# Wind Power GeoPlanner™

# **Off-Air TV Analysis**

Hoffman Falls



Prepared on Behalf of Liberty Renewables Inc.

September 4, 2024





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## 1. Introduction

Off-air television stations broadcast signals from terrestrially-based facilities directly to television receivers. Comsearch identified those off-air stations whose service could potentially be affected by the proposed Hoffman Falls Project in Madison County, New York (the Project). Comsearch then examined the coverage of the stations and the communities in the area that could potentially have degraded television reception due to the location of the proposed wind turbines.

# 2. Summary of Results

The proposed Hoffman Falls Project Area (the Project Area) and local communities are depicted below in Figure 1. The Project Area is defined as the area with a minimum of a 2-mile buffer from all turbine locations as noted in Figures 1 and 2.



Figure 1: Wind Farm Project Area and Local Communities



To begin the analysis, Comsearch compiled all off-air television stations<sup>1</sup> within 150 kilometers of the project area of interest (AOI). TV stations at a distance of 150 kilometers or less are the most likely to provide off-air coverage to the project area and neighboring communities. These stations are listed in Table 1 and Table 2, below, and a plot depicting their locations is provided in Figure 2. There are a total of 90 database records for stations within approximately 150 kilometers of the limits of the project AOI. Of these stations, 78 are currently licensed and operating.

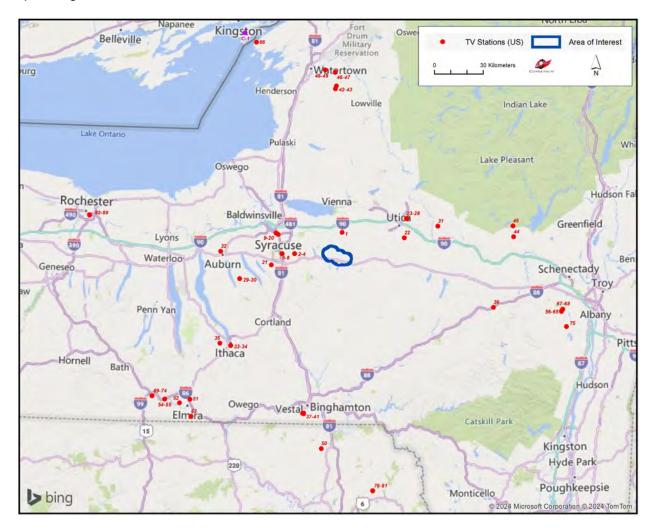


Figure 2: Plot of Off-Air TV Stations within 150 Kilometers of Project Area

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Comsearch makes no warranty as to the accuracy of the data included in this report beyond the date of the report. The data presented in this report is derived from the TV station's FCC license and governed by Comsearch's data license notification and agreement located at <u>http://www.comsearch.com/files/data\_license.pdf</u>.



Liberty Renewables Inc. Wind Power GeoPlanner™ **Off-Air Television Report** Hoffman Falls

| ID | Call Sign | Status | Service <sup>2</sup> | Channel | Transmit<br>ERP <sup>3</sup><br>(kW) | Latitude<br>(NAD 83) | Longitude<br>(NAD 83) | Distance to<br>the Nearest<br>Turbine<br>(km) |
|----|-----------|--------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1  | WTKO-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 32      | 15.0                                 | 43.065889            | -75.667389            | 13.19   |
| 2  | WSYR-TV   | CP     | DTV                  | 17      | 285.0                                | 42.945000            | -76.024167            | 20.45   |
| 3  | WSYR-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 17      | 105.0                                | 42.945000            | -76.024167            | 20.45   |
| 4  | WSPX-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 36      | 82.0                                 | 42.945000            | -76.024167            | 20.45   |
| 5  | NEW       | CP     | DTV                  | 15      | 475.0                                | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 6  | WTVH      | LIC    | DTV                  | 18      | 109.0                                | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 7  | WSTM-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 19      | 150.0                                | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 8  | WCNY-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 20      | 62.0                                 | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 9  | W16EA-D   | LIC    | LPD                  | 16      | 12.3                                 | 43.050056            | -76.150750            | 32.74   |
| 10 | WVOA-LD   | STA    | LPD                  | 6       | 2.75                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 11 | WVOA-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 6       | 2.75                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 12 | WVOA-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 6       | 2.75                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 13 | WBLZ-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 22      | 12.5                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 14 | WBLZ-LD   | APP    | LPD                  | 22      | 15.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 15 | WHSU-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 23      | 9.5                                  | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 16 | WONO-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 24      | 15.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 17 | WTVU-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 25      | 15.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 18 | WMJQ-CD   | APP    | DCA                  | 27      | 15.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 19 | WMJQ-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 27      | 12.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 20 | WWLF-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 35      | 5.0                                  | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 21 | WSYT      | LIC    | DTV                  | 14      | 540.0                                | 42.880611            | -76.199639            | 35.59   |
| 22 | WVVC-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 33      | 15.0                                 | 43.037472            | -75.195417            | 38.01   |

