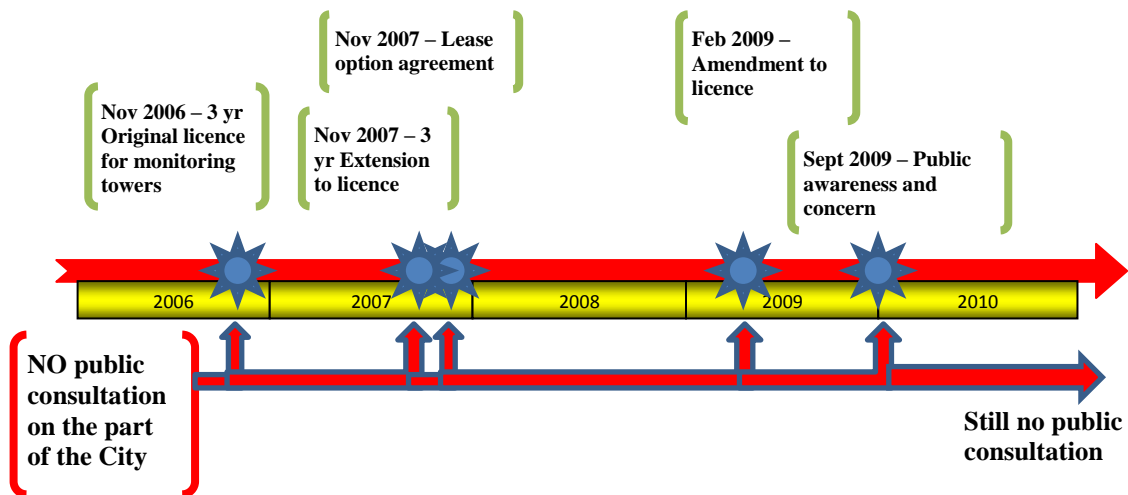


## CITY PROCESS

The City of Thunder Bay has neglected, by intention, to inform and consult its citizens regarding the proposed Big Thunder Wind Farm. The City's process has been insufficient and undemocratic. There have been many missed opportunities for public consultation (see Timeline for details). At any point the City could have consulted with the residents to determine the best use of this land for Thunder Bay as a whole. Consultation would be expected, given that this sensitive watershed represents over half the City's property holdings of 29, 000 acres. There have been no public consultations and no requests for proposals regarding the use of our land!

## TIMELINE



Numerous City of Thunder Bay Corporate Policies do not align with the documented progression of events related to the proposed industrial wind farm. Provided below is a condensed summary.

### *Real Property – Corporate Policy No. 09-04-01*

In regard to property disposal, the city policies indicate that:

- A call for proposals be issued for property disposal
- And that there is:
  - open and fair contracting
  - maximum long term economic advantage
  - protection of natural and heritage value

**It is unclear, with the lack of consultation and communication from the City, if the property disposal requirements were ever carried out.**

***Property Disposal – Public Notice – Corporate Policy No. 09-04-50***

The Property Disposal Public Notice Policy identifies that the City will:

- Provide public notice when disposing of property
- Afford the public sufficient opportunity to provide written comment

**With a project of this magnitude, one would have expected proper public notice from the City before any licence or option to lease was initiated.**

***Communications – Corporate Policy No. 07-01-07***

The policy on Communication describes how the City:

- Informs citizens about initiatives in a timely, accurate and consistent manner
- Ensures the City is visible and responsive to the citizens
- Anticipates the needs for relevant information
- Engages in proactive communications

**The policy specifically reads ‘Open and effective communication is the key to successful consultations.’ So why is it that the City has not consulted with the public over the past three and half years since entering into agreements with Horizon Wind?**

***Clean, Green & Beautiful – Corporate Policy No. 02-05-01***

To achieve “clean, green and beautiful,” a number of criteria have been identified, many of which seem to be contradicted by the proposed wind facility:

- Care and maintenance of public space – yet up to 17, 000 acres will be inaccessible
- Reduce green house gas – yet backup power sources will have to be on standby
- Use of alternative energy – yet NWO already has sufficient hydroelectric power
- Preservation of natural features – yet the natural beauty will be destroyed
- Expand trail network – yet public use of the area will be reduced or eliminated
- Protect biological diversity – yet wind turbines devastate wildlife habitats
- Protect ecological diversity – yet the ecology will be permanently damaged
- Celebrate cultural heritage – yet the historic mountains will be forever destroyed
- Preservation of views – yet 40 story high towers will be built atop the Nor’Westers

**This project is not clean, not green, and it’s certainly not beautiful.**

***EarthWise Thunder Bay Community Environmental Action Plan (CEAP)***

The mission of the EarthWise Thunder Bay CEAP is to focus the energy, involvement and collective wisdom of the community to secure the environmental health of our region. While there is a reference to promoting renewable energy sources such as wind and solar, there are extensive references to good planning, community involvement, transparent and open processes, and protecting public views!

**Yet there has not been public consultation, for this proposed project!**

**Summary**

In the past three and a half years since the first license with Horizon Wind was signed and the Green Energy Act came into effect, it was the City’s responsibility to be aware of the citizens’ concerns, and to provide an opportunity for public consultation. And since the Green Energy Act has come into existence, it is still City Council’s responsibility to address the citizens’ concerns, as they are our representatives. This is our land and we all have a say on the best use for it. **It is necessary to stop the proposed wind farm; there is no question that the Nor’Wester Mountain Escarpment is the wrong location for this project!**