

High Volts Turbine No.2 (100 metres to tip) and digger.

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## FOREWARD

### *An aaful story*

*Whisht! lads, haad yor gobs,  
An' aa'll tell ye aall an aaful story,  
Whisht! lads, haad yor gobs,  
An' Aa'll tel ye 'boot the wyrm.*

*But the wyrm got fat an' growed an' growed,  
An' growed an aaful suze;  
He'd greet big teeth, a greet big gob,  
An greet big goggle eyes.*

*This feorful worm would often feed  
On caalves an' lambs an' sheep,  
An ' swally little bairns alive  
When they laid doon te sleep.  
An when he'd eaten aall he cud  
An' he had had he's fill,  
He craaled away an' lapped he's tail  
Ten times roond Pensher Hill*



C M Leumane originally wrote the Lambton Wurm in 1867 for a pantomime. Part of folklore in Co Durham, the above is an excerpt from this traditional song. The heir of Lambton went to the wars and returned seven years later to find the countryside terrorized by the huge reptile. A sibyl (witch) told him how he might slay it, but he must swear to kill the first living thing he met on his return. The vow was taken, the Wurm (worm) slain - alas! The first person he met was his own father. Kill him his son could not, and for nine generations the sibyl's curse lay upon the house. This book is about the emergence of what I term the New Lambton Wurm and the threat it brings to the special character and qualities of our county.

**The firm Ernst and Young has recently identified the UK as the best market for wind in the world due to its combination of wind resource, strong offshore regime and the extension of the Renewables Obligation to 15% by 2015 (BWEA UK Market Overview)**

This commercial exploitation of wind energy is proving a curse to the whole of the UK.

The public has been deluded and deceived

Figure compliments of [www.mysteriousbritain.co.uk/legends/dragons.html](http://www.mysteriousbritain.co.uk/legends/dragons.html)

## Introduction

*Whisht! lads, An' aa'll tell ye aall an aafu! story.*

The gentle breeze has turned into a twister  
The story is convoluted, almost incestuous, so difficult to relate.

**It is undemocratic, unbelievable and unacceptable**

Wind is not the only renewable energy source\* yet our countryside is under serious threat from commercial exploitation of wind energy. Backed by Government and viable only due to support from that ingenious subsidy masquerading as a levy, namely the Renewables Obligation (RO) with its accompanying renewable obligation certificates (ROCs)

Extensive lobbying from the Wind Industry on the need for action to ensure greater investor confidence in the renewables sector resulted in increasing the RO from 10% by 2010 to 15% by 2015.

BWEA's chief executive said "It is the icing on the cake in a great year for wind energy" The cherry too, I believe! According to a Danish Newspaper, Stephen Timms, the Energy Minister was that day set to extend incentives for wind farm and other renewable energy developments, in an attempt to overcome sluggish investor support which was threatening government climate change targets.

The September 2004 Wind Power Monthly editorial (the global magazine on wind energy development) reads, "Why should the reactionary antics of a has-been Island off the north European coast be of concern to the international wind power industry?"

**We are neither a has-been island nor a has-been county!  
Nor are we Europe's 'we can do it Region'**

Force10 Companion Guide, (CG) The New-Lambton Worm, should be read in conjunction with Force10, which is available on [www.wind-farm.org](http://www.wind-farm.org) as a free download. The Companion Guide CG provides additional detailed information which supports my concerns. Please take time to read it.

**Hopefully it will be then be clear why I take issue on how PPS22 has evolved and why I challenge that which is in my opinion the scarlet pimpernel of all planning documents, PPS22 Companion Guide.**

We sought it here, we sought it there, we sought it everywhere. About 6 months after the 11 page document it was said to support, it emerged, all 185 pages! Many are still unaware of its existence as they are of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) prepared by the unelected Regional Assembly to provide a broad strategy for the region for 15-20 years! RSS will help to create a positive planning policy framework for renewable energy\*. However one of the leading experts on renewable energy, Professor Fells sees windfarms as a gold rush, created by a government struggling to meet its own renewable energy targets (p32)

\* From the Regional Economic Strategy for the North East (RES) submitted to the Minister in 1999  
**I make no comment on other policies in the RSS.**

