

## Grosse-Île Wind Farm Project:

### Community Engagement and Information Session Summary

Submitted to:

Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE)

## **Community Engagement and Information Session Summary**

In preparation for the BAPE review process, residents organized an independent community information session on March 2nd regarding the proposed Grosse-Île Wind Farm Project. Approximately 27 residents attended to review environmental and governance-related concerns, discuss questions, and better understand the mémoire submission process.

The Mayor and Members of Council were formally invited to attend in a listening capacity only. There was no expectation that they speak on behalf of the municipality or take an official position. The intention was simply to allow elected representatives to hear residents' concerns directly. We were informed that attendance could interfere with the BAPE process due to neutrality considerations while the file remains active. Clarification was therefore requested.

While we were offered the possibility of meeting with the project promoter and community members, engagement with a proponent serves a different function. Dialogue between residents and their elected representatives remains an essential element of democratic governance. The meeting reflected strong civic engagement and a shared desire for transparency, environmental protection, and informed decision-making as the project moves forward.

## Concerns discussed during the community gathering:

### Wetlands and Drinking Water

- Wetlands represent a significant portion of the proposed site
- Critical role in water filtration and groundwater recharge
- Potential impact on private wells
- Risk of altered groundwater flow patterns

### Coastal Erosion and Marine Systems

- Ongoing coastal erosion vulnerability
- Role of dunes and wetlands in shoreline protection
- Possible indirect effects on lagoons and marine ecosystems

### Fisheries

- Long-term marine ecosystem stability
- Cultural and economic importance of fishing
- Need for precaution regarding indirect impacts

### Wildlife and Habitat

- Migratory bird pathways
- Presence of piping plovers and other species at risk
- Plant species sensitivity
- Potential impacts on hunting traditions

### Geotechnical Considerations and Salt Mining

- Active underground salt mining in the area
- Historical sinkhole events
- Red sandstone geological sensitivity
- Concerns regarding deep turbine foundations and long-term structural stability

### Project Scale and Proximity

- Height and weight of proposed turbines
- Physical footprint and visual presence
- Distance to nearest residences
- Quality of life considerations

## **Landscape and Views**

- Impact on coastal panoramas and sunset views
- Importance of preserving landscape identity

## **Zoning, Governance and Social Acceptability**

- Questions regarding land zoning changes
- Level of community consultation
- Ongoing concerns about site selection
- Social acceptability remains unresolved
- Importance of public trust and transparency

## **Civic Participation**

- Petition signatures update
- Encouragement to submit mémoires
- Discussion of deadlines and submission process

## Appendix A

### Invitation sent to the Mayor and Members of Council

Dear Mayor Gordon Burke and Members of Council,

I am writing to formally invite you to attend our community information meeting this evening regarding the proposed wind project.

The meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m. at the Grosse-Île Community Center (Foster Home).

This gathering has been organized by residents who wish to better understand the environmental, coastal, and long-term implications of the project for our community. The purpose of the evening is not to debate positions, but to provide a space where citizens can express their concerns, share information, and ensure their voices are heard.

We respectfully invite you to attend in a listening capacity. Your presence would demonstrate openness, transparency, and a commitment to engaging with the residents you represent during this important moment for Grosse-Île.

As elected officials, your understanding of community perspectives is essential. Many residents care deeply about the future of our land, water, wildlife, and traditions, and we believe it is important that these concerns be acknowledged.

We hope you will consider joining us this evening.

Thank you for your time and continued service to our community.

Sincerely,

Julie-Anne Burke

## Appendix B : Municipal email responses regarding neutrality

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### Reception of invitation

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Gordon Burke <Mayor@mungji.ca>

Mon, Mar 2, 2026 at 1:52 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Good afternoon Julie,

I would like to confirm receipt of the invitation delivered by Rosanna Taker.

Please note that we will be respecting the BAPE process and will not schedule meetings that overlap with its proceedings. However, I will reach out to the promoter to request a separate meeting, with the expectation that they address your questions and concerns directly, as they are important to us.

You may also wish to consider inviting the promoter, Jean-Michel Leblanc, to your meeting this evening. Given the short notice, it may be to your advantage to reschedule in order to ensure full participation.

As the invitation was received at the last minute, I am unfortunately unable to attend.

Additionally, councillors and I have an ethical obligation to act with loyalty to the municipality and to respect the collective decisions of Council once they have been adopted.

Thank you for your time.

## Gordon Burke

Maire

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