<sup>2</sup> Definitions of service and status codes:

- ACA Analog Class A
- DCA Digital Class A

DRT - Digital Replacement Translator

DT - ETL testing

DTS - Distributed Transmission System

**DTV - Full Service Television** 

DTX - Digital TV Auxiliary

- LPA Low Power Analog TV
- LPD Low Power Digital TV
- LPT Digital TV Translator
- LPX Analog TV Translator TS Legacy Service for Analog TV Auxiliary TV Analog TV legacy

LIC - Licensed and operational station

CP - Construction permit granted

CP MOD - Modification of construction permit

APP – Application for construction permit, not yet operational

STA - Special transmit authorization, usually granted by FCC for temporary operation

AMD - Amendment

<sup>2</sup> ERP = Transmit Effective Radiated Power



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|----|-----------|---------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 23 | WWDG-CD   | LIC     | DCA                  | 28      | 10.2                                 | 43.144167            | -75.178889            | 44.54   |
| 24 | WWDG-CD   | APP     | DCA                  | 28      | 15.0                                 | 43.144167            | -75.178889            | 44.54   |
| 25 | W22DO-D   | LIC     | LPT                  | 22      | 1.55                                 | 43.143889            | -75.177500            | 44.61   |
| 26 | WUTR      | LIC     | DTV                  | 30      | 50.0                                 | 43.145278            | -75.176111            | 44.79   |
| 27 | WPNY-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 11      | 0.16                                 | 43.144750            | -75.175611            | 44.79   |
| 28 | WFXV      | LIC     | DTV                  | 34      | 1000.0                               | 43.144750            | -75.175611            | 44.79   |
| 29 | WNYI      | LIC     | DTV                  | 13      | 28.0                                 | 42.801444            | -76.436889            | 56.60   |
| 30 | WDSS-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 13      | 28.0                                 | 42.801444            | -76.436889            | 56.60   |
| 31 | WKTV      | LIC     | DTV                  | 29      | 708.0                                | 43.102500            | -74.940556            | 59.98   |
| 32 | WNDR-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 32      | 2.0                                  | 42.951389            | -76.584444            | 66.15   |
| 33 | WSKG-TV   | CP      | DRT                  | 33      | 15.0                                 | 42.429778            | -76.496556            | 82.38   |
| 34 | WNYS-CD   | LIC     | DCA                  | 16      | 1.7                                  | 42.429778            | -76.496583            | 82.38   |
| 35 | W34FR-D   | LIC     | LPT                  | 34      | 15.0                                 | 42.441722            | -76.577500            | 86.52   |
| 36 | WUCB-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 32      | 9.4                                  | 42.650833            | -74.523056            | 95.68   |
| 37 | WBGH-CD   | LIC     | DCA                  | 20      | 0.04                                 | 42.060833            | -75.943056            | 96.83   |
| 38 | WIVT      | LIC     | DTV                  | 27      | 298.0                                | 42.060833            | -75.943056            | 96.83   |
| 39 | WSKG-TV   | LIC     | DTV                  | 31      | 40.2                                 | 42.061167            | -75.945611            | 96.84   |
| 40 | WBNG-TV   | LIC     | DTV                  | 8       | 23.8                                 | 42.058611            | -75.951389            | 97.22   |
