

An aerial photograph of a tall, slender meteorological tower standing in a vast, golden-brown agricultural field. The tower is white with red accents and has several orange lights near the top. At the base of the tower, there are solar panels and a small structure. The background shows a flat landscape under a blue sky with light clouds.

Smoky River Wind Project

Newsletter - February 2023

The Smoky River Wind Project (Smoky River Wind /the Project) is being proposed by ABO Wind Canada Ltd. (ABO Wind) and will have an expected capacity of 160MW. Smoky River Wind will provide a cost-effective source of enough clean energy for approximately 65,000 homes and will contribute to increasing Alberta's percentage of electricity generation by renewable energy.

The Project would displace approximately 300,000 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent annually, which amounts to 7.5 million tonnes of CO₂ over the life of the Project. The Smoky River Wind Project Area of Interest was selected due to favourable wind speeds, land topography, grid capacity and the potential to sign land for project infrastructure. A meteorological tower was erected in the summer of 2022 to verify the wind resource.

**ABO
WIND**

Open House Information

ABO Wind expects to host an open house in Q1 or Q2 of 2023. Details regarding the Open House will be provided via mail and local media with a minimum of two weeks' notice prior to the event.

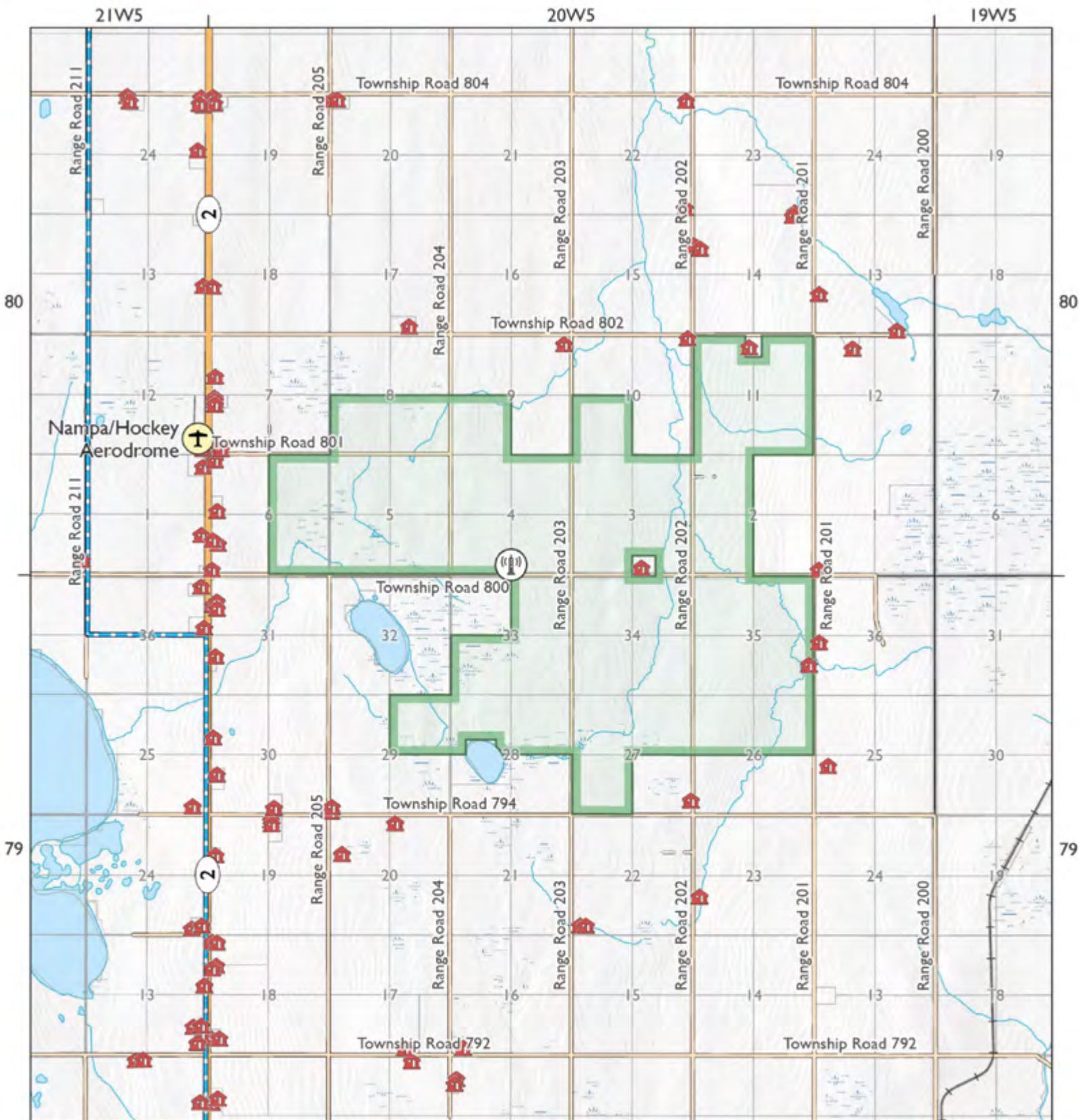
The Project

The Project is proposed on privately-owned land between the Village of Nampa and the Town of Falher, east of Highway 2 (see brochure map). The Project would comprise of up to 25 turbines, each with an expected nameplate capacity of 6.2 to 7.2 MW, a hub height of 100 to 120 metres and a blade length of 80 to 90 metres.