## Green Alert for the PM

## Section 1

Was the letter and documents sent to Tony Blair in December 2002 a green or a red alert for the PM? He chose to ignore it. Hiding behind protocol he suggested I contact Alan Milburn, my constituency MP. My reply in answer to that suggestion is below. Throughout the Barningham campaign Alan had been the one person we felt we could trust. He understood the 'Wilderness Therapy' and its value to the nation's health. Alan always toed the party line, but then John Prescott and Government understood the need to protect our precious land and were not then obsessed with wind farms as an answer to global warming. Why the U turn and the threat I term the 'New Lambton Worm? I hope to discover the reason why. A can of worms has opened up as the undemocratic situation unveils.

It has been said a Democracy is as good as the Dictator who runs it

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29<sup>th</sup> December 2002

Dear Mr Burton,

Thank you for the prompt reply giving the assurance that the documents I sent will be made available for the Prime Minister when the next visits his Sedgefield constituency.

I regret that protocol prevents me seeing him personally, as this an extremely serious political issue and he cannot possibly be aware of the events I wish to recount. If there is a way to overcome the constituency problem by speaking with him in London I would be willing to do so.

The related events have been recorded and I intend to publish them in a booklet. This is the only way I can preserve my sanity after the treatment I have received from The British Wind Energy Association (BWEA). I have been anti wind energy and have simply tried to protect our landscapes and their associated spiritual and physical attributes for the benefit of all.

I notice you are forwarding a copy of your reply to my own constituency MP, The Rt Hon Alan Milburn. May I point out that I have the greatest respect for him and the way he holds regular surgeries to assist his constituents with their problems. However the political connotations are an issue for the Prime Minister himself. The related health problem I have discussed with Alan and he is dealing with it, through tricky and time consuming for him. I have also found it necessary to send solicitor's letters to BWEA.

I will not see democracy, justice and quality of life upstaged by might, money and mendacity. Neither do I accept that renewables should be primarily a political issue rather than an environmental one, as portrayed in the documents I have already sent.

This letter is particularly pertinent Energy Review and the attempts to revise PPG22 to favour Wind energy developments at the expense of the landscape. I will be in Austria from January 4<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> but look forward to a reply.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Mann

cc: To the RT Hon Alan Milburn MP

*The related events since 2002 are recorded in the last paragraph, page 105*

## **Our countryside needs someone.**

**Extracts from two articles I sent to the Prime Minister are below:**

### **The first from Wind Power Monthly September 2002**

“The doors to potential new markets for wind plant could slam shut. That would consign the Industry’s long- term business plans to the shredder. The old markets - Denmark, Germany and Spain - are already stagnating. Denmark's onshore market peaked last year and Germany's is expected to peak this year. New markets are essential, but they will be limited if today's successes lull the industry into a false sense of security about its buoyant long - term future. The energy market particularly that for renewable energy **is a political beast, under political control.**

To secure its future, **the wind industry must play politics.”**

### **The second from the BWEA website “Hug a turbine, Tony. It’s a vote winner.”**

The above is an extract from a letter entitled “Me and Tony” written by Nic Goodall, (then Chief Executive of BWEA) when both had been in power for 1000 days. Nic I believe moved to Renewables East as Chief Executive and then to Energy Networks (ENA) again as Chief Executive. He wrote to our local paper during the Barningham Campaign. His high profile position at BWEA seemed to signal Barningham’s importance to the industry

Comment: Copies of these documents and a letter expressing my concerns I sent to The Prime Minister in December 2002. I foolishly thought he was unaware of the implications. His answer I have not printed, rather my reply to it. I believe it to be too sensitive an issue at an even more sensitive time, particularly with a maiden name of Howard! However the situation is now so convoluted that even incestuous and someone must address it. Therefore whichever party can convince me they are truthful, have the interest of the people and democracy at heart, will respect and value the British countryside and what it has to offer, will get my vote. This account I will release after the election since FORCE 10, with the subtitle Political Will v landscape Protection has led some people to ask if this is an electoral issue. NO, that is not my intention. Political Will is a term used by the pro wind lobby and said to be necessary to achieve targets. Landscape Protection should transcend all party politics. We need only the Truth!

