

The following are questions submitted in writing and on MS Teams during the January 14th, 2026, NB Power/PROENERGY Information Sessions organized by the Tantramar Climate Change Advisory Committee. These questions were not able to be asked during the event due to time restrictions.

Environment/Climate

- 1. You say you could not use the Scoudouc Industrial Site because of the presence of wetlands and pileated woodpeckers, yet there are critical wetlands and pileated woodpeckers at the Centre Village site. So why doesn't that also disqualify the Centre Village site?**

Initial reviews in 2024/2025 on the Scoudouc and Centre Village properties were conducted to identify locations for a potential development. The level of wetlands and presence of pileated woodpecker, inclusive of nesting cavities were observed in the area at Scoudouc but not at the site in Centre Village. Any environmental considerations related to wildlife, including the presence of potential species, are being assessed through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process led by PROENERGY and overseen by the Department of Environment and Local Government.

- 2. What are the annual emissions of the site? Assuming it does run only 7% of the time. What are the actual carbon emissions and how are you planning to offset these new emissions and actually commit to decarbonizing the grid?**

The Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project will use dual-fuel combustion turbines, starting with natural gas and transitioning to renewable fuels as they become available. In its first year, the plant is expected to emit approximately 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases, while displacing higher-emitting sources such as coal and heavy fuel oil. This will result in a net reduction of about 250,000 tonnes of emissions. Once coal is phased out in 2030, the net reduction will remain at roughly 100,000 tonnes annually.

Site Selection

- 3. Are you still looking for alternative sites for this plant because this is not the right site. If Coleson Cove is being shut down would Coleson Cove be an alternative?**

NB Power is not reviewing additional sites for this facility, as the Centre Village location is undertaking a formal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, targeting the 2028 operational need for grid stability and energy security. NB Power is continuing to advance studies on the Scoudouc site as it relates to future development opportunities during our transition to net zero.

Coleson Cove was evaluated but was eliminated because there was no proximity to natural gas infrastructure. Coleson Cove Generating Station remains an important part of our fleet today, providing reliability when needed.

Emergency Response

- 4. Can the same principle of Pro Energy being responsible for the replacement of water/wells come into effect when it comes to citizens losing their home over a fire? Sackville just had 12 volunteer firefighters step away from the department- which is terrifying considering PEI just had a natural gas explosion! These things CAN happen and the last answer that was provided when citizens asked for reassurance was “these things barely happen.**

The Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project is subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, which includes measures to prevent and mitigate any potential impacts. PROENERGY, as the project developer, is responsible for meeting all environmental requirements under provincial legislation.

Plant Capacity

- 5. The deputy minister stated to me at a meeting with the premier that 400 MW was the identified need for NB in 2028 but budgeting allowed for 500 MW so the extra was purchased for sale to NS/PEI since then documents have revealed that there is potential for the RIGS Project to expand to 800 MW.**

The Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project in Centre Village is registered as a 500 MW project with no expansion plans on that site. 400 MW is allocated for New Brunswick to ensure energy security and 100 MW is being sold to IESO Nova Scotia.

- 6. Could they power the proposed AI data centre if they ran RIGS at 100% capacity? How can they guarantee that RIGS will only run 7% of the time?**

The Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) facility is designed as a reliability resource, not a baseload generator. It will only operate when renewable energy is unavailable or during periods of peak demand, which is estimated to be about 7% of the time. This ensures we maintain grid stability while keeping emissions and costs as low as possible. The primary role of RIGS is to back up renewables and provide energy security for customers during extreme weather or supply shortfalls and not baseload generation.

Health (Water & Air)

- 7. Steam from the cooling of turbines with particulates would travel how far? What pollutants would be found in this ‘steam’?**

Environmental consultants working on behalf of the project developer carried out an Air Dispersion Modelling (ADM) study to assess the potential effects on air quality from the [Renewables Integration Grid Security \(RIGS\) project](#). This study assesses a 50-kilometre by 50-kilometre area with the proposed facility at its centre.

