

#### CAPSTONE INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION

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www.capstoneinfrastructure.com

December 17th, 2025

Via email (<u>info@rdos.bc.ca</u>)

Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen Attention: Chair Mark Pendergraft 101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC, V2A 5J9

RE: BC Hydro 2025 Call for Power – Information on Proposed Tulameen Wind Project

Dear Chair Mark Pendergraft,

I hope this finds you and your community healthy and well.

I am reaching out on behalf of Capstone Infrastructure Corporation ("Capstone") to share information on our proposed Tulameen Wind Project. Capstone is a publicly traded, independent power producer headquartered in Toronto, focused on providing renewable energy to homes and businesses across North America. Our mission is to drive the energy transition forward through creative thinking, strong partnerships, and a commitment to quality and integrity in how we do business. We develop new projects, and own and operate a diversified portfolio of 36 utility-scale renewable power generation facilities with a capacity of approximately 1.1 GW (gigawatts).

As you may be aware, BC Hydro has issued a Request for Proposals for the 2025 Call for Power on July 28, 2025, to acquire approximately 5,000 gigawatt hours of new sources of renewable electricity<sup>1</sup>. Proposals are due January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and BC Hydro will award Electricity Purchase Agreements ("EPA") in early 2026. Capstone would like to participate in the Call for Power with our proposed Tulameen Wind Project (the "Project").

Capstone was awarded Electricity Purchase Agreements for three projects under the 2024 Call for Power. Each of these projects includes equity partnerships with First Nations and is currently undergoing review through the BCER assessment process. Capstone is keen to receive feedback from local communities to better understand community interests, priorities, and concerns related to the Project area.

# **Project Overview**

The proposed Project is located approximately 15 km northwest of Princeton, BC, within RDOS Electoral Area H, as shown on the provided map. Early feasibility work including desktop-based technical and environmental studies have been completed and were used to prepare a preliminary layout of the Project demonstrating potential turbine locations and point of interconnection to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> More information on the BC Hydro 2025 Call for Power is located here: <a href="https://www.bchydro.com/work-with-us/selling-clean-energy/2025-call-for-power.html">https://www.bchydro.com/work-with-us/selling-clean-energy/2025-call-for-power.html</a>.

BC Hydro grid. Based on initial review of site constraints, we believe the Project area can accommodate a project of up to 200 MW.

# **Regulatory Context**

As you may be aware, wind energy projects in the 2025 Call for Power will be subject to impact assessment and permitting through the BC Energy Regulator. If a project is successful in securing an Electricity Purchase Agreement (EPA), it will be required to conduct to a full year of field surveys, including wildlife, environmental and archaeology studies. The full project assessment and permitting process is anticipated to take place over a 2–3-year period.

### **Next Steps**

The enclosed Project Description document provides additional details about the Project, proposed timelines, and ways to engage with our team. In the coming months, we will be reaching out to share more detailed information and updates.

If you would like to learn more or have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We would be happy to provide further information and answer any inquiries from you or community members. Additionally, if there are local organizations or community groups we should connect with directly, please let us know. Your community's feedback and questions are important to us, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

**Andrea Kausel** 

Vice President, Development

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Encl. (1) Project Description



# **Tulameen Wind Project**

# WHO IS CAPSTONE INFRASTRUCTURE?

Capstone Infrastructure Corporation ("Capstone") is a publicly traded, independent power producer headquartered in Toronto, focused on providing clean, renewable energy to homes and businesses across North America. We develop new projects and own and operate a diversified portfolio of 36 utility-scale renewable power generation facilities with a capacity of approximately 1.1 GW (gigawatts).

Capstone's mission is to drive the renewable energy transition forward through creative thinking, strong partnerships, and a commitment to quality and integrity. Capstone is proud to deliver safe, reliable, and clean energy to communities across North America, and its strong track record of Indigenous equity partnerships across Canada.