The Project Area of Interest (see brochure map) covers approximately 7,000 acres, in the Municipal District (M.D.) of Smoky River and represents the signed and unsigned land parcels that have been and may be considered for the Project. The locations of the turbines are currently being assessed and are influenced by many factors including; environmental constraints, stakeholder feedback, and other setback requirements. ABO Wind will provide the forecasted turbine locations in future public materials as information becomes available.

In addition to the turbines, the Project will include:

- **Access roads:** The Project will consist of low profile roads for access to the turbine units. The Project may also require upgrades to existing county roads in the area, where applicable. All road upgrades will result from consultation with the M.D. of Smoky River.
- **Transmission Line:** ABO Wind is evaluating options to connect the Project to the grid via attaching directly onto the existing AltaLink 138kV transmission line that runs north/south along Highway 2 and Range Road 211 (see brochure map). Discussions have begun with the Transmission Facility Owner, ATCO, on how this work will be conducted.
- **Collector Lines/System:** The Project will utilize a medium voltage power collector system consisting, wherever possible, of underground cables that link the turbines to the substation.
- **Substation:** The Project will include a substation to increase the voltage from the collector system to the transmission voltage.
- **Meteorological (Met) Towers:** The Project will host both temporary and permanent met towers during its life cycle that will collect meteorological data of the local region to better inform site design.



Smoky River Wind Project Project Area

-  Project Area of Interest
-  Registered Aerodrome
-  Meteorological Tower
-  Residence
-  Existing Transmission Line



0 800 1,600 2,400 m

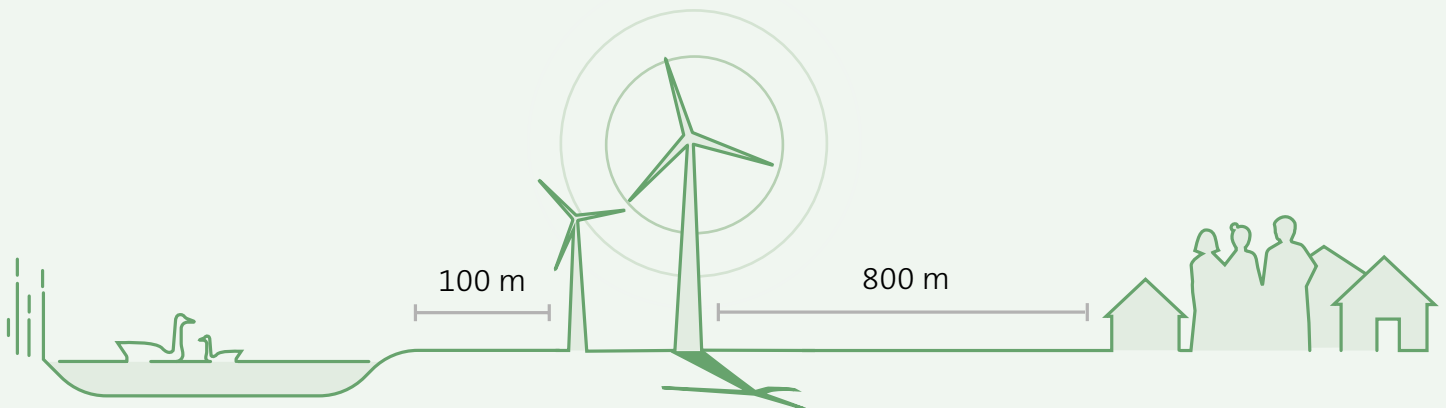
Scale: 1:80,000
 Projection: NAD83 UTM Zone 11N
 Publish Date: 2023-01-20