Generally, the ADM study found that the highest concentrations of particulates can be expected to occur along the facility's fence line, approximately 150 meters away from the facility, and immediately adjacent to the fence line, northeast of the site. Concentration contributions are close to negligible approximately 1.5 kilometres from the facility fence line.

Air contaminants assessed as part of the study included Carbon Monoxide, Nitrogen Oxides, Ammonia, Total Particulate Matter and Sulphur Dioxide. Additional details are available in the Centre Village Air Dispersion Modelling Study included as Appendix C (page 106 of the document – C1) of the [Environmental Impact Assessment \(EIA\)](#) for the RIGS project.

8. To PROENERGY: To what level will the NOx be diminished or lowered with your new technology?

Combustion turbines like those being recommended as part of the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project typically exhaust nitrogen oxides of 25 ppm (parts per million). This meets the New Brunswick provincial standard and is normal for a facility like this. However, PROENERGY is including advanced downstream control technology that will reduce NOx emitted by the turbines at the RIGS facility to 2.5 ppm. The company is voluntarily choosing to incur the cost to include this additional emissions control equipment. This exceeds what is required by regulations.

9. Although applicable to many aspects of the environmental impacts as a homeowner in the neighbouring village of Memramcook dependent on a well, I am very concerned with my own and my fellow community members' access to water. Are the water related environmental tests and assessments considering only the expected 7% usage or the complete possible 100% usage? Will you run our wells dry?

Aquifer production and draw rates are currently being assessed as part of the Water Supply Source Assessment (WSSA) for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Project. The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate both the water supply for the site and any potential impacts to existing groundwater users in the area. The assessment will cover a range of operating modes, up to and including a 'stress case' scenario, with the facility hypothetically running 17% of the time.

Data was collected in November, December and January for the WSSA and is currently being analyzed. A WSSA report is being prepared and will be submitted to the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government when complete and included as an addendum to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the project.

The normal process in the event of approval of a project is for the project to receive a Certificate of Determination from the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government allowing it to proceed, and this would come with conditions of approval. These are expected to include the need to monitor the aquifer as well as a requirement that the facility not operate outside of 'synchronous condensing mode' (see

additional details below) if monitoring data suggests a conservative protective level is reached.

It is important to note that, most of the time, the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) facility will use no water. It will spend most of its life (anticipated to be 85% of the time) operating in 'synchronous condensing mode', stabilizing the grid when wind and solar generation fluctuates. When operating in this mode, the facility uses no water and no fuel.

The RIGS facility will use water only when in generation mode, which is estimated to be about 7% of the time. For those operations over the course of a year, the facility will draw on average about 310 cubic meters/day of water from an onsite well. This is 99% less water than a coal or oil-fired boiler plant requires.

10. Arsenic level in NB geology is high. Arsenic is mobilized in groundwater and aquifers with large industrial projects. What will be done to prevent the mobilization of arsenic already present in our region from contaminating wells, farms, wetlands, and aquifers?

Arsenic is known to be naturally occurring in New Brunswick groundwater depending on local bedrock and geochemical conditions, and concentrations can vary substantively from one well to another. Because arsenic behaviour in groundwater is controlled by factors such as groundwater chemistry and groundwater flow paths, changes in pumping can, in some hydrogeologic settings, affect arsenic concentrations in individual wells.

As part of the Water Supply Source Assessment (WSSA) supporting the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Renewable Integration Grid Security (RIGS) project, the aquifer is being evaluated for a sustainable supply and evaluated for the potential effects of pumping on existing groundwater users and groundwater quality, including metals such as arsenic. Data collected in November, December and January is currently being analyzed, and the WSSA report will be submitted to the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government and included as an addendum to the EIA.

If the project proceeds, it will be subject to regulatory approvals and EIA conditions, which typically require monitoring and mitigation to protect groundwater users and the environment. In addition, wastewater discharge or release of contaminants is regulated in New Brunswick and cannot occur without approval under the Water Quality Regulation.

