



Six Nations "Iroquois" Confederacy
GRAND RIVER COUNTRY



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Samsung/CCL Grand Renewable Solar Project

The Haudenosaunee Development Institute, (HDI) the planning department of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council, and Stantec Archeology consultants are working in partnership to ensure the protection of artifacts, at Samsung/CCL Grand Renewable Solar Project site in Haldimand County after previously undocumented archeological sites surfaced during construction on the over 700 acre development site in recent weeks.

HDI Archeology Monitoring experts working on another section of the solar project, during routine visits to sites under construction found sufficient evidence of artifacts being endangered to warrant corrdoning off selected areas of the massive solar site for further investigation. HDI monitors are authorized by the HCCC to stop construction sites if there is a refusal to adhere to either Ontario or HCCC policies in the protection of artifacts and archeological sites.

HDI director Hazel Hill said new archeological sites can surface during construction. "It is not at all unusual for new sites to surface during construction and once they do, construction has to stop until it is determined how to proceed."

The area involved she said is an area that had been previously cleared of archeological artifacts.

"This was an area of the Samsung/CCL site that had been cleared in 2009 by Stantec. The HCCC was not involved or engaged in any work with Samsung/CCL at that time."

She said HDI monitors, now monitoring the sites, spotted artifacts during routine visits to the sites under construction.

"Once they saw the artifacts, our HDI monitors halted the construction until a review or study of the area and next steps could be determined jointly by Stantec and the HDI," she said.

She said she has been in contact with the ministry. "We are keeping the ministry apprised of the details."

She said artifacts, discovered by HDI monitors and placed for safekeeping at the site went missing and have not been returned. "Neither the HDI or Stantec have been able to determine what happened to the artifacts but did document their existence upon discovery the day before the artifacts disappeared," she said.

As a result of the shutdown the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs were alerted and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) about the potential for missing artifacts and discovery of undocumented archaeological resources in areas of the 700 acre site.

As of Friday, July 25, 2014 neither the HDI or MTCS have cleared the sites for construction to resume.

Under MTCS's Ontario Heritage Act should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act."

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A licensed archaeologist, with Stantec, assisted by HDI monitors will undertake archaeological fieldwork in compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011). A Stage 3 assessment of the sites is being completed and the report(s) on the fieldwork will document:

- the location of the artifacts through a controlled surface collection
- the context in which the artifacts were found (i.e. in areas of intensive and extensive disturbance, minimally disturbed, plough, not yet disturbed, etc)
- the archaeological context and any possible association of the artifacts recovered in relation to the archaeological sites documented during the preceding archaeological assessment of the project location
- recommendations for each location as to whether there are further concerns that require additional fieldwork.

Report(s) will be submitted for review to ensure that the relevant standards have been met.

The Grand Renewable Energy Park is owned by Samsung/CCL and Six Nations Band is a shareholder.

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