

Broad Mountain Power Project

Input to DEP Public Meeting December 4, 2019

Stephen J. Daderko, PE

Stephen J. Daderko, PE
Education, Licenses, and Experience

- BS Mining Engineering – Penn State University-1979
- MBA-Indiana University of PA-1986
- Licensed Professional Engineer Pennsylvania (active) and Virginia (inactive)
- 30+ years of experience in the operation, maintenance, siting, and construction of power generation projects (none wind power), including three years on the siting and licensing team for a proposed new nuclear power plant
- 1-1/2 years as a geotechnical engineer for the US Bureau of Mines

Declarations

- I am not being paid for this analysis or input
- I am not presenting as an “expert witness”
- The analysis and input is based solely on my education and experience

Impact Considerations

- Broad Mountain is being presented as an environmentally beneficial project
- 290 acres of standing trees clear-cut at the headwaters of five Exceptional Value Watersheds
- USACE identified 15 wetlands locations totaling 8.18 acres
- E&S Notes Sheet (CE-002 and CS-002) identify 25 seeps or springs
- Lansford-Coaldale Water Authority well field directly below the project on the south side (See Attachment 1)
- Tamaqua Water Authority Still Creek Reservoir located on north side
- Installation of 16 wind turbines with 353 ft hub height and 5 wind turbines with 262 ft hub height
- Turbines will require massive reinforced concrete foundations which require excavations

Observations

- Submitted E&S plan does not appear to consider the significant amount of water likely to be present in foundation excavations
- Only mention of excavation in E&S with no quantification is
“Unwanted water present in excavations should be pumped through filter bag to a well-vegetated gently sloping surface.” Section 3.2.3 Erosion & Sedimentation Control Plan Narrative/Report
- Appendix A Planner Designer Qualifications Erosion & Sedimentation Control Plan Narrative/Report sample projects
 - Pentagon – CNG terminal
 - 2 Walmart projects
- None of the referenced projects involved significant sub-grade excavation

Turbine Foundation Construction

- Turbine foundation construction will require excavating very large holes for each foundation
- Foundation configuration requested from Broad Mountain, no reply
- Used design information from Crocker Wind Project in South Dakota (See Attachment 2)
- Crocker wind turbines approximately the size of small wind turbines at Broad Mountain (262 ft hub height)
- Foundations for 353 ft hub height wind turbines will be significantly larger, so analysis understates impact
- Crocker foundations 10 ft deep, discussions indicate that foundations for larger turbines at Broad Mountain could be 30 ft deep

Turbine Foundation Construction

- Excavation for turbine foundations will be a significant source of water to be managed during construction, likely to significantly exceed stormwater runoff
- Presence of wetlands, seeps, and springs throughout the project site indicates groundwater is present at relatively shallow depths, data not available so assume 5 ft BGL
- Foundation excavations will require dewatering to remove groundwater to allow construction activities
- Data not available for groundwater flow so analysis based on initial dewatering only, actual will likely require constant dewatering during construction

Turbine Foundation Construction

- Based on Crocker design, foundation is 62 ft x 62 ft x 10 ft deep
- Excavation add 20 ft to each horizontal dimension for construction (See Attachment 3)
- Total excavation volume/foundation 2,490 cu yd (in-place volume)
- Total amount of excavated material to be disposed of/foundation 2,490 cu yd x swell factor
- Total amount of water to be pumped to dewater total excavation volume one time/foundation 251,478 gal (static analysis assumes no further in-flow)

Turbine Foundation Construction

- Broad Mountain 353 ft hub turbines will require significantly larger and deeper foundations
- Assume same horizontal dimensions (conservative)
- Increase depth to 30 ft
- Total excavation volume/foundation 7,471 cu yd (in-place volume)
- Total amount of excavated material to be disposed of/foundation 7,471 cu yd x swell factor
- Total amount of water to be pumped to dewater total excavation volume one time/foundation 1,257,388 gal (static analysis assumes no further in-flow)

Turbine Foundation Construction Sequence

- Excavate hole (any required blasting will significantly impact schedule duration)
- Place forms
- Place rebar
- Pour concrete
- Cure concrete
- Strip forms
- Backfill
- Water must be pumped from excavation until forms are stripped

Comparisons

- Crocker foundation excavations are 6,724 sq ft, Broad Mountain excavations likely to be significantly larger
- Based on US Census Bureau average home size was 2,598 sq ft (See Attachment 4)
- Two average houses could fit in each foundation excavation
- Depending on depth of excavation and assuming no continued inflow of water each Broad Mountain turbine foundation could contain between 251,478 gal and 1,257,388 gal
- An Olympic swimming pool contains 660,000 gal