As part of the evaluation of potential effects, baseline groundwater quality characterization (including arsenic and other metals) will be completed prior to operations. Additionally, the implementation of a monitoring well network and routine sampling will support the evaluation of operations and effects to the environment.

11. If wells experience change, will NB Power require proof that the plant was the cause in order to provide support, and if so, who will be responsible for providing that

evidence? (reference comment from NB Power about compensating homeowners whose wells may be impacted).

Local well surveys were conducted on the project site to develop baseline conditions of wells in the area. Additional surveys will be conducted should the project receive regulatory approval and advance to the operational phase. Any concerns would be investigated on a case-by-case basis, inclusive of evidence gathering and effects review.

12. What are the known health risks of a project like this on people living within 5 or 10km?

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) project provides an assessment of effects of the facility in Addendum #1.

As the project developer, PROENERGY continues to closely follow directional input from the provincial governments regarding areas of study for the project.

Economics

13. What is the cost per kWh for the power from the gas plant compared to purchasing HydroPower from Quebec Hydro?

We expect that the cost per kWh of the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) facility to be more expensive than imports from neighbouring jurisdictions like Quebec or New England. The market price of electricity in the northeast is highly correlated to natural gas prices. These import prices are generally cheaper than what will be procured and reflect more efficient units that are not like the RIGS facility. Additionally, the voltage support provided by RIGS is not something NB Power could import.

14. Would there not be economic spinoffs from renewables with storage at least equal to that from a fossil gas plant? Maybe more, if there's a benefits agreement.

NB Power does not evaluate alternatives considering economic spinoffs that do not directly benefit all our customers. Battery storage would cost customers approximately 75% more than the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project and this extra cost would be passed on to customers.

15. In NB Power's IRP 2023, rates for combustion turbines were around \$400 per megawatt, whereas 4-hr lithium battery storage would cost around \$193 per megawatt hour. Why did NB Power ignore its own IRP and chose the more expensive combustion turbines?

Batteries are an important consideration, and in December 2025 we issued a Request for Expressions of Interest for 50 MW of battery storage for approximately four hours.

The cost to build a battery storage facility with enough capacity to power the province for an entire day is estimated to be in the tens of billions of dollars. This is a significant investment that would ultimately be passed on to customers.

Battery storage has limitations as it cannot create its own energy and can only supply power to the grid for a few hours at a time. This makes batteries an unreliable backup for renewable energy during extreme weather events that might last for several days.

A key benefit of the Renewables Integration and Grid Support Project is voltage support which helps balance the grid, which is especially important when integrating intermittent power sources like wind and solar.

Data Centres

- 16. During the Tantramar Q&A session on Jan 14, 2026, Brad Coady of NB Power stated that AI data centres are not currently in its plans, yet RTI documents show that NB Power completed a feasibility review in August 2025 for a 190-MW Beacon AI data centre in Lorneville. Can you clarify whether that feasibility assessment depends on the Tantramar RIGS plant being built?**

Feasibility studies are required for all proposed projects requiring interconnections to the grid, as we are mandated to provide service and connections for energy customers in the province (both proposed and approved). The Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) process and project planning for the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project stemmed from the 2023 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) well before AI data center integration was considered or proposed. The 2026 IRP will be released later in this year.

Our current load forecast does not include data centres.

- 17. I'm confused by the response tonight in regards to data centers in southern N.B. The response was that NB Power could NOT power a data centre. So then why did NB power commit to providing the Lorneville data centre with 190 MW. Please clarify the timeline you were referencing.**

In the fall of 2025, we spoke to media regarding data centres. Our job is to plan for the needs of all customers and ensure the electrical grid remains reliable today and in the future. The Lorneville data centre's request for 190 MW was assessed through our long-term planning process and can only move forward under a contract that includes flexibility to protect the grid and avoid unnecessary pressure on rates. New Brunswick already faces a generation shortfall beginning in 2028, and new loads must be integrated in a way that aligns with our Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the province's overall supply needs.