| 41 | WICZ-TV   | LIC     | DTV                  | 7       | 28.0                                 | 42.056111            | -75.943889            | 97.35   |
| 42 | WPBS-DT   | LIC     | DTV                  | 26      | 98.0                                 | 43.862778            | -75.727222            | 100.16  |
| 43 | WWTI      | LIC     | DTV                  | 31      | 31.1                                 | 43.879722            | -75.719722            | 102.05  |
| 44 | W18FE-D   | LIC     | LPT                  | 18      | 2.5                                  | 43.041472            | -74.366528            | 104.22  |
| 45 | WFNY-CD   | LIC     | DCA                  | 16      | 8.8                                  | 43.101739            | -74.370414            | 104.92  |
| 46 | WWNY-TV   | LIC     | DTV                  | 8       | 50.0                                 | 43.954167            | -75.728889            | 110.31  |
| 47 | WNYF-CD   | LIC     | DCA                  | 35      | 15.0                                 | 43.954167            | -75.728889            | 110.31  |
| 48 | WTKJ-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 19      | 1.5                                  | 43.967944            | -75.805889            | 111.93  |
| 49 | WVNC-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 24      | 15.0                                 | 43.967944            | -75.805889            | 111.93  |
| 50 | W32FP-D   | LIC     | LPD                  | 32      | 2.5                                  | 41.863694            | -75.809639            | 116.83  |
| 51 | W26BF-D   | LIC     | LPD                  | 26      | 5.0                                  | 42.126667            | -76.793056            | 123.49  |
| 52 | WETM-TV   | LIC     | DTV                  | 23      | 265.0                                | 42.106111            | -76.871111            | 129.61  |
| 53 | W29EZ-D   | LIC     | LPD                  | 29      | 0.776                                | 42.031944            | -76.783611            | 130.86  |
| 54 | W17EJ-D   | СР      | LPD                  | 17      | 0.1                                  | 42.125056            | -76.981028            | 134.71  |
| 55 | W17EJ-D   | APP     | LPD                  | 17      | 0.1                                  | 42.125056            | -76.981028            | 134.71  |
| 56 | WYBN-LD   | LIC     | LPD                  | 26      | 12.0                                 | 42.627611            | -74.010389            | 136.79  |
| 57 | WYBN-LD   | СР      | LPD                  | 26      | 15.0                                 | 42.627611            | -74.010389            | 136.79  |
| 58 | WNYA      | LIC     | DTV                  | 7       | 23.0                                 | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 59 | WXXA-TV   | LIC     | DTV                  | 8       | 22.0                                 | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 60 | WNYT      | APP/STA | DTV                  | 12      | 7.0                                  | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 61 | WNYT      | LIC     | DTV                  | 21      | 970.0                                | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 62 | WCWN      | LIC     | DTV                  | 22      | 750.0                                | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 63 | WTEN      | LIC     | DTV                  | 24      | 1000.0                               | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 64 | WMHT      | LIC     | DTV                  | 25      | 445.0                                | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |



