

## STATEMENT

27 AUGUST 2009

# Wind Turbines

## 1 Franklin Wharf (Marine Board Building)

- On 26 August 2009, the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority granted a planning permit for the installation of four wind turbines on the roof of 1 Franklin Wharf (Marine Board Building), subject to conditions.
- The conditions of the permit allow the Authority to initiate actions to remove the wind turbines if they cease to operate for more than 180 days, create noise or other environmental nuisance, or create harm to bird life.
- The permit expires after 12 years so the appropriateness and operation of wind turbines in this location can be reviewed after that time.
- In making its decision, the Authority considered the advice of consultants with expertise in planning and heritage. The advice of the Sullivans Cove Design Panel was also considered.
- The application was initially advertised for public comment from 2 to 17 June 2009 and again from 27 July to 10 August 2009 following the receipt of additional information from the proponent.
- A total of seven representations were received by the Authority.
- During the course of assessment, the proponent submitted revised drawings to the Authority, which made the following improvements to the original proposal:
  - decreased height of each tower by approximately 25% (15m to 11m);
  - decreased height of each mill section by approximately 20% (6.2m to 5m);
  - decreased the width of each mill section by 16.6% (6m to 5m);
  - decreased the surface area of each mill section by at least 33% (6 blades to 5 blades with a finer profile and spoke bracing assembly, plus overall reduced width of mill section); and
  - the diameter of the tower was also reduced (as the whole assembly is lighter due to the composite materials of its construction).
  - Increased the wind energy output of each turbine by 20% (10kW to 12kW), which will produce more of the building's total energy consumption (up from 12% to 14.4% per annum).

- The wind turbines have a total height of 11m (measured from the base of the support structure to the top of the turbine), which extends 6m above the upper roof. The mill section of the turbines measure 5m wide and consist of five x 5m high vertical blades.
- The Authority has written to the applicant and all those who made representations on the proposal advising of its decision and providing a copy of the permit.
- The applicant and any representors may appeal the Authority's decision by lodging an appeal with the Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal within 14 days.
- The permit does not take effect until the appeal period has lapsed or in the event of an appeal being lodged, either its determination or abandonment.
- In accordance with the *Building Act 2000*, a Building Permit is still required and this process involves certification by an accredited building surveyor.
- As this matter is part of a statutory process, the Authority is unable to make any further comment.

**Contact:**

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