

Grosse-Île Wind Farm Project

Community Engagement Plan

April 2026



Note

The French version remains the official version and should be used as the reference.

The original document is available online on the BAPE project webpage:

<https://voute.bape.gouv.qc.ca/dl/?id=00000767363>





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Introduction and scope of the Plan

This community Engagement Plan is part of the ongoing development of the Grosse-Île Wind Farm Project (PEDGI). It aims to **structure and guide information-sharing, dialogue and follow-up activities** with the community, in a context where the quality of relationships with the community remains a central concern.

The plan translates the findings from the engagement efforts conducted to date into a clear and coherent engagement approach, tailored to the current phase of the project. Its objective is to ensure the continuity of dialogue with stakeholders, support the implementation of commitments, and clarify governance and follow-up mechanisms.

The scope of the plan covers all community engagement activities planned for the next phases of the PEDGI project. Designed as a **living document**, it is intended to be adjusted as the project progresses and in response to exchanges with the community. This plan was developed and structured according to recognized best practices in community relations, in collaboration with the firm Transfert Environnement et Société.



transfertconsult.ca

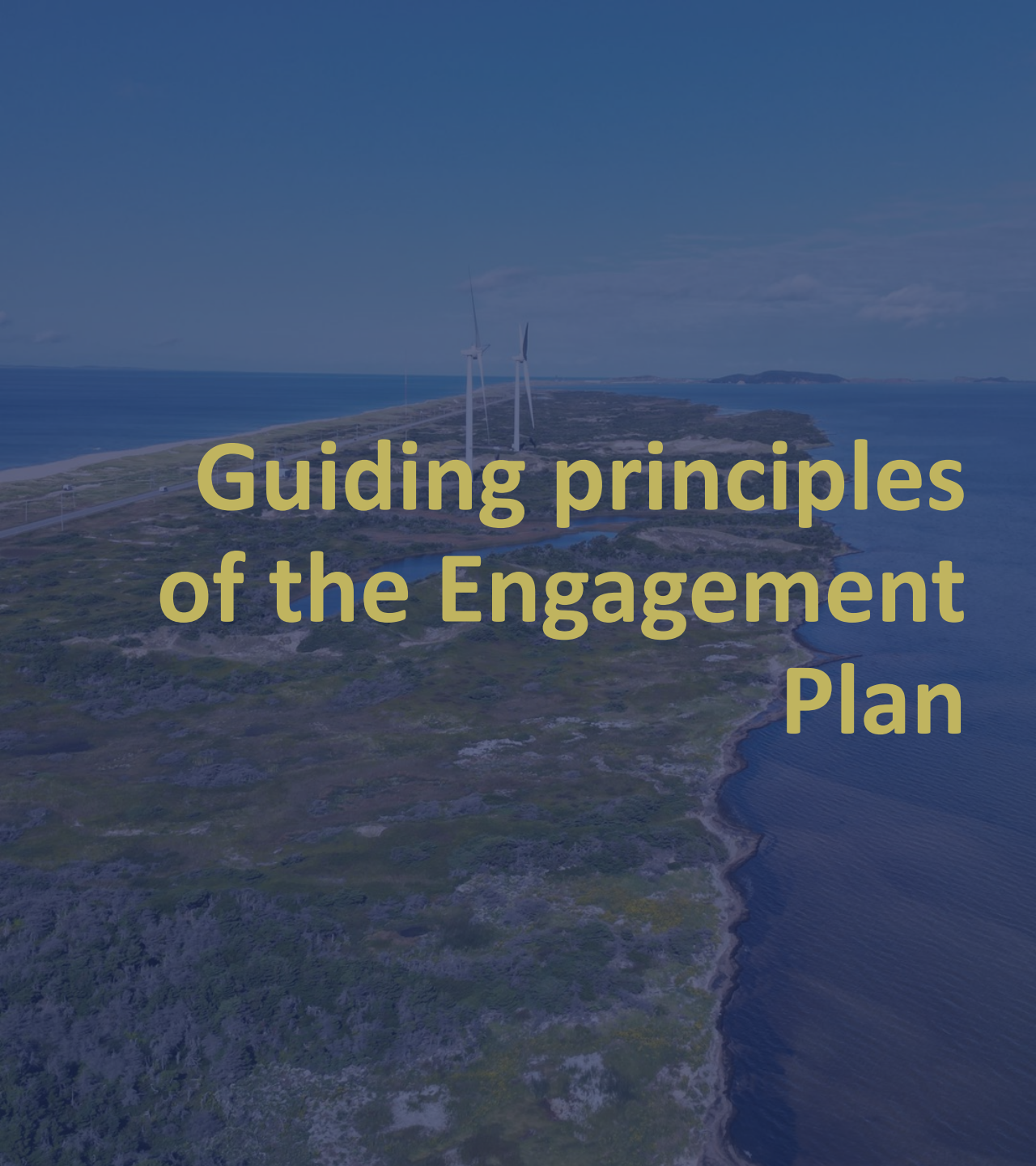
Context

- **Need of strengthening transparency and early information sharing:** Some residents indicated that they had not received any information about the project for several months.
- **Need of adjusting communication methods:** The exclusive use of French-language local media outlets (such as CFIM radio and Le Radar weekly newspaper) was identified as a significant barrier for the Grosse-Île population, which is predominantly English-speaking.

In addition, public notices posted in locations with restricted access or available only on the municipality's website were considered insufficient to effectively reach the entire community.

- **Local citizen representation to be strengthened:** A key observation raised was the absence of Grosse-Île residents (other than elected officials) on the project's Liaison Committee. Citizens expressed feeling unheard and called for direct representation of their community.
- **Concerns regarding the level of community support:** Several stakeholders emphasized that additional efforts are required to meet conditions for social acceptability.

In response to these findings, this plan proposes an enhanced community engagement approach for Nutrinor-Gilbert Énergies renouvelables, along with strengthened engagement mechanisms.

