

**STAFF REPORT: Planning**



**REPORT TO: Mayor & Members of Council**  
**MEETING DATE: April 16, 2007**  
**REPORT NO.: PL.07.52**  
**SUBJECT: Renewable Energy – Constraint Analysis**  
**PREPARED BY: Peter Tollefsen  
Director of Planning**

#### **A. Recommendations**

**THAT Council does receive Planning Staff Report #PL.07.52, “Renewable Energy – Constraint Analysis”;**

**AND THAT Council authorize staff to proceed towards a Public Information Session to present the Constraint Analysis.**

#### **B. Background**

As a result of a series of public meetings in the Fall of 2005, a Policy Options Report was prepared by Jones Consulting and forwarded to Council in January, 2006. On February 27, 2006 Council authorized the preparation of planning policies and provisions to regulate land use impacts for wind, bio-mass and small scale co-generation renewable energy projects and the policies to also address visual impact for a future public meeting.

On October 02, 2006 Council authorized staff and Jones Consulting to conduct a Constraint Analysis and report back to Council prior to preparing Official Plan Policy.

At the March 05, 2007 Council meeting, an update on the work done so far on the GIS Constraint Mapping was given. This work has now been completed and is attached in the form of a report from Jones Consulting. This is for Council's information.

A presentation of the Constraint Mapping report will be made to the public on April 26, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Beaver Valley Community Centre at an Information Session. Public comment will be requested.

As outlined in previous reports to Council, the next steps are as follows:

1. Report back to Council with the Constraint Analysis (April 16/07)
2. Public Information Session (April 26/07)

3. Draft Policy Formulation and consider Zoning By-law approach (May/07)
4. Report to Council (June/07)
5. Public Information Session (July/07)
6. Statutory Public Meeting (Aug./07)
7. Adoption of Official Plan Amendment by Council (Sept./07)
8. County Approval

### **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**

An estimate of costs from Jones Consulting of \$13,000.00 was received and approved by Council in October, 2006. The funds were budgeted from the Planning Dept. Operating account for Consultant work. Jones Consulting are currently on budget.

### **E. Attachment**

1. Constraint Analysis – Renewable Energy Study (Jones Consulting Group Ltd.)

Respectfully submitted,

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Peter Tollefsen, Director of Planning