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|----|-----------|--------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 65 | WRGB      | LIC    | DTV                  | 35      | 1000.0                               | 42.625361            | -74.010194            | 136.87  |
| 66 | WTKJ-LD   | APP    | LPD                  | 19      | 15.0                                 | 44.116111            | -76.338889            | 136.93  |
| 67 | WYPX-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 19      | 600.0                                | 42.636944            | -74.000833            | 137.31  |
| 68 | WZPJ-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 23      | 15.0                                 | 42.636944            | -74.000833            | 137.31  |
| 69 | WSKA      | LIC    | DTV                  | 25      | 50.0                                 | 42.142000            | -77.077444            | 139.51  |
| 70 | WYDC      | LIC    | DTV                  | 30      | 55.0                                 | 42.142000            | -77.077444            | 139.51  |
| 71 | WENY-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 35      | 145.0                                | 42.142000            | -77.077444            | 139.51  |
| 72 | WJKP-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 14      | 3.0                                  | 42.141944            | -77.077500            | 139.51  |
| 73 | W15EG-D   | LIC    | LPD                  | 15      | 4.0                                  | 42.141944            | -77.077500            | 139.51  |
| 74 | WECY-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 19      | 0.8                                  | 42.141944            | -77.077500            | 139.51  |
| 75 | WVBG-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 17      | 15.0                                 | 42.540806            | -73.973139            | 142.37  |
| 76 | WVIA-TV   | LIC    | DRT                  | 18      | 0.323                                | 41.632028            | -75.425444            | 143.45  |
| 77 | WYOU      | LIC    | DRT                  | 25      | 0.3                                  | 41.632028            | -75.425444            | 143.45  |
| 78 | WOLF-TV   | LIC    | DRT                  | 27      | 0.3                                  | 41.632028            | -75.425444            | 143.45  |
| 79 | WBRE-TV   | LIC    | DRT                  | 28      | 0.3                                  | 41.632028            | -75.425444            | 143.45  |
| 80 | WSWB      | LIC    | DRT                  | 36      | 0.3                                  | 41.632028            | -75.425444            | 143.45  |
| 81 | WNEP-TV   | LIC    | DRT                  | 26      | 0.3                                  | 41.631306            | -75.425167            | 143.54  |
| 82 | WHEC-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 10      | 18.1                                 | 43.135639            | -77.583694            | 148.93  |
| 83 | WROC-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 21      | 1000.0                               | 43.135639            | -77.583694            | 148.93  |
| 84 | WHAM-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 9       | 30.0                                 | 43.135278            | -77.583889            | 148.94  |
| 85 | WXXI-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 22      | 273.0                                | 43.135278            | -77.583889            | 148.94  |
| 86 | WGCE-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 26      | 15.0                                 | 43.134861            | -77.584917            | 149.01  |
| 87 | WUHF      | LIC    | DTV                  | 28      | 320.0                                | 43.134861            | -77.584917            | 149.01  |
| 88 | WBGT-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 29      | 15.0                                 | 43.135278            | -77.585000            | 149.03  |
| 89 | WAWW-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 30      | 15.0                                 | 43.135278            | -77.585000            | 149.03  |

Table 1: Off-Air TV Stations within 150 Kilometers of Project Area (US)

| ID  | Call Sign | Status | Class⁴ | Channel | Transmit<br>ERP<br>(kW) | Latitude<br>(NAD 83) | Longitude<br>(NAD 83) | Distance to<br>the Nearest<br>Turbine<br>(km) |
|-----|-----------|--------|--------|---------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| C-1 | CKWS-DT   | OP     | R      | 11      | 9.4                     | 44.167222            | -76.427500            | 144.82  |

Table 2: Off-Air TV Stations within 150 Kilometers of Project Area (Canada)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Definitions of class and status codes:

R – Regular VHF Television Broadcast Station A – NTSC UHF station

OP - Licensed and operational station

TO - Temporary operation

AU - Authorized; not yet operational



#### **3.** Impact Assessment

Based on a contour analysis of the licensed stations within 150 kilometers of the Hoffman Falls project, it was determined that eighteen of the full-power digital stations, identified below in Table 3, along with nine low-power digital stations, may have their reception disrupted in and around the project. The areas primarily affected would include TV service locations within 10 kilometers of the wind energy project that have clear line-of-sight (LOS) to a proposed wind turbine but not to the respective station. After the wind turbines are installed, communities and homes in these locations may have degraded reception of these stations. This is due to multipath interference caused by signal scattering as TV signals are reflected by the rotating wind turbine blades and mast.