## **GB should not be sacrificed for G8**

Force 10 Companion Guide needs to read in conjunction with Force 10 (available as a free download on [www.wind-farm.org](http://www.wind-farm.org) ) The summary of the long fight to save Barningham High Moor, where for me this battle began, is available on [www.wind-farm.co.uk](http://www.wind-farm.co.uk).

It was also the introduction to the world of delusion, deployment of misleading concepts, selective and oft cited statistics, and educationally unsound concepts. For me a new world, one without the truth, without compassion, full of deception and seemingly driven by Big Business. Sadly this is supported by Government who are riding roughshod over those who elected them

A new age and one on which we can only look back in anger.

*One sunday morning young Lambton went a fishing in the wear; an’ caught a fish upon his  
heuk, he thowt leuk’t varry queer; but whatt’n a kind of fish it was young Lambton couldn’t  
tell, he waddn’t fash to carry it hyem, so he hoyed it in the well*

**But the wyrm got fat and so have some Big Cats!**

## Response to the Consultation Document PPS22 showing local concerns.

On behalf of Barningham High Moor / Teesdale Conservation Group, I responded to the Consultation Document PPS22 expressing our concerns at the content. An extract from the letter is below.

**I wish to offer this documentation 'Force 10 and flyer' in response to the consultation document PPS22. It is the most concise way I can demonstrate my concerns at the content of draft for Planning Policy Statement 22 (PPS22) to replace Planning Policy Guidance 22 (PPG22).**

No longer termed guidance but a statement then of intent? I am amazed at the apparent disregard some elected members, both at local and central government level, appear to have for the countryside. Whether locally or nationally designated, or areas that missed out when the 'honours' were awarded, all are precious to someone somewhere. Countryside protection has been long fought and too hard to win to lose it for a political whim. In short the document appears to advocate building wind farms everywhere and not to stop even when targets are reached.

Wild areas are a declining resource in the UK and still it appears you have no respect for them nor understand what they have to offer. Their value in terms of peace and tranquillity is immeasurable. My submission, and there are many organisations and individuals who agree with my view, **really covers the methodology used to promote the technology rather than the technology itself.** The latter I leave to those most qualified to do so.

What the final outcome will be remains to be seen. Will political will triumph over landscape protection? Whatever may happen "Force 10" will provide a record of the many undemocratic events we endured as we fought to protect our heritage for future generations to enjoy. A piece of social history, documented in the interest of democracy.

On behalf of the people whose quality of life is already being affected and will be exacerbated if PPS22 in its present form is accepted, I ask you to consider that all wind farm applications have an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (90% of which are at present discretionary)

GO-NE has said this will not happen but without you fail the community on two scores.

1) Local councils are being asked to make decisions without understanding the full implication of the development. EIA could bring clarity and speed to the planning application, something you have advocated.

2) It is the only way the community can raise their concerns. It should avoid much of the misrepresentation given by the developers to the Local Planning Authority (LPA)

Elizabeth Mann Barningham High Moor / Teesdale Conservation Group

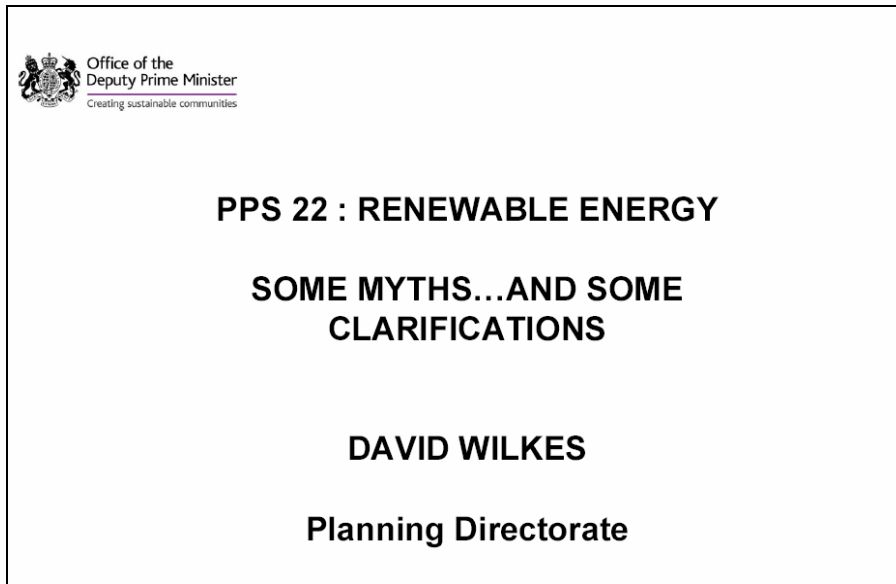
Comment: Why did Government changed its attitude? Was it threats made in 1998 by the Wind Industry? An official from One North East (The RDA) alerted me then to the fact that the wind industry were intending to attempt to weaken the planning system by lobbying the Government and through the then emerging Regional Planning Guidance (RPG). The resulting RPG, PPS22 and its Companion Guide along with the RSS are all bitter proof they did so and that someone listened! TNEI' and their report '**Energy for a New Century**' have been given a high profile throughout. (p37)