Data Sources: Altalis, Airbus, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NIMA, Geodastyrlesen, GSA, GSI and the GIS User Community

Setbacks

There are several setbacks that ABO Wind considers in order to minimize impact to the community and the environment. These include:

- 800 metre turbine setbacks from residences unless agreed upon with the landowner
- Setbacks needed to comply with the maximum sound levels at residences
- Setbacks needed to comply with shadow flicker guidelines
- Turbine setback of 100 metres from Class III+ wetlands
- Avoidance of Project development on Native Grasslands



Potential Impacts and Environmental Studies

ABO Wind is working with third-party experts, McCallum Environmental, to perform the required technical and environmental studies needed to support the siting of wind turbines. The studies include:

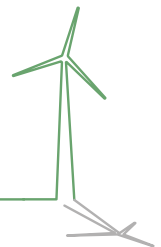
Noise

The Project will have sound-generating infrastructure, which includes wind turbines and a substation. ABO Wind will conduct a third-party noise impact assessment as per Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) Rule 012: Noise Control guidelines, to ensure sound generated from the Project will be below required levels.



Shadow Flicker

Shadow flicker can occur at certain times of the year when the sun passes behind a turbine's moving blades, casting a shadow over a window. Shadow flicker will be modeled and considered through the layout design process for the Project.



Visual Simulations

Visual simulations will be prepared to demonstrate how the Project will appear on the landscape from various viewpoints.



Environment

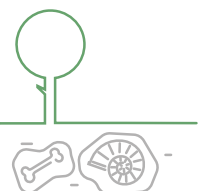
Environmental field studies commenced in April 2022 and concluded in November 2022. Studies included vegetation, wildlife, and wetlands.

ABO Wind will submit the findings to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) following all necessary reporting.



Historical Resources

Consultation with Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women for consideration of any potential archaeological, historical and paleontological sites in the Project Area of Interest. ABO will look to receive clearance for the Project under the Historical Resources Act.



Regulatory Process

A Renewable Energy Project Submission Report will be completed for Smoky River Wind and submitted to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) for approval. Once this report is issued an application is made to the AUC under Rule 007 – Application – Wind Power Plants 10 Megawatts or greater – urban and rural.

In addition, but not limited to, the following municipal, provincial and federal bodies will be engaged for permits and/or approvals that may be required for the Project:

- Alberta Transportation
- NAV Canada
- Transport Canada
- Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)
- Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
- Municipality of Smoky River (Development Permits, Road Use Agreements etc.)

Preliminary Schedule

2022			2023				
Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Environmental Field Studies			Open House	AUC Application Submission		AUC Review and Approval	
		Public Notification and Project Information Package					
			Submission of Environmental Assessment to AEPA				

ABO Wind

Consultation

The consultation process is guided by the AUC, Rule 007. ABO Wind commits to forthright and meaningful communication that is timely and respectful. Through the ongoing provision of project information, we aim to incite discussion with interested parties and commit to the thoughtful consideration of feedback into our project planning in order to mitigate and avoid impact. Consultation will continue throughout the life of the Project. All correspondence related to the Project will be recorded and submitted as part of the Participation Involvement Program for the AUC Application.

If you have questions about the Regulatory and Consultation Process, you can contact the AUC at **403-592-4500** or **info@auc.ab.ca** or visit their website at **www.auc.ab.ca**.

ABO Wind Canada Ltd

ABO Wind was founded in 1996 and is now a leading developer of renewable energy projects. ABO Wind opened its Canadian headquarters in Calgary in 2017 and focuses on developing wind, solar, energy storage, and green hydrogen projects throughout Canada. The ABO Wind Canada team is supported by over 1,000 team members from across the globe. For more information, please visit: **www.abo-wind.com**.

Project Contact

We look forward to hearing from you. For more information, please visit our website at **www.smokyriverwind.com** or contact us at:



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