An aerial photograph of a coastal area, likely Grosse-Île, showing a mix of green vegetation, rocky terrain, and a body of water. Two wind turbines are visible in the distance on a small peninsula. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

Guiding principles of the Engagement Plan

The continuation of the community engagement process is guided by the following principles:

1. Transparency and predictability

- Clear, proactive and ongoing communication.
- Sharing relevant information ahead of key decisions.
- Reducing areas of uncertainty for citizens.

2. Accessibility and adaptation of communication channels

- Adapting communication channels to the linguistic realities of Grosse-Île population.
- The sharing of information in a fair and accessible manner to as many citizens as possible.

3. Inclusion and local citizen representation

- Direct and meaningful participation by Grosse-Île residents.
- Adjustments to citizen representation within the Liaison Committee to better reflect the community.

4. Ongoing dialogue and consideration of community concerns

- Aims to provide continuous and structured dialogue mechanisms.
- Adjustment of practices and actions based on exchanges with the community, in a continuous improvement perspective, where applicable.

Engagement Plan objectives

The community Engagement Plan aims to achieve the following objectives for the next phase of the project:

1. Strengthen accessibility, clarity and information sharing

- Ensure proactive, accessible information sharing adjusted to the linguistic and territorial realities of Grosse-Île, so that community members can better understand how the project is progressing and what lies ahead.

2. Establish an ongoing dialogue with the community

- Establish and strengthen dialogue mechanisms that enable meaningful citizen participation, particularly through increased citizen representation within exchange bodies.

3. Support the consideration of concerns and follow-up on commitments

- Provide a structured framework for receiving, analyzing, and following up on concerns raised by the community, as well as for implementing project commitments and reporting on their outcomes.

These objectives form the pillars of action around which the engagement action plan presented in the appendix is structured.

Stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms

TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS

The community engagement approach is intended for a range of stakeholders representing the diversity of interests and local realities. The main stakeholder groups targeted include:

- Residents of Grosse-Île and Magdalen Islands
- The municipal administration of Grosse-Île and the Communauté maritime des Îles-de-la-Madeleine
- Community, environmental, and social organizations and groups
- Land and territory users
- Socio-economic stakeholders

These stakeholders will be engaged at different stages of the project through tailored dialogue mechanisms, as outlined in the following pages.

