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Energizing the Future.

Riplinger Wind Power Project

Project Update

What's New?

Since we met with the community at our Open House in Hill Spring in February, we've compiled the results of our environmental surveys and submitted our application to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) for assessment. We have looked at different options for turbines and their possible locations and have been able to reduce the number of turbines down from 56 to 47. This number may still change slightly, but not by much. We are still looking at what is needed for collection routes and access roads. We are listening to stakeholder feedback on the Project and have moved the Project boundary further away from Hill Spring village limits. A map of the Project boundary is included in this package.

What We've Heard

We have been engaging with stakeholders on the Project since 2022. We've heard people want more information on the Project and our studies, and how to provide feedback to us, both on the wind farm and the transmission line. We welcome and appreciate your feedback. Some of the things you've told us that are important include:

- Birds and wildlife
- Ecosystems and waterbodies
- Views and the night sky
- Noise, dust, and groundwater
- The Waterton Biosphere
- Social and economic benefits

We are listening to what you are telling us and using your feedback to help design the Project in ways that seek to minimize effects on both people and the environment.

TransAlta believes it is important for local communities to benefit from our Projects and operations. We welcome all suggestions on how we can contribute to and support the community.

What's Next?

Community Open House in June

We will be having another community Open House on June 22, 2023 from 3-8pm at Hill Spring Community Centre. Address: 137 2 Ave S, Hill Spring, AB, T0K 1E0, where you can learn more about the Project, meet with our Project team and consultants, ask questions and share your views. We will post updated information on this event on the Project website.

Upcoming Studies

We are still completing a few studies including:

- An **Economic Impact Study** to look at how the Project will affect the local economy. We are doing this study to address concerns that have been expressed that the Project could negatively affect the local economy. We will include the results of this study in our application to the AUC.
- The **Electromagnetic and Radiocommunications** study is almost done and we are waiting for the response from government.
- A second **Geotechnical Study** will begin this fall. This study will look at ground and rock conditions for any turbines that have been moved in our plan since the last geotechnical study was done in the fall of 2022. We'll be using this geotechnical information for detailed engineering work on the Project.

Project Application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

We expect to submit the Project application to the AUC this summer. This application will include information on:

- The Project description, including turbine locations and technology, Project boundaries and how much electricity we plan to generate
- Results of the environmental surveys and AEPA's findings on environmental risks and our Project rating
- Records of stakeholder engagement on the Project
- Transmission line
- Visual impacts and an updated Shadow Flicker assessment
- Noise impact assessment
- Conservation and Reclamation plan

What happens when the application is submitted?

If you have been identified as a stakeholder on the Project and are receiving this newsletter directly, the AUC will notify you that our application has been received. The AUC will communicate directly with you on what you can do as a stakeholder to participate in this process.

More information on the AUC process is available in the brochure included in this package, or on the AUC's website at https://www.auc.ab.ca/. You can also visit our Project website for more information on permitting and approval requirements.

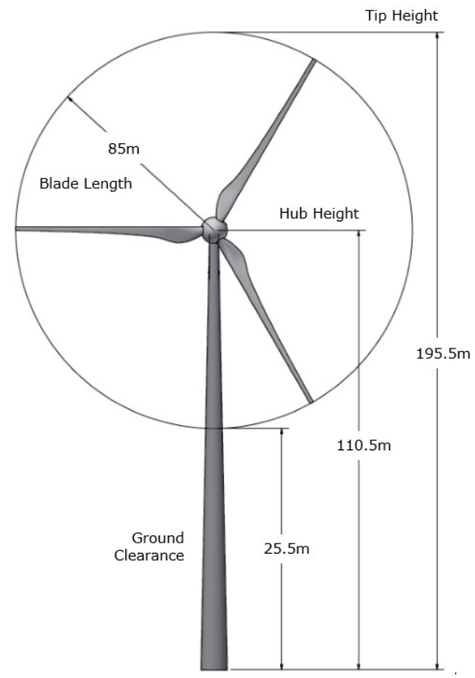
About the Project

TransAlta Corporation is proposing to build the Riplinger Wind Power Project, a roughly 300 megawatt (MW) wind farm in Cardston County, near the Village of Hill Spring.

What does the Project involve ?

