

# Halkirk 2 Wind Project

MAY 2024

## Construction Progress Report

The Halkirk 2 Wind Project (“The Project”) is on track and is about 10% complete. As of April 29, there are approximately 100 workers on site digging foundations, building access roads, completing collector line borings and assembling bolt cages in advance of concrete deliveries. In May, more than 200 workers will be on site as concrete pours for the foundations begin.

Some of the major wind turbine parts have already reached Alberta. In April, some of the 74-metre blades were delivered to a rail siding in Oyen to be stored temporarily until they’re moved directly to the turbine site for assembly starting in early July.



Construction of the Goldeye 620S Substation located on RR 151 is approximately 45% complete.



Bolt cages are assembled with steel rebar for the pedestal that supports the wind turbine’s steel towers as part of the foundation.



A concrete seal slab is poured in the excavated foundation prior to the reinforced rebar being installed for the concrete foundations.

## About Us

Capital Power (TSX:CPX) is a growth-oriented power producer committed to net zero by 2045, with approximately 9,300 MW of power generation at 32 facilities across North America.

We prioritize delivering reliable, affordable and decarbonized power that communities can depend on.

Powering Change by Changing Power™



## Spotlight on Water

**Capital Power does not use water from within the project area for project construction or activities and has not applied (and does not intend to apply) for a Temporary Diversion Licence for the Project.**

We’ve had some questions and concerns raised about our water usage in relation to the Project. We understand the community’s need for water, that it is a precious resource, and that water supply is limited in the project area.

The project area does not provide any water for the Project, either for making concrete or other purposes. The Project gets its water from outside sources and brings it to the site. For example, the water needed to produce concrete must be potable water and we are transporting the potable water from municipal resources such as fill stations in Hanna and Castor. Water for cleaning equipment and dust suppression is also being transported to the Project. Aside from the incident mentioned below, no surface water from within the project area will be used for the Project.

## Water Act Approval: Our Project Requirements

The Province owns all the water on and under the ground in Alberta. The Alberta *Water Act* helps and encourages the protection, use and allocation of water. Activities that need approval include infilling, taking away or changing wetland soil or plants, or affecting water or a waterbody, in any way, such as moving surface water or groundwater for a different purpose than what is allowed. Capital Power has applied for, and received all necessary approvals, for the Halkirk 2 Wind Project.

Capital Power has used wetland mapping data and various field studies to guide Project design and reduce environmental impacts. The Project design followed Alberta's Wetland Mitigation Hierarchy (GOA, 2018) of 1. Avoid, 2. Minimize and 3. Replace.



Photos of seasonal graminoid marshes (Class 3 wetland) taken during a wetland field survey. These photos show they may appear during wet conditions. Photo below shows how they may appear within a cultivated field during dry conditions



The Alberta Wetland Identification and Delineation Directive (GOA 2015a) and the Alberta Wetland Classification System (GOA 2015b) provide the methods for identifying and delineating wetlands in Alberta. The Project mapping showed both temporary and permanent impacts to wetlands.

Temporary impacts to wetlands will be reclaimed within 1-2 years after construction; these may be from temporary workspaces along portions of turbine access roads, turbine pads, collector lines and crane paths. Permanent impacts to wetlands from the Project features

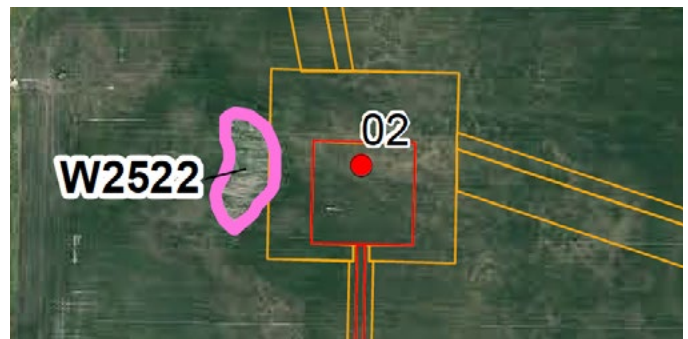
will not be reclaimed until after Project decommissioning. This includes wind turbine generators, turbine pad sites, and access roads, substation operation/maintenance building, and the meteorological tower. Permanently impacted wetlands are subject to replacement fees as per the Alberta Wetland Mitigation Directive. (GOA 2018).



Erosion control measures along edge of a turbine pad under construction

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas' (AEPA), Water Approvals team, evaluates and may grant *Water Act* approval for activities in a wetland. There are specific application forms used for temporary (WAIF) and permanent (WAIR) impacts, and they must be signed by wetland professionals. In general, applications include the following information:

- Data – includes available existing wetland data, collected via desktop methods or field verification;
- Alberta Wetland Rapid Evaluation Tool – actual (ABWRET-A) assessment for permanently impacted wetlands; the results inform the replacement costs that Capital Power is required to pay;
- Total area of wetland disturbance;
- Project schedule, timing of the proposed construction activity and timing of reclamation;
- Mitigation measures used to reduce impacts; and
- Maps – all applications require mapping of Project footprint, wetlands and area to be impacted.



