

## WIRE Update, January 2009

This update about the road construction shown in the albums comes from WIRE. We have been informed that the municipality, without precaution, permit or public notification, did the road work, using materials supplied by the proponent with no precaution (silt barriers etc.) or preventative measures. We are trying to figure out exactly who made these decisions and with what authorization. Imagine the cumulative effect of the turbines, the roads and now the encroachment on this MOST SENSITIVE PROVINCIALY SIGNIFICANT WETLAND, LEVEL 4 IBA with COSEWIC identified herptile and avian species. This was the most controversial area in the entire project, and now look at it. Right now, the entire wetland is flooded and there is no watercourse flow. Needless to say, the surrounding landowners not under contract with the company have reason to be concerned that their land is now flooded, not to mention surrounded by turbines (note, the blade tip need only be 5m setback from adjacent landowners' fence lines).

Here's some examples of what seems to be the typical behaviour of the powers-that-be. The Mayor of Frontenac Islands, at the closing of the Council meeting, stood up with letters of requests for information about 2nd Line Road and the wetland. He waved them and said, "The Township is going to be very busy this spring, so we will no longer waste time answering trivial questions." He then exited through the back kitchen door. After all, the Mayor has private financial dealings with the company (CREC rents several of his properties to house workers); as does his uncle (a landowner) with multiple towers. One of the councillors is a landlease owner and a former councillor is as well (who negotiated the deal). One councillor has family employed by CREC in a supervisory position. Three of the five "volunteers" appointed to the Community Liason Committee are employees/landowners and have immediate family employed on the project. One of these, the chair, refers to WIRE as "you people", as in "you people have had enough time to talk" (quote from last meeting of the CLC). The CLC is the only public forum for concerns, established by the OMB Hearing. And it is crumbling. The "non-participating" members -- those without financial agreements with the company, and non-disclosure agreements -- are set to resign.