Items to Resolve Pre-construction

- Actual foundation design dimensions
- Construction sequencing i.e. series (one excavation at a time) or parallel (multiple foundations simultaneously)
- Depth to groundwater (requires drilling)
- Groundwater inflow rate (requires drilling)
- Quantify amount of water to be used for permit application
- Identify potential impact on wetlands, streams, seeps, and streams due to localized drawdown of groundwater to dewater foundation excavations. Blasting has potential to fracture bedrock increasing negative impact on groundwater

Post Construction Items to Consider

- What is the impact on groundwater of deforestation, compaction due to construction activities, and replacement of the native soil with the massive impermeable reinforced concrete foundations
- Based on twenty-one 62 ft by 62 ft reinforced concrete foundations native soil will be replaced by 1.9 acres of impervious concrete, potentially 30 ft deep. What is the long-term impact on the wetlands and EV watersheds of replacing the native soil with the massive impermeable reinforced concrete foundations

6-80.0 m hub height (262 ft)
 20-107.5 m hub height (353 ft)



Langford - Coaldale Water
 Authority Well Fields

Legend

- Proposed Preliminary MET Tower, 127.5m
- Existing MET Tower, 60m
- Proposed Preliminary Turbines²
 - G114 2.029MW hub: 80.0 m
 - SG145 4.2MW hub: 107.5
- Proposed Preliminary Transmission Line
 - Option 6
 - Option 8
- Proposed Preliminary Line Tap
 - Option 6
 - Option 8
- Proposed Preliminary Collector Line
- Existing Transmission Line
- Proposed Preliminary Access Roads and Layouts
- Participating Property Line/leased Boundary
- Proposed Preliminary Substation