TransAlta first started looking at developing this wind farm in 2020. Since then, we have done a number of studies to figure out what the project could look like and identify its possible environmental effects. While the Project is advanced in its design, we are still looking at different options, such as technologies, and ways to develop the Project. Although there could still be some changes, our plans for the Project include:

- 47 turbines. Each turbine could generate 6.6 MW of power and would have a tip height of just over 195 metres. Tip height is the distance from the ground to the furthest height the tip of windmill blade goes. We are still looking at different types of turbines and the locations of the turbines, so it's possible this number could change.
- One or two permanent meteorological towers. We use these to gather information on the weather that we use to understand how the turbines are performing
- An underground collector system to bring the power generated by the turbines to a central substation. Only one portion of the collector system will be above ground, where we have to cross the Belly River.
- The substation will be located close to the centre of the wind farm. Substations are used to convert the voltage of electricity coming from a wind farm to a level that is suitable for transmission.
- A transmission line that is roughly 45 km long to connect the Project to the existing transmission lines east of Pincher Creek. The transmission line is a separate project from the wind farm. This is because of the way electricity generation and transmission projects are regulated in Alberta. Our consultant (Maskwa) has started environmental studies and will be talking to communities about the transmission line starting in the next few weeks.
- We plan to use existing roads and access points as much as possible. Where it's necessary, we'll seek approval to use and upgrade County roads. If any new roads need to be constructed, they will be designed to minimize environmental effects and support continued agricultural activities.



295000 300000 305000 310000 315000

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Waterton Reservoir

Hill Spring

800

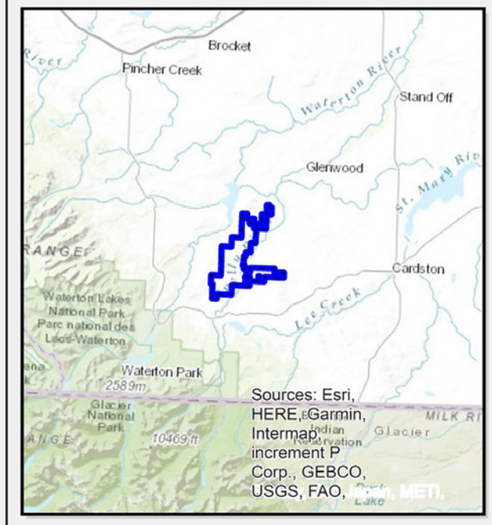
5

Mountain View

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community, Sources: Esri, Garmin, USGS, NPS

Legend

Project Boundary



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N W E S

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Riplinger
Updated Project Boundary

Date:	May 17, 2023
Projection:	UTM Zone 12, NAD83
Source:	NTDB 1:50,000, Altalis ATS data and TransAlta
Created By:	TransAlta Corporation
Scale:	1:80,000

Confidential and Subject to Change

What Environmental Surveys have been completed?

Our consultant (Ausenco) has done environmental surveys to gather information that will be used to assess the possible environmental effects of the Project. These include studies on:

- Habitat, landcover and wetlands
- Animal and bird spring and fall migration
- Breeding birds
- Raptor nests
- Spring and fall acoustic bats
- Sharp-tailed grouse

These surveys were done at different times of the year to gather information about different species and life cycles. We followed guidance from AEPA's Wildlife Directive to determine what studies we needed to do and how to do them. Our study teams included qualified professional biologists, scientists and technicians.

What do we do with the survey information?

The results of the environmental surveys were provided to AEPA as part of our Renewable Energy Project Submission report under the Wildlife Directive. AEPA is looking at this information and will identify the possible environmental risks associated with the Project. When they are done their assessment, they will rate the Project's unmitigated environmental risk as either low, moderate or high. TransAlta will include the AEPA's rating in our Project application to the AUC.

Decommissioning and Reclamation

A wind farm usually lasts between 30 and 35 years. When the Project is at the end of its life, TransAlta will either repower (replace the turbines with new technology) or decommission the wind farm, and reclaim the site. We have to submit a conservation and reclamation plan for the Project as part of our application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). This includes a commitment to return the land to its equivalent state.

Did you know TransAlta is the first company in Canada to fully decommission a wind farm?

The Cowley Ridge wind farm in the Pincher Creek area was the first wind farm developed in Canada and was safely decommissioned by TransAlta in 2022.

Did you know wind turbines are 85 to 95 per cent recyclable?

Wind turbine blades can be recycled by cutting them up into small pieces and then shredding them. The shredded material can then be used in making cement or even thick plastics. Fibreglass can also be recovered and repurposed. Most of what remains (steel, iron, aluminum, copper, and electronic components) is also completely recyclable through existing programs.

Updated Project Timeline

*Subject to change

Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns, or want more information about the Project, please contact us at:

- **Toll-free number: 1 (877) 547-3365, extension 1**
- **Email: canadian_projects@transalta.com**

Please reference the **Riplinger Wind Power Project** in the subject line of your email.

Where can I learn more about the Project?

You can find more information on the Project on our website at https://transalta.com/about-us/our-operations/projects-in-development/riplinger/ or get in touch with the TransAlta Project team.