LIAISON COMMITTEE

The community engagement process relies on the Liaison Committee already in place for the Dune-du-Nord Wind Farm, which serves as a structured dialogue mechanism between the project and the community. As the PEDGI project evolves, the committee will be adjusted to address issues related to both wind farms, in line with the evolving context and the expectations expressed by the population.

The proposed adjustments to the Liaison Committee are to be discussed, refined and approved by current members, and are detailed below:

- Committee mandate revision
- Establishment of a dedicated Working Group for the Grosse-Île Wind Farm during the pre-operational phase
- Committee composition revision

Stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms

LIAISON COMMITTEE MANDATE REVISION

Originally established to facilitate information sharing with the community regarding the Dune-du-Nord Wind Farm (PEDDN), the Liaison Committee now serves as a forum for exchanges that also integrates topics related to the development of the Grosse-Île Wind Farm Project (PEDGI) and its subsequent phases. It serves as a **privileged space for dialogue, mutual information sharing and the search for concerted solutions** between the developer of both wind farms, Nutrinor Gilbert Énergies renouvelables, and various representatives of the host communities affected by these projects, with a view to harmonious cohabitation.

The Committee's objectives are:

- Establish a **structured communication channel** between Nutrinor Gilbert Énergies renouvelables and the host community for the PEDGI and PEDDN projects;
- Develop a **shared understanding of the environmental, social and economic opportunities and challenges** related to the development and construction of PEDGI through to its operation, as well as the operation of PEDDN;
- **Contribute to the identification of solutions** related to various aspects of the PEDGI and PEDDN projects in order to support the continuous improvement of the wind farms.



Important: The elements presented on this page are to be discussed, improved and approved by the members of the Liaison Committee.

Stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms

LIAISON COMMITTEE COMPOSITION REVISION

The Liaison Committee, which previously had 9 members would see its membership increase to 14 members.



Important: The elements presented on this page are to be discussed, improved and approved by the members of the Liaison Committee.

SECTORS	CURRENTS NUMBER OF SEATS	PROPOSED NUMBER OF SEATS
MUNICIPAL / REGIONAL SECTOR	3	3
COMMUNAUTÉ MARITIME ET MUNICIPALITÉ DES ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE	2	2
MUNICIPALITY OF GROSSE-ÎLE	1	1
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL GROUPS	3	4
ATTENTION FRAGILES	1	1
COMITÉ ZIP DES ÎLES	1	1
CENTRE DE RECHERCHE SUR LES MILIEUX INSULAIRES ET MARITIMES (CERMIM)	1	1
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION - TO BE DETERMINED	-	1
ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS	3	3
CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DES ÎLES	1	1
SADC DES ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE	1	1
TOURISME ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE	1	1
LAND AND TERRITORY USERS	-	1
TO BE DETERMINED	-	1
CITIZENS	-	3
CITIZENS REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE WORKING GROUP		2
CITIZENS FROM COMMUNAUTÉ MARITIME ET MUNICIPALITÉ DES ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE		1
TOTAL	9	14

Stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms

ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP DEDICATED TO THE GROSSE-ÎLE WIND FARM FOR THE PRE-OPERATIONAL PHASE

The Liaison Committee will continue to serve as a key forum for exchange, information sharing and follow-up on issues and concerns raised by the community. In addition, a specific working group will be established for the pre-operational phase of the wind farm.



Important: The elements presented on this page are to be discussed, improved and approved by the members of the Liaison Committee.

This working group will have the mandate to:

- Collect, discuss and examine the **specific concerns** of Grosse-Île citizens related to the project.
- Submit **comments, opportunities for improvement or recommendations** on local issues (site layout, cohabitation, nuisances, monitoring and related issues).
- Contribute to the **improvement of information and communication mechanisms** for Grosse-Île citizens.
- Ensure a **structured follow-up** process for concerns raised, including escalation to the Liaison Committee when appropriate.

Stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms

PRELIMINARY COMPOSITION OF THE WORKING GROUP DEDICATED TO THE GROSSE-ÎLE WIND FARM FOR THE PRE-OPERATIONAL PHASE

The working group dedicated to the Grosse-Île Wind Farm for the pre-operational phase would have 9 members.



