

STAFF REPORT: Planning



REPORT TO: Mayor & Members of Council
MEETING DATE: September 17, 2007
REPORT NO.: PL.07.111
SUBJECT: Renewable Energy Update
PREPARED BY: Peter Tollefsen
Director of Planning

A. Recommendations

THAT Council does receive Planning Staff Report #PL.07.111, “Renewable Energy Update”, for information purposes.

B. Background

A staff report, #PL.07.95, a copy of which is attached, regarding Renewable Energy Update, was forwarded to Council for the July 19, 2007 meeting. That report updated Council with the April 26, 2007 Public Information meeting on the Constraint Analysis.. It was reported that since the April 26th meeting, staff and the consultant had been reviewing the comments, including visual impact.

The report stated that with Provincial Policy silent regarding visual impact, the Town may have “Significant Cultural Heritage Landscapes” (SCHL), which the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) states should be conserved and that policies for renewable energy could protect SCHL’s. It was suggested that a Study should be done to assess and identify SCHL’s.

It was reported that there was no budget allocation in the 2007 Planning Budget so staff was to report back to Council, being the purpose of this report.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) has been prepared and is attached to this report for your information. You will note Section 14 reads:

“Work will only be awarded if funding is approved in the 2008 Town of The Blue Mountains municipal budget. If funding approved, the work would likely be awarded at the end of the first quarter of 2008”.

C. Strategic Plan

Two goals of the Strategic Plan are:

“Managing growth to ensure the ongoing health and prosperity of the community”.

- and –

“Preserving and enhancing natural and environmental features, and cultural heritage of the community”.

These are the primary goals of the Renewable Energy Work Plan.

D. Budget Impact

It will be part of the 2008 Budget process.

E. Attachment

1. Staff report #PL.07.95
2. Request for Proposal (RFP)

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Tollefsen, Director of Planning