Alternatives

- 18. Firstly, I am not in favor of this location and stand with the community of Tantramar. I am curious, however, what other types of generation and locations were considered for NB power to meet the needs of New Brunswickers. In particular, was nuclear explored? If so, why was it denied?**

We evaluated a range of locations and generation options. Based on that work, a dual-fuel combustion turbine generating station in Centre Village was recommended, as it provides the best opportunity to meet cost and schedule requirements and ensure additional capacity is available by 2028 to provide energy security for New Brunswickers.

- 19. Does NB Power require that a battery cover the entire province? Has NB Power considered distributed renewable generation sources with their own battery storage to provide greater resilience?**

Our planning is based on a mix of solutions that work together including energy efficiency, demand response, renewable generation, energy storage and firm backup generation, all to keep the grid reliable and affordable.

We have actively explored battery storage and other technologies through recent (2023) Requests for Expressions of Interest (REOI), which invited proposals for wind, solar, tidal and energy storage projects and most recently in December 2025 we issued a Request for Expressions of Interest for 50 MW of battery storage for approximately four hours. None of the storage proposals received to date were cost effective or capable of replacing the capacity that New Brunswick needs for winter peaks and for periods when wind and solar are not available.

Distributed renewable generation with local batteries can enhance resilience for individual communities and customers, and we expect these kinds of projects to play a growing role in the future. However, they do not remove the need for a province wide resource like the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project, which is designed to provide largescale, fast responding capacity during extreme cold or when imports and renewables are limited.

As outlined in our Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and public documentation, to date, no alternative meets the same reliability and system support needs at an equal or lower cost than RIGS.

- 20. A CCNB study of the claim by NB Power that wind wasn't available during the cold snap of Feb. 2023 found that it was due to a lack of wind power installations in NB Power. Why can't distributed wind power with battery storage replace the RIGS plant?**

New Brunswick needs new firm generation by 2028 to avoid electricity shortfalls. Wind power is important and expanding, but because it depends on weather, it can't provide the guaranteed capacity needed during extreme cold or peak demand. The Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) facility offers fast, reliable backup that makes it possible to add more renewable energy while keeping the grid stable and customers' lights and heat on.

Another benefit of the Renewables Integration Grid Security RIGS facility is voltage support. Combustion turbines and synchronous condensers, provide voltage support to help balance the grid, which is especially important when integrating intermittent power sources like wind and solar.

- 21. During low-wind high-pressure weather systems power can be provided by solar arrays and via upgraded transmission lines from Hydro-Quebec complemented by batteries. Why are those not being considered?**

Solar energy is growing in New Brunswick, but it cannot replace the Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project because solar doesn't generate during our winter peaks, it cannot provide firm backup, and solar facilities cannot be built fast enough to meet the 2028 reliability gap. In the winter our peak is before sunrise.

RIGS is needed to ensure New Brunswickers continue to have dependable electricity, while also enabling more renewable energy on the grid.

Other

- 22. If NB Power and/or the provincial government would face a financial penalty for renegeing on the project, then why would they commence building it if it still faced a regulatory hurdle that could kill it? You can begin to understand why public opinion is suspicious, why the residents of Tantramar feel like they've been deceived and manipulated. Please don't appear to be forced to take these actions. What we all want would win you the social license; take leadership and show what is possible, not what you 'have' to do.**

PROENERGY is currently undergoing an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the project. The field work completed so far was routine investigative work required to support permitting processes such as the Watercourse and Wetland Alteration (WAWA) and Water Supply Source Assessment (WSSA) permits. This work included activities like drilling shallow test holes and collecting groundwater data, but no construction on the facility itself has begun.

