With 85 kilometres of access roads now ready, the farm's wind turbines can be delivered. As regards the collector system connecting the wind turbines to the substation, trenches were excavated and cables laid, then covered with backfill, over a distance of 36 km, or 46% of the system's anticipated total length of 78 km.

The 47 concrete foundations for the wind turbines were poured last fall. Work on the substation will continue in spring 2016. In total, 389 people worked at the Mesgi'g Ugju's'n wind farm site in 2015. Among these, 87 workers were from Mi'gmaq communities.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES					
	MI'GMAQ	AVIGNON RCM	GASPÉSIE	OTHER	TOTAL
General contractor (Borea)	48	49	19	15	131
Subcontractors	29	65	86	56	236
Mesgi'g Ugju's'n (MU)	10	1	5	6	22
TOTAL	87	115	110	77	389



WORK IN PROGRESS AND AHEAD

This winter, Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie will continue to erect close to 24 km of transmission line between the wind farm substation and the Matapédia-Cascapédia line near the municipality of Pointe-à-la-Croix. This new line will connect the MU wind farm to the Crown corporation's transmission network.

Construction of the wind farm will resume in a few weeks, around mid-March, once the access roads have been cleared of snow. Delivery of the blades, towers and nacelles will begin as soon as the ground thaws. Turbine components will be delivered to the construction site via Chemin Cédrico (from the municipality of Sainte-Florence), then over Chemin Lacroix.

As there are no homes along this route, component delivery will have a minimal impact on the residents of Chemin d'Escuminac.

The roads, collector system and substation will all be completed in 2016. The first wind turbines should be erected around mid-June, with their installation continuing over the summer and into early fall. An operations building will also be built near the substation so that technicians can operate and maintain the turbines after construction of the wind farm has wrapped up. Commissioning of the Mesgi'g Ugju's'n wind farm is slated for December 1, 2016, at the latest.





COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Last November, the wind farm's developers met with homeowners living along Chemin d'Escuminac Nord-Est. During the meeting, they were presented with an action plan for improving road conditions to offset the effects of the heavier traffic. The plan involves adding and repairing culverts, improving the roadway surface, and repairing asphalt segments. A second meeting will be held with owners this summer to go over the plan's activities in greater detail.

Enjoy your winter! **Ap'namultes, until next time!**

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