Important: The elements presented on this page are to be discussed, improved and approved by the members of the Liaison Committee.

SECTORS	PROPOSED NUMBER OF SEATS
MUNICIPAL SECTOR	2
COMMUNAUTÉ MARITIME ET MUNICIPALITÉ DES ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE	1
MUNICIPALITY OF GROSSE-ÎLE	1
REPRESENTATIVES FROM LIAISON COMMITTEE	2
TO BE DETERMINED	1
TO BE DETERMINED	1
LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS	2
TO BE DETERMINED	1
TO BE DETERMINED	1
CITIZENS	3
GROSSE-ÎLE CITIZENS	3
TOTAL	9

Stakeholders and dialogue mechanisms

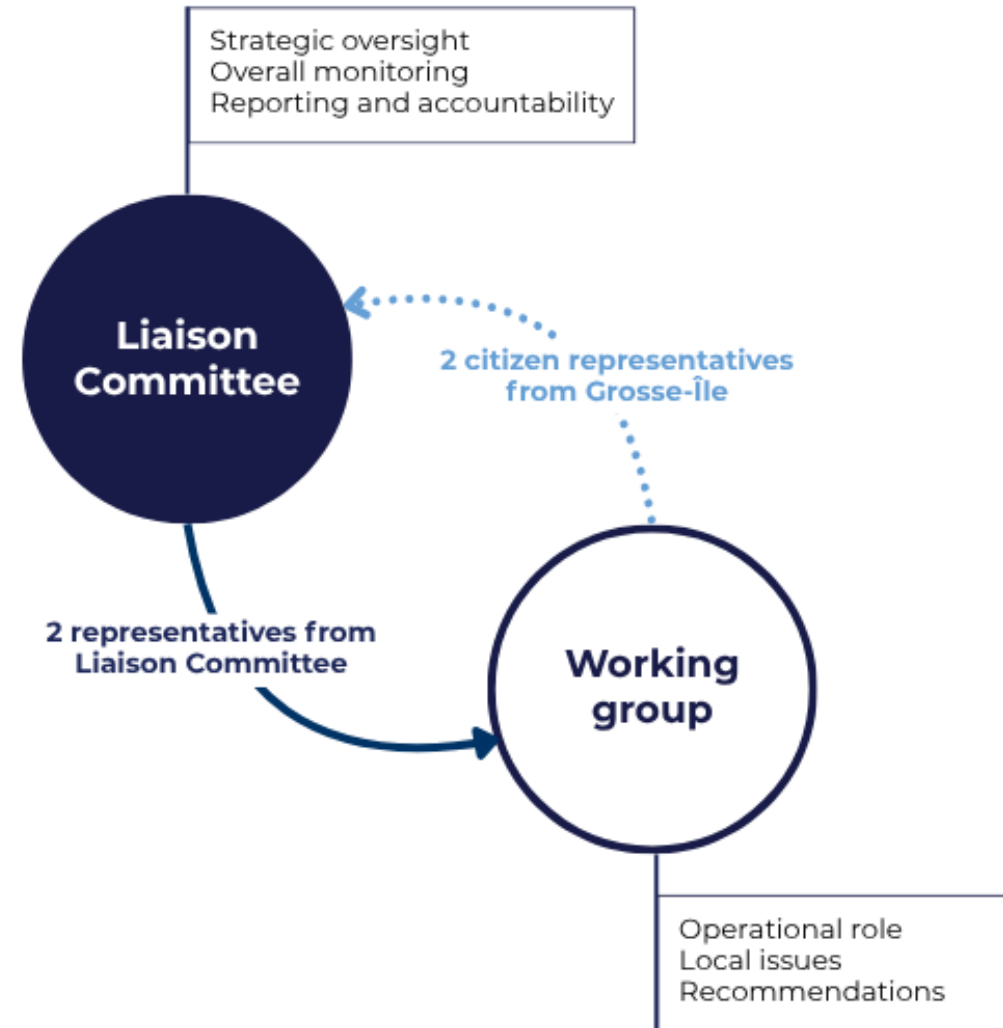
INTERRELATION BETWEEN THE LIAISON COMMITTEE AND THE WORKING GROUP

The Liaison Committee will be responsible for governance, overall monitoring and accountability, while the working group will serve as the project's operational forum.