- 23. Who has bought out PROENERGY in the US? How does this new owner operate in Canada (e.g. fed, prov)? Question for John MacIssac.**

[Energy Capital Partners \(ECP\)](#) – a leading equity and credit investor in energy transition, electrification and decarbonization infrastructure assets – acquired a majority interest in PROENERGY in September 2024. PROENERGY continues to be led by its deeply experienced executive team, and its core values, culture and commitment to safety remain unchanged. ECP supports PROENERGY’s interest in providing resilient energy capacity to the east coast of Canada.

- 24. The Premier recently said that this plant will replace Coleson Cove. Can you confirm that this plant will replace Coleson Cove and that Coleson Cove will be decommissioned?**

The Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project is a necessary step toward NB Power’s long-term transition to a cleaner grid, but it does not by itself create enough capacity to retire Coleson Cove immediately. If RIGS proceeds, we will not have to rely on Coleson Cove as much.

- 25. Jacques Poitras has told us that there is to be a second gas plant in Scoudouc...is this false?**

Achieving net zero will require a steady increase in capacity. Integrating more renewables into the grid drives an immediate need for voltage support and stabilization, capabilities we are currently evaluating for a potential Scoudouc site. However, while Scoudouc is a viable location for a future project, existing limitations prevented it from meeting the urgent needs identified in our 2028 risk assessment.

- 26. NB Power is asking the public to trust its claims about the need, costs/rate impacts, and emissions of the Centre Village gas-turbine project. But given past credibility hits like the Auditor General finding the Point Lepreau refurbishment was years late and about \$1B more than anticipated, the AG finding NB Power overstated savings in its early-retirement program, and the \$13M Joi Scientific licensing deal that was later ended, and all the controversy surrounding this project like working with a US company and using fracked natural gases., How can we believe any of the information you've provided?**

The proposed Renewables Integration Grid Security (RIGS) Project is subject to stringent environment regulations and processes including the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and approval from the New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board (NBEUB).

We understand people have questions and concerns and we welcome the scrutiny. This is too important for anything less. Our responsibility is to ensure New Brunswickers have reliable, affordable electricity when they need it, now and for decades to come. That means confronting real challenges openly, respecting the independent review process, and grounding decisions in transparent, evidence-based analysis.

27. Where were the most turbines sold - in the US?

For global combustion turbine sale and delivery data, PROENERGY relies on McCoy – a company that collects and reports on global power project development activity. The most recent data available (Q3 2025) shows the greatest percentage of turbines of the type planned for the RIGS project were sold to the U.S. (approximately 40% of global sales).

Global turbine orders have been rising slowly since approximately 2023, rising sharply in 2024 and continuing to grow in 2025. Comparing 2024 and 2025 (Q1 to Q3), orders have more than doubled, with deliveries ranging, on average, from 2028 to 2030. Full year data for 2025 will be available in March 2026.

28. I am not on board with this project. I believe Megan Mitton's suggestion. — basically, that you scrap this gas plan and look right away for batteries for this project. It will take a little more time but with the kind of co-operation you will get from Tantramar residents if you adopt this new way forward, you will be amazed at how this will feel. You underestimate us. Imagine how it would feel to have followed the 7-generation model that Indigenous people live. Please do the change. Thank you.

We understand people have questions and concerns and we welcome the scrutiny. This is too important for anything less. Our responsibility is to ensure New Brunswickers have reliable, affordable electricity when they need it, now and in the future. That means confronting real challenges openly, respecting the independent review process, and grounding decisions in transparent, evidence-based analysis.

29. The public has been told at many sessions that this project must go ahead for our energy security here in New Brunswick. Is there a mechanism to cancel the project given strong community opposition not just here in Tantramar, but across the province? If not, can you comment on what level of opposition would be the tipping point to see this conversation end?

PROENERGY is currently moving through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and NB Power is going through the approval process with the New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board (NBEUB) approval process. These are critical milestones and a denial at either stage would result in the cancellation of the project and jeopardize our energy security as early as 2028.