Capstone was awarded Electricity Purchase Agreements for three projects under the 2024 Call for Power. Each of these projects includes equity partnerships with First Nations and is currently preparing for review by the BC Energy Regulator under the developing Energy Resource Activities Act (ERAA) process.

Capstone is currently exploring additional opportunities for potential wind and solar development in British Columbia for the 2025 BC Hydro Call for Power.

# 2025 CALL FOR POWER

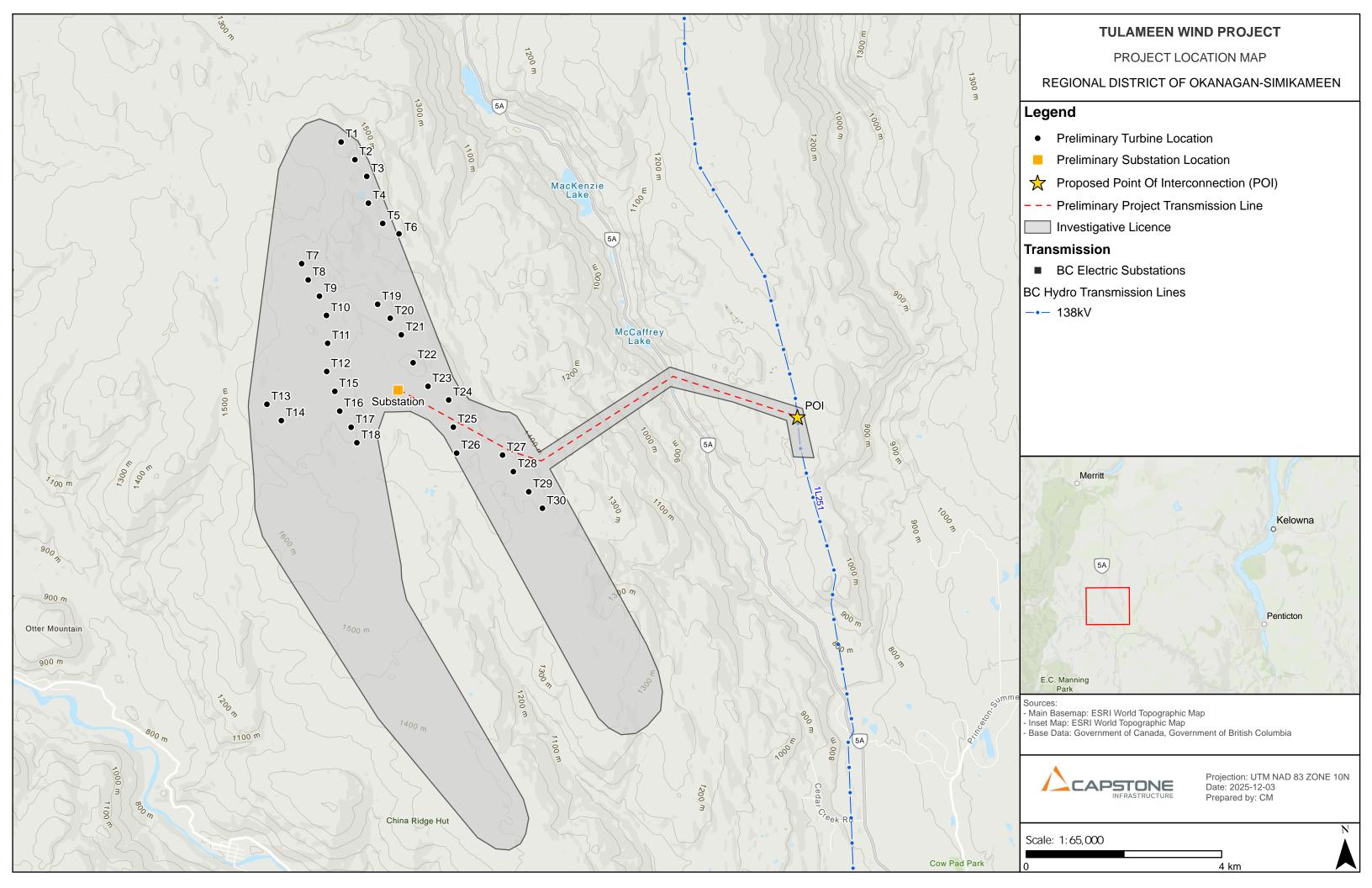
BC Hydro has issued a Request for Proposals for the 2025 Call for Power on July 28, 2025, to acquire approximately 5,000 gigawatt hours per year of new sources of clean or renewable electricity. Proposals are due January 5, 2026, and BC Hydro will award 30-year Electricity Purchase Agreements ("EPA") in early 2026. More information on the BC Hydro 2025 Call for Power is located here: <a href="https://www.bchydro.com/work-with-us/selling-clean-energy/2025-call-for-power.html">https://www.bchydro.com/work-with-us/selling-clean-energy/2025-call-for-power.html</a>

