Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario  

March 5, 2013  

Hon. Kathleen Wynne, MPP  
Premier  
Room 281, Main Legislative Building  
Queen’s Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1  

Dear Premier:  

Hand-delivered to the Premier in the Ontario Legislature  

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter you should have received from Mayor Julie Behrens of the Municipality of North Perth. Addressed to Invenergy Canada, the letter includes the Municipal Consultation Form regarding the Conestogo Wind Energy Project as submitted by the municipality. Also included are the municipality’s concerns on a number of issues that neither Invenergy nor your government have addressed.  

You will notice the mayor’s message, written in bold type: “This Project does not have Municipal support.” She documents very persuasively the reasons this industrial wind turbine project does not have the community’s support.  

The community has spoken loud and clear against this project, with a credible public survey showing a staggering 96 percent in opposition. The mayor also points out that your government’s original approval granted to Invenergy was to develop a wind turbine project in another community. Based on your government’s recent commitments to public and municipal consultation, the municipality expects you to listen, and expects you to stop this project from going forward.  

The municipality also documents serious deficiencies with the Invenergy proposal. REA documents provided by Invenergy omit non-participating noise receptors related to active building permits, which existed well before the draft site plan was released. The mayor indicates that Invenergy was fully aware of these building permits before the plan was prepared. The mayor notes various other gaps, including lack of a traffic management plan, lack of detail concerning dewatering or mitigation plans, no plan to prevent electrical contamination in an agricultural area, among many others.
This is highly credible information based on a peer review of the REA documents provided by the proponent. It deserves to be taken seriously by your government. In light of the report’s deficiencies, mayor is very clear: “... [It] is the view of North Perth that the documentation provided is not sufficient to meet the government’s requirements for meaningful municipal consultation with a municipality.”

Meaningful municipal consultation is, we would remind you, just what you promised in your government’s Speech from the Throne:

Your government intends to work with municipalities on other issues, too.
Because communities must be involved and connected to one another.
They must have a voice in their future and a say in their integrated, regional development.
So that local populations are involved from the beginning if there is going to be a gas plant or a casino or a wind plant or a quarry in their hometown.
Because our economy can benefit from these things, but only if we have willing hosts.

Based on the municipality’s letter and extensive documentation – and based on the hard work of the council, staff and residents of North Perth – it is abundantly clear that we in Perth-Wellington are not willing hosts. This is the message I have been long been delivering to your government. I have spoken in the legislature; I have written to the ministers of Energy and the Environment; and I have written numerous letters to your predecessor as premier.

Please review the municipality’s package. In response, I would strongly urge you to use your authority as premier to reject the Conestogo Wind Energy Project. I would urge you to take it as an opportunity to keep your promise to the people I represent.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Randy Pettapiece, MPP
Perth-Wellington

RP:sy

Enclosure

c:  Hon. Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy  
    Hon. Jim Bradley, Minister of the Environment  
    Mr. Vic Fedeli, MPP  
    Ms. Lisa Thompson, MPP  
    Mayor Julie Behrens, Municipality of North Perth  
    Ms. Patricia Berfelz, Clerk, Municipality of North Perth