Ongoing exchanges between the two entities will ensure consistency between strategic directions and local considerations for both wind farms.



Important: The elements presented on this page are to be discussed, improved and approved by the members of the Liaison Committee.





The engagement activities presented below **translate the plan's objectives into concrete actions**. They are structured around four complementary pillars of action aimed at strengthening information, structuring dialogue with the community and ensuring rigorous follow-up of the project's concerns and commitments.

- 1 PILLAR 1 – STRENGTHEN ACCESSIBILITY, CLARITY AND INFORMATION SHARING**
- 2 PILLAR 2 – ESTABLISH ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- 3 PILLAR 3 – SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF CONCERNS AND FOLLOW-UP ON COMMITMENTS**
- 4 PILLAR 4 – OVERSEE THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE AND IMPACTS MANAGEMENT**

Communications and information sharing

PILLAR 1 – STRENGTHEN ACCESSIBILITY, CLARITY AND INFORMATION SHARING

The engagement approach aims to ensure **regular, proactive and accessible information sharing** on the project's progress to the population of the Magdalen Islands. It is based on **updating and enhancing communication tools** (website, digital communications and targeted communications), as well as **the involvement of the Liaison Committee** in the continuous improvement of communications.

Sharing **the community engagement plan's directions** with citizens is planned and will rely on providing a **summary document**, as well as **targeted exchanges** with community stakeholders, to foster understanding of the approach, the dialogue mechanisms, and participation opportunities.

Planned engagement activities

PILLAR 2 – ESTABLISH ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMUNITY

The second pillar focuses on **strengthening and structuring dialogue with the community** through a **revision of the Liaison Committee**, including its mandate, composition and operating framework, as presented on pages 9 and 11 of this plan. The proposed adjustments will be discussed as part of a workshop for the Liaison Committee members to discuss and enhance the proposals.

To ensure **broader and more representative participation**, a call for citizen candidates will be launched so that residents can join the Liaison Committee and the Working Group. This process will be followed by a **self-selection meeting**, where community members will choose their own representatives. The Committee will also be strengthened by adding seats for community organizations and local land users, such as fishers and hunters, to better reflect the diversity of experiences and perspectives within the community.

In parallel, a **Working Group** will be created specifically for Grosse-Île during the period before the wind farm becomes operational. This group will provide a space for discussion and will work with a clear and predictable plan. **Targeted meetings** will also be held to gather residents' viewpoints, which will help inform the development of visual simulations of the project.

Concerns and reports management

PILLAR 3 – SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF CONCERNS AND FOLLOW-UP ON COMMITMENTS

With a focus on continuous improvement, the third axis of the action plan outlines how community concerns, reports, and issues will be addressed and followed up through structured and transparent mechanisms developed in collaboration with the Liaison Committee.

This approach includes a **complete redesign of the process for managing concerns, reports, and requests for information**. The new process is intended to provide citizens and stakeholders with clear and accessible ways to raise their concerns, while ensuring that all communications are handled in a consistent, transparent, and traceable manner. It will be applied to both the Grosse-Île Wind Farm (PEDGI) and the Dune-du-Nord Wind Farm (PEDDN) to ensure a **harmonized approach**.

