

# HDI reports pending deals for wind and solar partnerships

By Jim Windle  
SIX NATIONS

The Haudenosaunee Development Institute gave to the Confederacy Chiefs Council at the Onondaga Longhouse an update Saturday on its negotiations with several solar and wind energy companies to build their projects on Haudenosaunee land.

NextEra was the first on the list.

"Many will recall that they are building something in the range of 500 megawatts of electricity windmills in the Nanfan Territory, which is the 1701 treaty territory," said Aaron Detlor on behalf of the HDI. "We've had ongoing negotiations with them, but these negotiations have been difficult because NextEra is of the opinion that they only have to make an arrangement with the Elected Council."

According to Detlor, NextEra have come to an agreement in principle that they would sign a separate

deal with the Chiefs of the Confederacy recognizing the Confederacy and the Treaty Rights issues.

"To protect the interest of the Haudenosaunee and their land, we didn't agree to simply put together a benefit agreement for cash only, but to actually enter into licensing agreement," Detlor reported.

It is the HDI's desire to license the land, which goes back to Haudenosaunee tradition of leasing Haldimand Tract lands.

Although an agreement is not formally in place at this time, according to Detlor, the parties have agreed to an amount and a time frame for a deal, which they are not prepared to reveal at this time, stating the negotiations are that sensitive and that close to resolution.

"It could have been much higher if the Band Council hadn't have interfered," he lamented.

NextEra is part of a company known as Florida Light and Power, based in Juno Beach, Florida.

"FLP is one of the bigger generation companies in the world and we have a very good relationship with them now," says Detlor. "We now have one of the largest companies in the world supporting the Confederacy as the proper government. This is a commitment to 500 acres of land over 20 years."

Detlor explained that even these relatively small packages of land which they are working with energy corporations on, when added together will produce a significant increase of Haudenosaunee land, not registered with Ontario Realty Corp., but rather through their own land registry system.

He next reported on the progress, or lack thereof, in the HDI's negotiations with Capital Power which has a project slated for the Port Dover/Nanticoke region.

"This company decided not to play ball with us," said Detlor. "We have been in negotiations for a year. They went and got an interim injunc-

tion but they know the injunction is weak. The people will go out and stop any further work if needs be, so they have agreed to have a mediated process. We are very close to a deal here, just like NextEra."

Detlor then turned attention towards Samsung, which already has an agreement with the Elected Band Council. He explained that the project is actually two. The solar element belongs to Samsung while the wind farms belong to Pattern Wind Energy, both of which have announced a 10% partnership interest agreement with the Elected Band Council.

Detlor reports that a possible separate deal with Samsung and Pattern is not off the table.

There is another much smaller wind project the HDI has been dealing with as well.

"The West Niagara Region Wind Corp is a wind project in St. Catharines area," said Detlor. "We have informed them as to what would be required if they get the funding to

build."

According to Detlor, there have been a few president setting deals struck elsewhere that could be leveraged into better deals for Six Nations down the road.

"The next step is to do a 50% equity deal," he says. "Walpole Island just announced a 50% equity deal, and there is another in Manitoulin Island. These presidents and models that are out there.

"The only entity here that is standing in the way of a 50% model, is the Elected Band Council. Everybody else, even without Treaty rights, are negotiating a 50% deal while Six Nations Elected Council is 10%."

Based on 100 megawatts, a 50% deal works out to be around \$5 - \$6 million a year.

Due to the delicate nature of the present negotiations, Detlor requested some of the information presented to the Confederacy Chiefs be considered classified and not published at this time.