| ID | Call Sign | Status | Service <sup>5</sup> | Channel | Transmit<br>ERP <sup>6</sup><br>(kW) | Latitude<br>(NAD 83) | Longitude<br>(NAD 83) | Distance to<br>the Nearest<br>Turbine<br>(km) |
|----|-----------|--------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1  | WTKO-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 32      | 15.0                                 | 43.065889            | -75.667389            | 13.19   |
| 3  | WSYR-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 17      | 105.0                                | 42.945000            | -76.024167            | 20.45   |
| 4  | WSPX-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 36      | 82.0                                 | 42.945000            | -76.024167            | 20.45   |
| 6  | WTVH      | LIC    | DTV                  | 18      | 109.0                                | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 7  | WSTM-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 19      | 150.0                                | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 8  | WCNY-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 20      | 62.0                                 | 42.944944            | -76.118389            | 28.13   |
| 9  | W16EA-D   | LIC    | LPD                  | 16      | 12.3                                 | 43.050056            | -76.150750            | 32.74   |
| 11 | WVOA-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 6       | 2.8                                  | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 12 | WVOA-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 6       | 2.75                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 13 | WBLZ-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 22      | 12.5                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 15 | WHSU-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 23      | 9.5                                  | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 16 | WONO-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 24      | 15.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 17 | WTVU-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 25      | 15.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 19 | WMJQ-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 27      | 12.0                                 | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 20 | WWLF-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 35      | 5.0                                  | 43.058333            | -76.166389            | 34.25   |
| 21 | WSYT      | LIC    | DTV                  | 14      | 540.0                                | 42.880611            | -76.199639            | 35.59   |
| 22 | WVVC-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 33      | 15.0                                 | 43.037472            | -75.195417            | 38.01   |
| 23 | WWDG-CD   | LIC    | DCA                  | 28      | 10.2                                 | 43.144167            | -75.178889            | 44.54   |
| 25 | W22DO-D   | LIC    | LPT                  | 22      | 1.6                                  | 43.143889            | -75.177500            | 44.61   |
| 26 | WUTR      | LIC    | DTV                  | 30      | 50.0                                 | 43.145278            | -75.176111            | 44.79   |
| 27 | WPNY-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 11      | 0.2                                  | 43.144750            | -75.175611            | 44.79   |
| 28 | WFXV      | LIC    | DTV                  | 34      | 1000.0                               | 43.144750            | -75.175611            | 44.79   |
| 29 | WNYI      | LIC    | DTV                  | 13      | 28.0                                 | 42.801444            | -76.436889            | 56.60   |

<sup>5</sup> Definitions of service and status codes:

DT - Digital television broadcast station

LD – Low power digital television broadcast station

LIC – Licensed and operational station

<sup>6</sup> ERP = Transmit Effective Radiated Powe



| ID | Call Sign | Status | Service <sup>5</sup> | Channel | Transmit<br>ERP <sup>6</sup><br>(kW) | Latitude<br>(NAD 83) | Longitude<br>(NAD 83) | Distance to<br>the Nearest<br>Turbine<br>(km) |
|----|-----------|--------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 30 | WDSS-LD   | LIC    | LPD                  | 13      | 28.0                                 | 42.801444            | -76.436889            | 56.60   |
| 31 | WKTV      | LIC    | DTV                  | 29      | 708.0                                | 43.102500            | -74.940556            | 59.98   |
| 40 | WBNG-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 8       | 23.8                                 | 42.058611            | -75.951389            | 97.22   |
| 41 | WICZ-TV   | LIC    | DTV                  | 7       | 28.0                                 | 42.056111            | -75.943889            | 97.35   |

Table 3: Licensed Off-Air TV Stations Subject to Degradation

#### 4. Recommendations

While TV signals are reflected by wind turbines, which can cause multipath interference to the TV receiver, modern digital TV receivers have undergone significant improvements to mitigate the effects of signal scattering. When used in combination with a directional antenna, it becomes even less likely that signal scattering from wind farms will cause interference to digital TV reception.

Nevertheless, signal scattering could still impact certain areas currently served by the TV station mentioned above, especially those that would have line-of-sight to at least one wind turbine but not to the station antenna. In the unlikely event that interference is observed in any of the TV service areas, it is recommended that a high-gain directional antenna be used, preferably outdoors, and oriented towards the signal origin in order to mitigate the interference. Both cable service and direct broadcast satellite service will be unaffected by the presence of the Hoffman Falls Wind Project and may be offered to those residents who can show that their off-air TV reception has been disrupted by the presence of the wind turbines after they are installed.

## 5. Contact

For questions or information regarding the Off-Air TV Analysis, please contact:

| Contact person: | David Meyer  |
|-----------------|--|
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| Email:          | David.Meyer@CommScope.com                            |
| Web site:       | www.comsearch.com                                    |