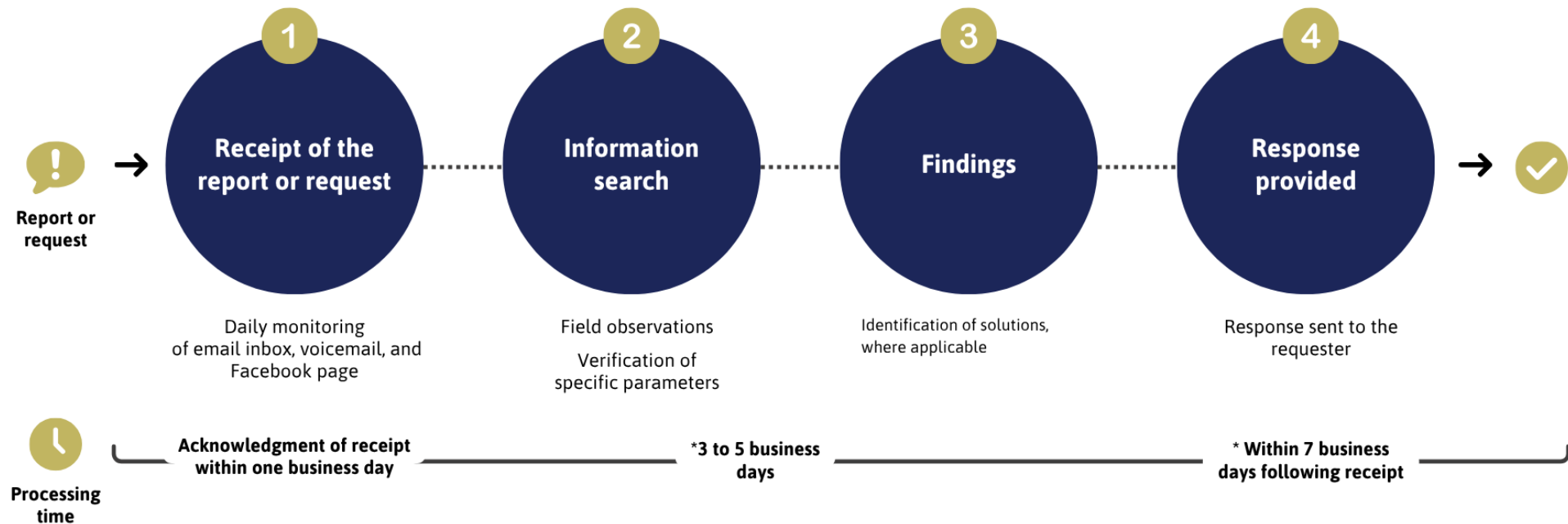
Reports and requests are received through **various identified channels**, recorded in an **internal tracking system** and handled according to clearly defined steps and timeline, from acknowledgement of receipt to the delivery of a response and the closing of the file. Issues considered significant or recurring will receive additional attention and may be **brought to the Liaison Committee** to help identify opportunities for improvement.

This mechanism supports an ongoing process of **continuous improvement** and ensures structured follow-up on community concerns throughout the life of the project.

A summary diagram of the process is provided on the following page.

Concerns and reports management

FLOWCHART OF THE NEW REPORT AND REQUEST MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE



*Processing time may vary depending on the complexity of the source.

Concerns and reports management

PILLAR 4 – OVERSEE THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE AND IMPACTS MANAGEMENT

The activities associated with this fourth pillar aim to **anticipate, manage and mitigate impacts related to the construction phase** of the wind farm, through a proactive approach of cohabitation with the community. This pillar builds on the dialogue mechanisms already in place and seeks to focus discussions on the concrete issues anticipated before and during construction.

The approach is based on structured discussions around the main issues related to the construction phase, which will be addressed through the Working Group and the Liaison Committee. Attention will be given to the **planning and review of traffic and transportation plans**, to promote a shared understanding of anticipated impacts and to identify possible adjustments based on community concerns.

At the same time, this pillar includes **preventive and targeted communications** with residents to clearly explain how construction activities will unfold, including timelines, expected impacts, and planned mitigation measures. **Monitoring mechanisms** will also be implemented throughout the construction phase, including regular follow-up points with the Liaison Committee and the Working Group, as well as the use of existing reporting mechanisms. These measures will allow for adjustments during construction and support rigorous and transparent management of project impacts.

An aerial photograph of a coastal area, likely a narrow strip of land or a small island. A large white wind turbine is the central focus, standing on a patch of cleared land. To the left of the turbine is a small, irregularly shaped pond or lagoon. The land is covered in low-lying green vegetation. A road or path runs along the right side of the land, bordering a body of water. In the distance, the land narrows into a point. The overall scene is captured in a slightly desaturated, blue-toned style.