Since writing the above and the comment on page 32 The Sunday Times Insight Team have printed two letters (2/10/05): '**The conmen and the green professor**' and '**Green adviser takes cash for access to ministers**'. The latter states the professor is a paid chairman of an energy quango subsidised by taxpayers and a paid adviser to parliamentary select committees. These letters contain serious allegations in respect of Professor Fells, adviser to cabinet and select committees and who is to engage with officials in rewriting the energy white paper. He was **Chair of NAREC** until a few days ago and has been, possibly is still, **Patron and Policy Advisor to TNEI and Vice-chair of their Energy Strategy Project Team.** This is worrying considering **TNEI's involvement in PPS22 CG, Energy for a New Century** and the apparent high wind profile at the **NAREC** launch. It was the association with Professor Fells and his expertise that gave credibility to TNEI.

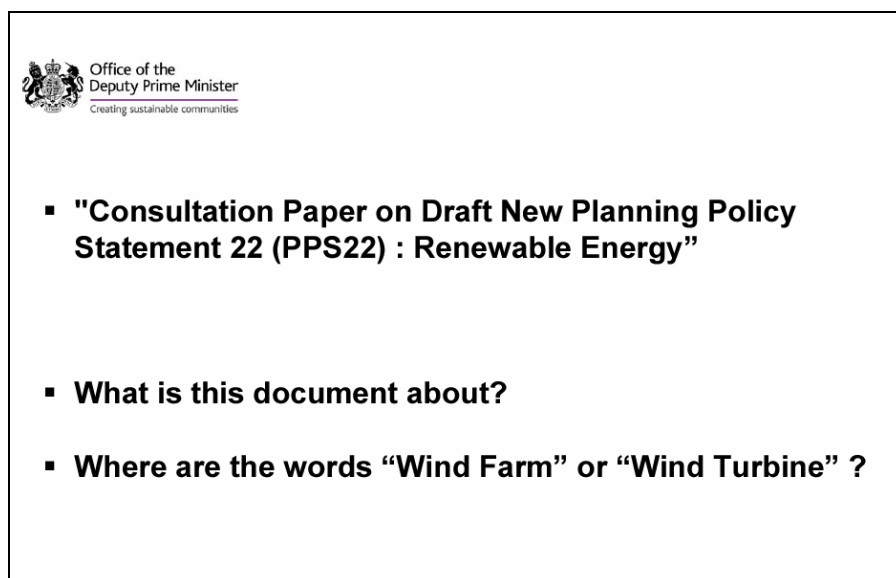


## **PPS22 Myths and Clarifications July 2004**

Comment: David Wilkes, the civil servant at ODPM, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and responsible for writing PPS22, outlines the new draft national planning policy statement at the BWEA, DTI funded event at Hartlepool.



Comment: David Wilkes knows the answer to point 2 below as he wrote the document to which he refers! A snip at £11 for the 11 pages! No need to even mention wind farms or wind turbines as the Companion Guide supplements supports and 'informs' on these issues. The CG costs £20 or is free to download. This assumes you are aware of the document, can source it and have access to a computer. A print off is actually easier to read, assuming you have a printer, but still costly.