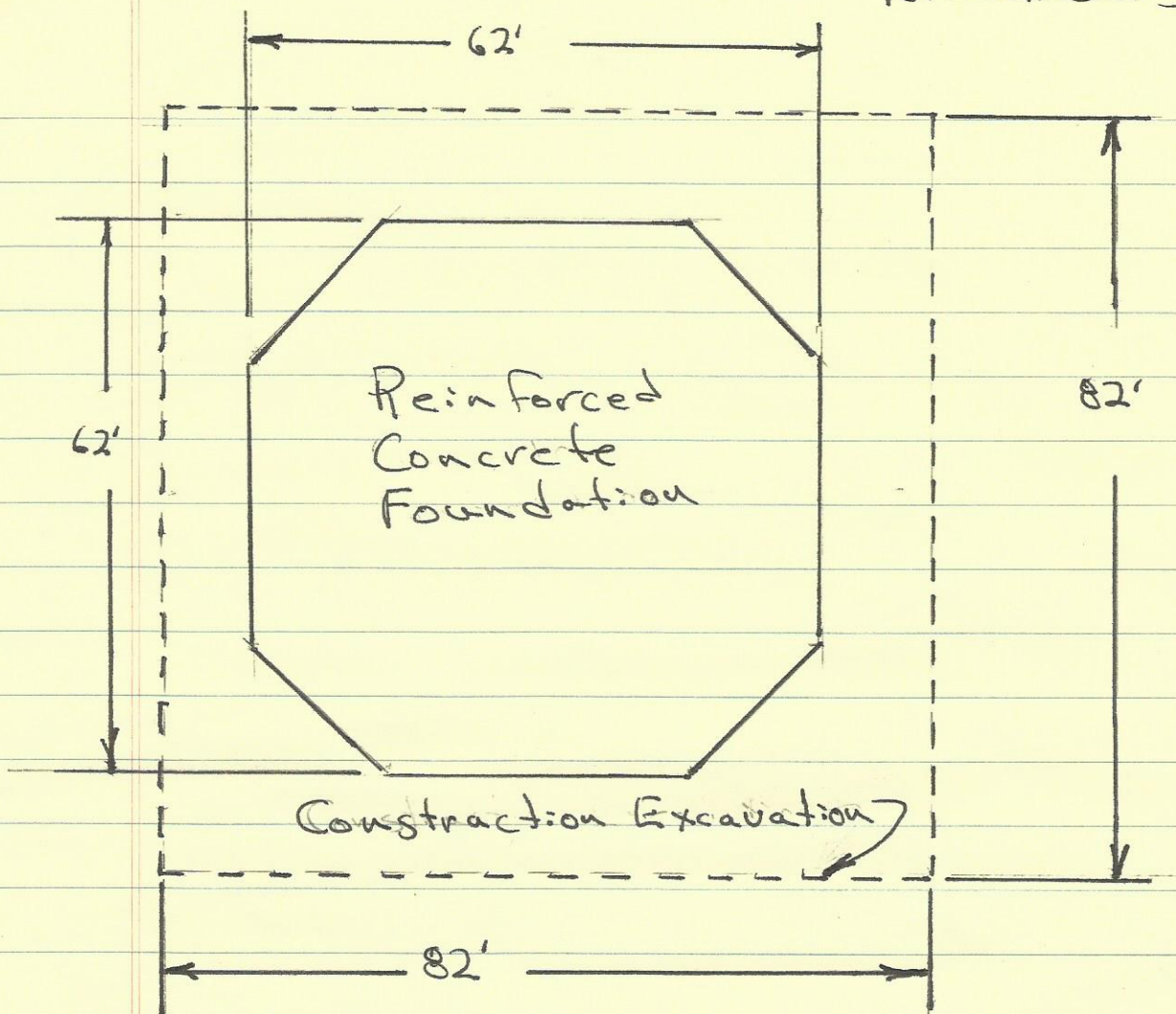
General Layout
80MW

BROAD MOUNTAIN POWER LLC

DATE/REVISION:
 NAD98/UTM 18N SCALE: 1:25,000
 DRAWN BY: D THOMPSON DATE: FEB 13, 2019
 DRAWING NO.: BROAD - 100 REVISION NO.: 19

Notes:
 1. Turbines 38, 39, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100 are potential locations of a temporary MET tower to be in place prior to construction.
 2. This map presents 28 potential pad locations, of which 21 will be built.

Attachment 1



Area of excavation/foundation
 $82\text{ft} \times 82\text{ft} = 6,724\text{ft}^2$

Volume of foundation @ 10 ft deep
 $6,724\text{ft}^2 \times 10\text{ft} = 67,240\text{ft}^3 = 2,490\text{yd}^3$

Volume of foundation @ 30 ft deep
 $6,724\text{ft}^2 \times 30\text{ft} = 201,720\text{ft}^3 = 7,476\text{yd}^3$

Based on Attachment 2

Assuming ground water 5ft BGL

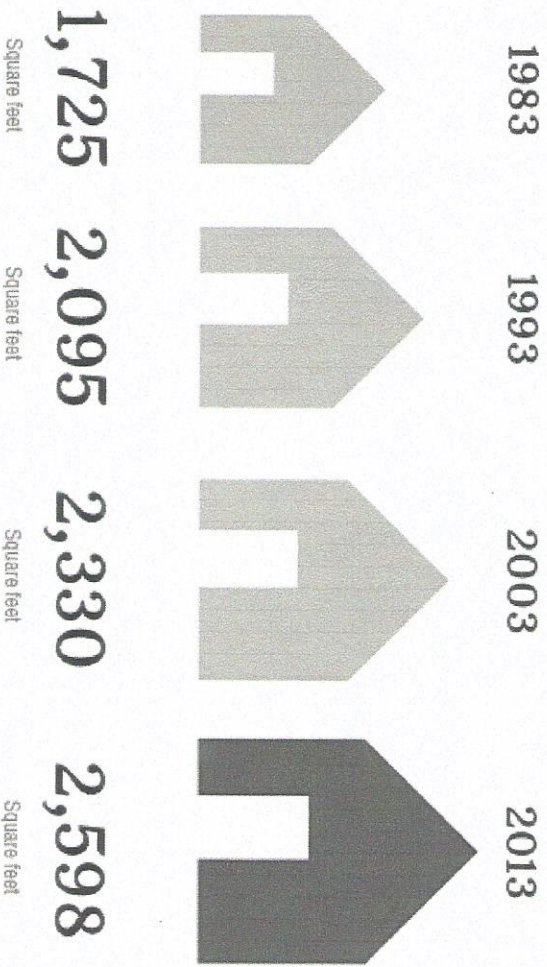
Volume of water @ 10ft deep foundation
 $6,724 \text{ ft}^2 \times 5 \text{ ft} = 33,620 \text{ ft}^3 = 251,478 \text{ gal}$
 $1 \text{ ft}^3 = 7.48 \text{ gal}$

Volume of water @ 30ft deep foundation
 $6,724 \text{ ft}^2 \times 25 \text{ ft} = 168,100 \text{ ft}^3 = 1,257,388 \text{ gal}$

Based on "static" analysis. Excavate hole, fills to 5ft BGL with no refill.

Actual situation will be pump throughout excavation and continuing pumping until removal of forms. Likely much more significant than "static" analysis

Average home size



SOURCE: CENSUS BUREAU

Fast print = 1,300 Ft²

McMansion

4,000 Ft²

Foodprint = 2,000 Ft²

Attachment A