## THE PROJECT

Capstone is seeking to participate in the 2025 Call for Power with the proposed Tulameen Wind Project (the Project), located approximately 15km northwest of Princeton, BC, in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen as shown on the enclosed map.

We have reviewed desktop-based environmental constraints, in conjunction with detailed site terrain and wind data to prepare a preliminary layout of the Project demonstrating potential turbine locations. We have also identified a point of interconnection to the BC Hydro grid which has been studied by BC Hydro. Based on initial review of site constraints and BC Hydro's assessment, we believe the Project area can accommodate a project of up to 200 MW (which would be approximately 30 turbines based on modern wind turbine technology).

Capstone is committed to engaging with local communities throughout the development process and is keen to receive feedback to better understand community interests, priorities, and concerns related to the Project area.





#### **Project Purpose**

The purpose of the Project is to provide new clean and renewable electricity to BC Hydro and the Province of BC's power grid to help ensure the future needs of BC Hydro customers can be met. The 2025 Call for Power requires a minimum First Nations equity ownership in the Project, which aligns with Capstone's commitment to building meaningful, long-standing relationships with Indigenous communities.

In addition to producing clean energy, the Project is anticipated to provide local benefits for communities in the vicinity of the Project. Anticipated benefits include local employment and training opportunities, as well as procurement and contracting opportunities for local services and suppliers.

#### **Project Components**

The proposed Project currently includes the following components:

- Wind turbines Up to 30 wind turbine generators (wind turbines or turbines), with a 6 to 8 MW capacity, that convert kinetic energy from the wind into electrical power. Modern utility-scale wind turbines typically have a tower height ranging from 100 to 130 meters (m) (330 to 425 feet) and rotor diameters between 145 to 175 m (475 to 575 feet).
- **Substation** the Project substation will gather, meter and step-up the voltage of electricity generated by the wind turbines to connect to the BC Hydro grid. Substations include a control building, one to two main power transformers, circuit breakers, and other electrical equipment needed to manage and transmit the power to the grid and control the Project.
- **Electrical line** medium voltage (typically 34.5 kV) electrical collector lines connect the turbines to the Project substation and can be buried adjacent to Project access roads or overhead depending on site conditions. A high-voltage line (138 kV) transmission line will be required to connect the Project substation to the BC Hydro grid. BC Hydro would also be required to construct the interconnection works and network upgrades, where applicable. The interconnection can include a line tap or a switching station.
- Access roads internal gravel access roads will be required from the public roads to the individual Project turbines and substation. Where possible, access roads will follow existing forestry roads and trails, which may require upgrading to allow safe transportation of Project components.

The route and siting of linear infrastructure line electrical lines and roads will be confirmed and discussed as the Project planning progresses, including via consultation and field surveys. The Project is currently in a preliminary development stage, which involves initial project siting, feasibility assessment, and preliminary design. Final siting and design of Project components will be developed following a robust field survey program, in accordance with the forthcoming British Columbia Energy Regulator (BCER) regulations for wind and solar projects. Indigenous and stakeholder engagement would be initiated following the EPA award by BC Hydro, should the Project be successful in the 2025 Call for Power.