Comment: The 185 page document, PPS22 CG with its preoccupation with targets and the role of wind power, seems an ideal 'cover up' for PPS22. "Regional target should be reviewed regularly and if met, revised upwards subject to the region's potential." Case studies are in my mind questionable, particularly AAT (Page 38) and GSK (Page 40)



**Extracts from a reply on behalf of Patricia Hewitt DTI Feb 2005**  
(*My comments are in italics*)

The letter (Appendix A) to Bob Gibson, Chair of the (**unelected!**) North East Assembly (NEA) regarding the NE Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) elicited the reply below.

1. It's in no one's interest to spoil the landscape.

*Agreed, so why are we building wind turbines?*

2. Turbines are rarely visible from more than 20 miles away even in good weather.

*Agree, but the problem of visual impact lies much closer to home!*

*Photomontages produced in the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) are increasingly misleading, with choice of viewpoint weather conditions and other relevant factors favouring the Developer. What you see is not what you get!*

3. Average load factors for onshore wind are around 30% and 35% + for offshore wind.

*Doubt was cast on this UK load factor of 30% by Hugh Sharman an independent energy consultant working in Denmark. He noted Danish turbines have operated at a load factor of only 21%. If this was to be the case in the UK not only would half as many turbines again be needed to deliver the same target output but potential investors would face dramatic reductions in the income derived from wind farms. HL Paper126 at 3.17*

4. The DTI has commissioned a study of low frequency noise from wind farms in Cumbria, North Wales and Cornwall. This will be completed in March 2005.

*Is this a truly independent study? When will the results be made public?*

*Planning decisions are being made whilst this study is ongoing. Is there justification for this? Surely if a problem has been identified the developers and Government should be honour bound to wait for the results.*

See Appendix B

5. The Renewables Obligation is our main support mechanism for renewable energy

However it is technologically blind. *Have you not ensured consumers are blind to the fact that it is an ingenious subsidy not a levy?*

6. We are spending almost £500M on emerging technologies. *Should it have been spent earlier?*

7. Surveys undertaken by DTI and other organisations show broad general support for the expansion of renewable energy.

*Renewable energy is not just wind. This I pointed out at the RPG Examination in Public.*

8. There is a small but vocal minority opposed to the development of future wind projects. People living near to a wind farm were found to be more in favour than those who had no experience.

*a) It is NOT small b) Satley Tow Law have experience of Tow Law wind farms (page73)*

9. We are working to ensure that debates and planning decisions surrounding the expansion of wind farms are not based on misinformation but scientifically validated facts. To this end we have started the "It's Only Natural" campaign to ensure that key decision makers have the full spectrum of information so they can make decisions –either for or against projects.

This is exactly what we are requesting; scientifically validated facts, not misinformation, oft-cited selective statistics and misleading concepts. I will see whether as DTI states, the full spectrum of information does now exist. I will also look at BWEA's Embrace Campaign and at the efforts of Porter Novelli, paid by DTI, to raise awareness of renewable energy sources amongst investors and planners. Their managing Director reports direct to David Still. There seems to be a distinct lack of public involvement. I will look closely at the way PPS22, its Companion Guide and the Regional Spatial Strategy have evolved.

First I will look at DTI's It's only Natural Campaign and then the North East Case Studies.

## DTI's 'It's Only Natural' Campaign (DTI website)

**You want to know more about renewable energy. IT'S ONLY NATURAL**

At present, less than 4% of the UK's electricity supply comes from renewable sources. Government targets require this level to be increased significantly in the coming years.

We believe it's only natural that you should want to know more about renewable energy. We have created this site to be a definitive and up-to-date resource, combining facts and figures with real-life examples and links to further information. We address the environmental and community issues affecting [planners and local councillors](#) and the economic and financial issues affecting potential [investors](#). We aim to inform and inspire you in equal measure.

**Comment: Planners, local councillors and investors but, yet again, not the public.**

The Wind Economics Section (DTI website) is said to be under Construction. This has been the case for many months. Economics would need to explain ROCs, that ingenious subsidy masquerading as a levy and paid for by the consumer. Once again is it 'Out of sight, out of mind?' The BWEA News Releases for 1998 have been missing now for years rather than months. Both omissions may be purely a run of the mill (windmill?) situation but the absence of such information does leave one to wonder.

