

WATER WELLS FIRST

SERIOUS CONCERNS - AWARENESS & PROTECTION

1. Prior to the construction phase for a wind project within 15 km of your property (advisable to anyone really) have your well water analyzed. You must be able to prove the quality of your water if it should be adversely impacted.
2. It's important that you keep your lab results from your Water Test in a safe place. The results will provide you with a baseline, which establishes the quality of your water, should you need to prove it at any time. If you have more than one well that you rely on have each well tested.
3. We also recommend taking a Public Health test for E. Coli and Coliform bacteria. Do this through your local Health Department it is free in that you have paid for it with your taxes. Keep the test results in a safe place.
4. When you receive notice of a potential wind development public meeting; go, attend and ask questions. It is most important that you check the technical draft plans and make sure your water well is properly identified and properly located on the maps and in the hydrogeology report found in the draft plans. If your well isn't there or is not properly located, complain, tell them and then follow up in writing to the developer. Keep a copy of the letter for your records, if possible send it in a manner where you have proof it was received such as Registered Mail.
5. It is important that you organize your community. A meeting will be held with all the well water owners in the area to discuss your feelings about the sincerity of the developer in dealing with your concerns and any errors or omissions you may have found in the hydrogeology report. WATER WELLS FIRST has certainly learned a great deal since February of 2016 and if you'd like us to help you by answering questions or giving advice just get in touch. Please remember finding errors early especially in the hydrogeology report is important to ensuring the protection of your well. Documentation is the key to holding the wind developer and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change accountable for the protection of your well.
6. Keep in touch with your community, organize a second meeting of the well owners and write up your concerns. It is very important that you all keep in touch and are on the same page. When the project is posted on the MOECC's Environment Registry website for the public comments write in with your concerns. This is what the EBR is for and it is your time to make your concerns known to the MOECC. This is a time limited period prior to the release of the REA (Renewable Energy Approval) for the project. Making your concerns known on the EBR during that comment period is critical, it is your chance to tell the MOECC what your concerns are. It's important you have as many people in the project area as possible write in with their concerns about the need for your water well's protection. A template of the points can make it easier in some cases for all people to partake in this comment process. Discuss this at one of your community meetings.
7. Remember we are here to help all you need to do is ask.