

**BLASTING PLAN
STONY CREEK WIND FARM
WYOMING COUNTY, NEW YORK**

January 7, 2009

1.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

The Stony Creek Wind Farm is a wind farm project proposed to be constructed in the Town of Orangeville in Wyoming County, New York by Stony Creek Energy LLC (Stony Creek). The project includes the construction and operation of up to 59 wind turbines, the installation and operation of associated collection lines, access roads, substation, and related facilities (the “Project”).

2.0 BLASTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PROJECT

A preliminary geotechnical review of the proposed Project site was completed as part of the SEQRA review process. The review indicates that blasting is unlikely to be required for construction of the wind turbine foundations needed for the Project. This plan would be followed in the unlikely event that blasting was required for Project construction.

3.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BLASTING OPERATIONS

3.1 Blasting Regulations

When blasting is deemed necessary, blasting operations will adhere to applicable New York State statutes and regulations governing the use of explosives. The State regulations are contained in 12 NYCRR Part 39 and in Industrial Code Rule 53, and include such requirements as licensing of operators; magazine (explosive storage) certification; and procedures for conducting operations in a safe manner. Pertinent safety regulations and standards shall be applied as required for safety, security and other related details for any blasting deemed necessary. Additional applicable safety regulations include:

- Code of Federal Regulations A.T.F. Title 27
- New York State Industrial Code Rule 53
- Directive 495 standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- Occupation Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, 29 CFR 1926.900 - 1926.914 and 1910.109
- New York State Industrial Code Title 12- Part 39
- Article 16 of the Labor Law of the State of New York

3.2 General Procedures

In addition to those general provisions identified in 29 CFR 1926.900, if blasting is required for Project Construction, Stony Creek will follow the following is a list of general procedures:

- Warning signs shall be provided at points of access to the blasting area.

- During the approach or progress of a thunderstorm or dust storm, operations involving the handling or use of explosive materials shall be discontinued and personnel moved to a safe area; controls will be established to prevent accidental discharge of electric blasting caps from extraneous electricity.
- Blasting operations immediately adjacent to overhead power lines, communications lines, utility services, or other structures shall not be carried on until the operators and/or owners have been notified and measures for safe control have been taken.
- All loading and firing shall be directed and supervised by one designated person who is licensed in New York State to handle explosives.
- Blasting machines shall be operated, maintained, tested, and inspected as prescribed by the manufacturer.
- Blasting machines shall be tested prior to use and periodically thereafter as prescribed by the manufacturer.
- No explosive materials shall be abandoned.
- All refuse from explosive loading such as empty box paper, and fiber packing shall be burned at an approved location.

5.0 STORAGE AND HANDLING OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS

5.1 Storage of Explosives

The storage of explosives shall be in accordance with applicable requirements of the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and New York State Department of Labor. The storage area of all explosive materials shall be located on the Project site at a location approved by the supervising blasting engineer of the blasting subcontractor. Caps or other detonating devices will not be stored with Class A explosives.

An accurate running inventory of all explosives and blasting agents stored at the Project shall be maintained: two copies shall be maintained - one at the magazine (storage area) and one in the main Project construction office which shall be at least 50 feet from the magazine.

The designated storage site, explosive transporting vehicles, and areas where explosives are being used shall be clearly marked and will display the required warning signs. A daily tally of all explosives delivered, used and stored will be maintained at the main Project construction office.

5.2 Transportation of Explosives

All vehicles transporting explosive materials shall display all placards, lettering, and/or numbering required. Only authorized persons will transport and handle the explosives as designated by the authority of those licensed for this purpose, vehicles transporting explosive materials shall not be left unattended.

5.3 Handling of Explosives

There shall be no smoking, open lights, or fire of any kind within 50 feet of any area where explosives are being handled. No source of ignition, except necessary means to light fuses or fire electric detonators, shall be permitted in an area containing loaded holes.

Containers of explosive materials shall be opened only with non-sparking tools or instruments. Metal slitters may be used for opening fiberboard boxes, paper bags or plastic tubes.

After loading of a blast is completed, all excess explosive materials and detonators shall be removed to a safe location or returned at once to the storage area, observing the same rules as when being conveyed to the blasting area.

6.0 VIBRATION AND DAMAGE CONTROL

Blasting operations adjacent to residences, buildings, structures, utilities or other facilities shall be carefully planned with full consideration for all forces and conditions involved. The minimum amount of blasting material shall be used to effectively fracture the competent rock for the excavation depth.

Independent monitoring of vibration and air concussion levels shall be carried out by the contractor during all blasting operations.

7.0 DRILLING AND LOADING

All drill holes shall be sufficiently large to freely allow for the insertion of the explosives.

Drilling and loading operations shall not be carried on in the same area. Drilling shall be separated from loaded holes by at least the depth of the loaded hole.

The loading or loaded area shall be kept free of any equipment, operations, or persons not essential to loading; no vehicle traffic shall be permitted over loaded holes; the blast site shall be guarded or barricaded and posted with danger signs to restrict unauthorized entry.

No holes shall be loaded except those to be fired in the next round of blasting; after loading, all remaining explosive materials and detonators shall be immediately returned to an authorized magazine; no explosive materials or loaded holes shall be left unattended at the blast site at any time. Cartridges shall be primed only in the number required for a single round of blasting.

8.0 FIRING

Prior to the firing of a shot, all persons in the danger area shall be warned of the blast and ordered to a safe distance from the area. Blasts shall not be fired until it is certain that every person has retreated to a safe distance and no one remains in a dangerous location.

Prior to the firing of a shot, a competent flag person shall be posted at all access points to danger areas.

Safety Signals

All blasting operations shall use the following safety signals:

- **WARNING SIGNAL** - a one-minute series of long audible signals 5 minutes prior to blast signal;
- **BLAST SIGNAL** - a series of short audible signals 1 minute prior to the shot; and
- **ALL CLEAR SIGNAL** - a prolonged audible signal following the inspection of blast area.

Other Safety Measures

Prior to blasting, necessary precautions for the protection of persons and adjoining property will be established. Such precautions shall include the following:

- A blasting mat will be placed over the blasting surface. The blasting mat will remain in place until all shots are fired in the blasting zone.
- Appropriate signs will be erected in the area of blasting activities.
- Notification of blasting at the site will be published in newspapers prior to the blasting schedule.
- A storm alert monitoring device will be used by the blasting contractor to detect any electrical build-up in the atmosphere at the blast area while using electrical caps.
- Special care will be taken with detonating cords and connectors to protect from the impact of falling rocks or other impeding objects.
- Vehicles equipped with radio transmitters and portable 2-way radios will not be permitted within 100 feet of blasting operations.

9.0 INSURANCE

Stony Creek will carry sufficient insurance during the blasting operations. The insurance shall be in place to cover unintended property damage directly occurring from blasting. Insurance shall include: (i) general liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate, and (ii) excess liability insurance with a limit of not less than \$2,000,000 in the aggregate, in each case for injury to any person and for damage to property.