# **Project Activities**

The Project lifecycle will include four phases; development, construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning, described below:

#### 1. Development Phase:

- Pre-PPA Award: wind resource assessment, desktop research, preliminary layout and design, and early-stage engagement with Indigenous groups and the public.
- Post-PPA Award (if successful): BCER ERAA review process and permitting as described in the section below, Indigenous and public engagement, final engineering and design, equipment procurement, and construction tender.



#### 2. Construction Phase:

- Site Preparation and Civil Works: Clearing and grading the land, building/upgrading access roads and crane pads.
- Foundation Construction: Excavating and pouring concrete foundations for the wind turbines.
- Turbine Installation: Assembling the turbine towers, nacelles, and rotor blades using cranes, and installation of internal components.
- Electrical Infrastructure: Installing the electrical collector system, substation, and transmission line.
- Commissioning: Testing and commissioning the turbines, electrical system and substation.

# 3. Operation and Maintenance Phase:

- Monitoring and Control: 24/7 remote monitoring with automated control systems to ensure safe operation and compliance with the BC Hydro requirements.
- Maintenance: Performing regular and preventive maintenance on turbines, electrical systems, and infrastructure to ensure reliability and efficiency, and respond to any unplanned maintenance events.
  This includes inspections, lubricating moving parts, and replacing worn components.
- Data Analysis: Analyzing operational data to improve performance, forecast energy production, and plan maintenance schedules.
- Environment, Health and Safety Management: Ensuring all activities comply with safety regulations and protocols to protect the environment, workers and equipment.

#### 4. Decommissioning Phase

• Removal of all wind turbine and substation components to at least 1 metre below grade (or as needed to restore prior land use), decommissioning of access roads where other resource development is not co-located, and land reclamation, aligning with regulatory requirements at that time.

#### **Preliminary Project Schedule**

In accordance with the 2025 Call for Power, BC Hydro EPA award notice is planned for Q1 2026, and Capstone would be targeting commencement of commercial operation in late 2032. This would provide approximately 6.5 years for project permitting and construction. A high-level preliminary Project schedule is outlined below:

Project Task	Anticipated Timeline
BC Hydro Contract (EPA) Award	Q1 2026
Environmental Studies and Knowledge Gathering for the Project	2026 – 2027
BCER Permit Application	2028
Anticipated Issuance of BCER Permit Approvals	2029
Construction Start	2030
Commercial Operation	2032



# PROJECT LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project is located approximately 15 km northwest of Princeton, BC, in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen. The Project is situated within the Okanagan Range ecosection, within the Northern Cascade Ranges ecoregion.

The Okanagan Range ecosection is an area with high mountains, deep dry valleys and lowering roudned summits to the North of the Similkameen River. The ecosection lies in a rainshadow. Vegetation at higher elevations is primarily sub-alpine forest and alpine tundra, while the lower elevation basins have sagebrush-steppe habitats<sup>1</sup>. Wildlife that is characteristic to this ecoregion includes California bighorn sheep, mountain goat, mule deer, black bear, grouse and rattlesnake<sup>2</sup>.

The Project location was selected due to a number of factors, including available wind resource, BC Hydro grid access, and environmental considerations. The Project does not overlap with any provincial parks, ecological reserves, or protected areas. The Capstone team has completed an initial desktop review of key environmental factors in the Project area. Capstone acknowledges the need for on-the-ground environmental baseline studies and meaningful engagement with Indigenous Nations to better understand the Project area and the environmental setting of the Project. As set out in the preliminary Project schedule above, pending successful BC Hydro contract award, Capstone anticipates commencing the environmental studies process in Q2 2026.

# **ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Capstone is committed to fostering meaningful engagement with local communities throughout the project's development. In the coming months, Capstone will continue to provide regular updates to local governments and community stakeholders, creating opportunities for residents to learn more about the project, share their feedback, and ask questions.