Wetland delineation showing temporary construction footprint occurring within edge of wetland (overlap of yellow line with pink outlined wetland)

## Water Act Approvals

- **Approval DAUT0012446** received June 2023 for permanent impacts to 10 wetlands classified as temporary and seasonal graminoid marshes with a total impacted area of 0.28 hectares. Six ephemeral waterbodies impacted by the permanent footprint were also included in the application but are not subject to replacement costs under the Alberta Wetland Policy (GOA 2013). Wetland replacement fees were submitted to AEPA as per the Alberta Wetland Mitigation Directive (GOA 2018).
- **Approval DAUT0013330** received September 2023 for temporary impacts to 41 wetlands, drainages and ephemeral waterbodies with a total area impacted of ~2.44 hectares. The approval was amended in January 2024 as minor temporary footprint shifts resulted in slight changes to some temporary impacts, including a decrease in some wetlands, ephemeral waterbodies or natural drainages impacted. A second amendment was submitted in March 2024 to account for additional temporary footprint shifts and these will be included in the amendments discussed below.



Wetland protection measures being put in place prior to cable crossing boring nearby and cable ploughing.

### Amendments to our Water Act Approvals

Both *Water Act* approvals are undergoing an amendment process to correct inaccuracies discovered in Section 3 of the original approvals, listing lands where activities are allowed under the terms and conditions of the approval but where no work was ever planned. Once these discrepancies were brought to Capital Power’s attention, Capital Power worked with AEPA and our consultants to correct the discrepancies. At no time was Capital Power seeking to impact wetlands on those lands. When applications are submitted through the Government of Alberta Digital Regulatory Assurance System (DRAS), a spatial file of the full wetland delineation is submitted to AEPA for review. The quarter sections listed in the Approvals

were auto generated using the boundaries of the full wetland extent rather than the location of direct impact from the Project footprint. Figures detailing the quarter sections that should have been included under Approval DAUT0012446 and Approval DAUT0013330 are available online at [www.capitalpower.com/H2-wind](http://www.capitalpower.com/H2-wind)

**Approval DAUT0012446** – Two wetlands are no longer impacted as T33 was removed from the approved project, resulting in three quarter sections being removed. A fourth quarter section to be removed as it is not within the project footprint and should not have been included within the Approval.

**Approval DAUT0013330** – One quarter section added as it was found missing from the original approval, two quarter sections added as per the March 2024 WAIF amendment application, and eight quarter sections removed as they were not within the project footprint and should not have been included within the Approval.

| Change and Rationale   | Location   |
|--|--|
| <b>DAUT0012446</b>   |  |
| Removed because T33 was removed from project   | SW-33-039-14-W4<br>NW-33-039-14-W4M<br>SE-33-39-14-W4M   |
| Removed because not within Project footprint and should not have been included in approval | NW-34-039-14-W4  |
| <b>DAUT0013330</b>   |  |
| Added as was missing from original approval  | SE-26-039-14-W4  |
| Added as per 2024 WAIF Amendment   | SW-10-040-14-W4<br>NE-35-039-15-W4   |
| Removed because not within Project footprint and should not have been included in approval | SE-33-039-14-W4<br>NW-33-039-14-W4<br>NE-06-040-14-W4<br>SW-33-039-14-W4<br>SW-11-040-14-W4<br>NW-34-039-14-W4<br>SW-03-040-14-W4<br>SW-01-040-15-W4 |



We are proud to support the communities where we live and work to help you achieve your climate action goals. Last year, we launched our Community Sustainability Fund (CSF) to support sustainable grassroots projects that benefit our communities. Grants of up to \$20,000 are available!

The deadline to apply for our 2024 Community Sustainability Fund is May 31, 2024.

For more info or to apply, please visit: [www.capitalpower.com/CSF](http://www.capitalpower.com/CSF)

## Dust Control Incident

On April 16, a local resident in the Project area notified Capital Power that a subcontractor was using a water truck to pump water from a temporary borrow pit along an access road that had collected spring runoff to water roads for dust control.

While Capital Power and Borea are allowed to pump off and discharge water into the same area as the borrow pit, we are not allowed to use it without regulatory approval. In this case, a Temporary Diversion Licence (TDL) would have been required for water withdrawal.

Capital Power directed Borea and their subcontractor to stop all water removal. Capital Power and Borea have investigated the incident and implemented additional measures to prevent future incidents. Water needed for dust control will be obtained from a source outside the Project.

Capital Power reported the incident to AEPA and submitted a written report as directed. On May 1, 2024, AEPA closed the incident with no further follow-up required.

Capital Power values the input from all residents within the project area and invites you to report any issues or concerns that you notice, so we can investigate and take the appropriate corrective actions, if necessary.

## Request support for your community initiative

Capital Power provides support in the areas of Climate Action, Wellbeing and Equity & Opportunity. If you are a part of a community organization that operates in this area and have events or initiatives that support these impact areas, please consider requesting support through our on-line system on our website: [www.capitalpower.com/support](http://www.capitalpower.com/support)

### Contact Us

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