

# NextEra Energy loads bases as it shoots for big innings in Ontario

NextEra Energy Canada has submitted feed-in tariff applications for eight projects in Ontario.

The company hopes to get approval for up to half when the province starts offering agreements in April.

“Three to four have a good chance of getting a contract right away,” said project director Ben Greenhouse. “They could be under construction by the fall and in operation by December.”

Two of the proposals, 60MW Adelaide and 75MW Bornish in southwestern Ontario, compete with each other for transmission capacity.

“There’s a rather simple upgrade that will allow both to connect,” said

Greenhouse. “Whichever one gets the contract first, we believe they are on the fastest track.”

The developer is planning to use GE 1.5MW xle turbines for both sites. It has issued a request for proposals to tender for construction but it has yet to be finalized.

NextEra is waiting on clarification from the provincial environment ministry before submitting its renewable energy approval documentation.

At issue is whether stage-two archaeology studies are required prior to REA submission or before construction begins.

NextEra bought the Adelaide and Nanticoke projects from Air Energy TCI, which is continuing to

## FiT for thought

The Ontario Power Authority has pushed back the launch of feed-in tariff contracts to early April.

“We expect to award contracts in about a month upon completion of transmission availability tests and distribution availability tests,” said Ben Chin, OPA communications VP.

The OPA intends to award contracts for 2500MW of renewable power projects, including 500MW reserved for Samsung.

work on permitting for the farms.

Nanticoke, now called Summerhaven under NextEra, has also been

bid into the FiT regime. “It could be up to 200MW depending on the environmental studies and the technology selected,” said Greenhouse.

“The front runners right now are the GE machines or the Siemens machines.”

In addition, NextEra applied for several distribution-connected projects, including Conestogo (18MW to 25.3MW), East Durham (18MW to 27.6MW) and the 18MW Strathroy.

GE 1.5MW turbines and Siemens 2.3MW machines are being considered.

NextEra is aiming to complete construction of its Ontario portfolio before 2012 when the provincial content requirement jumps to 50%.