# **Engagement Opportunities**

In the near-term, Capstone is proposing the following Project engagement opportunities for 2025, and in the event that the Project is successfully awarded an EPA, Capstone expects the following engagement activities in 2026:

#### 2025

- Continue to provide updates on BC Hydro Call for Power process
- Information sessions as requested

#### 2026

- Capstone to attend community events
- Baseline data collection program input
- Start baseline data collection
- Project design information sharing
- Topic of interest specific conversations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/plants-animals-and-ecosystems/ecosystems/broad-ecosystem/an introduction to the ecoregions of british columbia.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.ecozones.ca/english/region/210.html

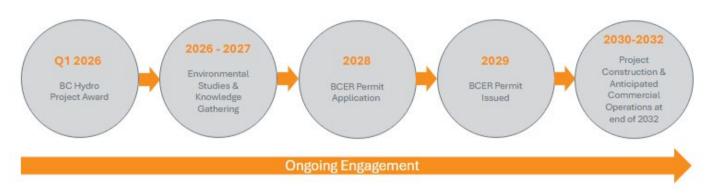


# REGULATORY AND PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

In Fall 2025, the BC Energy Regulator (BCER) has become the primary regulator for renewable energy projects. BCER has the regulatory authority to issue final permits for wind projects. Where applicable, federal permits remain under jurisdiction from various federal regulatory authorities.

#### **BCER Environmental Review and Permitting**

If the proposed Project is awarded a contract with BC Hydro, it will be subject to an Environmental Review and Permitting Process, in accordance with the *BC Energy Resource Activities Act*. During this process, Capstone will be required to gather knowledge and information to assess the potential effects of construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project. This assessment will include identifying mitigation measures for biophysical and socio-economic effects. During the Early Engagement phase, Capstone will continue collaboration and engagement with Indigenous groups during the Environmental Review and Permitting Process and beyond. The anticipated regulatory timelines are shown below and are subject to change as Project planning progresses.



#### **Permitting**

The following provincial permits may be required prior to construction and operation of the Project, pending final siting and access requirements, as well as results of studies for the Project area.

Preliminary Potential Permits	Legislation	Rationale
General Area Licence	BC Lands Act	Crown land authorization for a new
of Occupation		infrastructure footprint
(GALOO)		
Licence to Cut	BC Lands Act	Required for approval to remove/harvest
		timber on Crown land
Section 11 Permits	BC Water Sustainability Act	Required if work will occur within a stream or
(changes in and about		wetland/wetland bank
a stream)		
Section 10 Permits	BC Water Sustainability Act	Required if water is to be withdrawn for
(water intake or		construction use
withdrawal)		
Section 12 Permits	BC Heritage Conservation Act	Required to complete heritage inspection field
		work
Wildlife Act Permits	BC Wildlife Act	Required for scientific study, handling, or
		salvaging of amphibians
Forestry Permits	BC Forest Act	Required prior to construction activities that
	BC Forest Code Practices Act	require tree-clearing



Preliminary Potential Permits	Legislation	Rationale
	BC Forest and Range	
	Practices Act	
Access/Utility/	BC Transportation Act	Required for conducting work on or around
Transportation Permits		BC provincial highways during construction
Section 73 Permits	Federal Species at Risk Act	Required for conducting activities that may
		impact habitat of species at risk
Aeronautical	Aeronautics Act and Canadian	Transport Canada requires that structures
Obstruction Clearance	Aviation Regulation	over 60-m in height may be marked or lighted
		to be easily identified during day or night.
Land Use Authorization	Civil Air Navigation Services	Wind projects require non-objection letter
	Commercialization Act	from NAV CANADA.
Request for Review	Federal Fisheries Act	Required to assess potential impacts of a
(RfR)		project on fish and fish habitat, such as major
		watercourse crossings, or grading in proximity
		to waterbodies with fish habitat

# QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK

Questions and feedback can be directed to the following contacts:

Engagement Contact:	Mailing Address:
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	Website: www.capstoneinfrastructure.com