Appendix – Action Plan

Action Plan – Pillar 1

PILLAR 1 – STRENGTHEN ACCESSIBILITY, CLARITY AND INFORMATION SHARING

ACTION	MECHANISM/ACTIVITY	TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS	TIMELINE
Provide regular, clear, and accessible information on the project's progress	Update information tools (website, social media, targeted communications)	Population of Magdalen Islands	Ongoing
	Involve members of the Liaison Committee and the Working Group in improving information and communication mechanisms for Magdalen Islands citizens	Liaison Committee members	Fall 2026
Share key directions of the community Engagement Plan with citizens	Distribution by mail of a summary document outlining the engagement approach, dialogue mechanisms, and key opportunities of participation for Grosse-Île residents	Population of Grosse-Île	Spring 2026
	Share and discuss the upcoming engagement approach through targeted meetings with local organizations	Municipal administrations and targeted organizations	Spring 2026

Action Plan – Pillar 2

PILLAR 2 – ESTABLISH ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMUNITY

ACTION	MECHANISM/ACTIVITY	TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS	TIMELINE
Review and enhance the mandate, composition, and operating framework of the Liaison Committee to strengthen community representation for both wind farms	Review of the Liaison Committee's mandate and composition	Liaison Committee members	Spring 2026
	Hold a validation and revision workshop for the proposed adjustments to the Liaison Committee	Liaison Committee members	Spring 2026
	Launch a call for applications to include citizens in the Liaison Committee and the Working Group	Population of Magdalen Islands	Summer 2026
	Hold a self-selection meeting	Population of Grosse-Île	Fall 2026
	Improve the Liaison Committee's representativeness by adding seats for a community and social organization and a land user representative (fishers and hunters)	Community and socio-community organizations and land users	Fall 2026
Create a dedicated forum for Grosse-Île residents	Establish a Working Group for the pre-operational phase of the Grosse-Île wind farm	Liaison Committee members and population of Grosse-Île	Fall 2026
	Develop a workplan with the Working Group to address key topics of interest in a clear, relevant, and predictable sequence during the pre-operational phase	Working Group members	Fall 2026
	Hold three Working Group meetings per year and make meeting summaries publicly available	Working Group members	Ongoing
	Participate, when relevant, in public activities or events organized in Grosse-Île to support dialogue with the community	Population of Grosse-Île	Ongoing
Structure discussions on site layout and visual impacts with targeted stakeholders	Engage Grosse-Île residents through targeted meetings to help identify priority viewpoints for the development of additional visual simulations	Population of Grosse-Île	Spring 2026
	Hold a meeting with Attention Fragîles and the ZIP to discuss project site layout	Environmental organizations	Spring 2026

Action plan – Pillar 3

PILLAR 3 – SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF CONCERNS AND FOLLOW-UP ON COMMITMENTS

ACTION	MECHANISM/ACTIVITY	TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS	TIMELINE
Ensure follow-up on issues raised by the community	Set up an internal tracking system for concerns and commitments to ensure consistent and structured follow-up with the community over time.	Population of Magdalen Islands	Spring 2026
Ensure structured and transparent processing of reports	Update the reporting management procedure	Population of Magdalen Islands	Spring 2026
	Provide periodic updates to the Liaison Committee on reported issues and recurring concerns	Liaison Committee members	Ongoing

Action plan – Pillar 4

PILLAR 4 – OVERSEE THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE AND IMPACTS MANAGEMENT

ACTION	MECHANISM/ACTIVITY	TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS	TIMELINE
Anticipate and reduce construction-related impacts on the community	Presentation and review of the main issues related to the construction phase (noise, traffic, schedules, access, safety) as part of the Working Group's activities	Working Group members	Winter 2026-2027
	Presentation of traffic and heavy equipment transportation plans, discuss with the community and identification of possible adjustments	Working Group and Liaison Committee members	Winter 2026-2027
Ensure preventive communication with citizens	Targeted communications on how construction activities will unfold (phases, schedule, anticipated impacts, mitigation measures)	Population of Magdalen Islands	2027-2028
Implement impact monitoring during the construction period	Regular follow-up points with the Liaison Committee and the Working Group during construction to document observed issues and adjust measures as needed	Working Group and Liaison Committee members	2027-2028
	Use and promotion of existing reporting mechanisms for construction-related issues	Population of Magdalen Islands	2027-2028