1998 was the year of the Barningham Wind Farm planning refusal and the Industry's worst year according to Wind Power Monthly. I have read it was the windiest year! 31%. Omission of information re economics i.e. ROCs can only be termed deceit of the highest order. Such delusion and deception can only breed distrust of those who are being less than honest with us, the consumers who pay for this through higher electricity costs. Paul Golby, the chief executive of Eon UK said. "Without the renewable obligation certificates (Rocs) nobody would be building wind farms." (Page32) The answer to this at the Nuclear or Not conference hosted by (NATTA) the Network for Alternative Technology and Technology Assessment in March was 'E-ON hate wind and are just making money from it' **Really!**

Do emissions saved outweigh the impact on the landscape and people's quality of life? We are seeking a balance energy efficiency and conservation allows us all to do our as will reducing the need to travel. The PM said on a visit to Co Durham area some years ago he would tell his family not to leave the computer on standby and to use resources carefully to help save the planet. DETR published a booklet in May 1999 are you doing your bit? It was posted on the internet at [www.doingyourbit.org.uk](http://www.doingyourbit.org.uk)

**It encouraged everyone to save energy, water and to recycle, to buy energy efficient products.**

Wind turbines have increased in size dramatically both in height and installed capacity over the last decade. What about any effect on health? What about safety particularly the possible impact on degradation of primary radar returns? This has implications for safety of passengers and crew and even National Security after 9/11. There may be a solution but it is imperative it is tried and tested independently first. The risk is too great otherwise. However the technology and any related health problems I leave to the experts as I explain why in my opinion the methodology used needs to be investigated before it is too late.

**Combating Global Warming is about reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions not about building wind farms.**

**DTI Case Studies in the North East, namely the 3H's are below.**

**DTI Case Studies in the North East follow:**  
**It's Only Natural Campaign DTI - Case studies**  
**Onshore wind: The '3 H's' North East England. DTI website**

The sites collectively known as the 3 H's consist of a group of three turbines at 'High Volts' west of Hartlepool, two turbines at Hare Hill east of Durham City, and two turbines at Holmside south of Stanley in Co Durham. The 3 H's are the first sites on the UK mainland where multi-megawatt 100-metre tall turbines of the type more commonly associated with **offshore wind developments** have been installed. Each of the seven turbines has an installed capacity of 2.75 MW, giving the 3 H's a cumulative installed capacity of 19.25 MW. This is sufficient generation to supply at least 11,650 households, or 28,000 people; and to prevent the annual emission of 44,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

**Comment: Using information from the ROC Register it is possible to check the above figures.**

At Holmside Hall the local community already had direct experience of a modern operating wind farm in the area at Tow Law, which has been well received and has become a **popular location for picnics**. That the existing site reduced public uncertainty was reflected in the relatively low number of objections to the Holmside proposal, which was recommended for approval by planning officers and approved **with little debate** by the Council's Planning Committee. Concerns regarding potential noise from the Holmside Hall wind farm were addressed through the imposition of a planning condition limiting noise from the wind farm at nearby dwellings to 35dB. The wind farm will not be permitted to operate if this noise threshold breached

Hare Hill wind farm received little opposition and was granted planning permission by Durham City Council in 2001. The turbines were erected in late 2003.

High Volts wind farm consists of three 2.75 Megawatt turbines, situated to the west of Hartlepool and immediately to the east of the A19 road. Nearby Teesside International Airport expressed concern that the proposal could have an **adverse effect on its aeronautical radar, with associated safety implications**. The Civil Aviation Authority stated that there **was no available evidence** that this would have an adverse impact on the airport. The scheme was granted planning permission and is now operational. The award of planning consent was conditional on the operator contributing towards the reasonable costs, up to an agreed ceiling; of **any radar impact remediation** should such work be required by the Civil Aviation Authority. The wind farm was commissioned in early 2004 and to date has had no adverse effect on the airport's radar.

**Comment: Airports I understand can cope with an occasional turbine in an area but the effect on radar and safety is exacerbated with an increase in height or number of turbines I understand BWEA and Marconi have financed software for Durham Tees Valley Airport. Said to mitigate any problems it is not yet available though Wind Prospect say it will be by 2008 .It must be tried and tested throughout the UK, in the interest of public safety and National Security. Airports do have a duty of care to their passengers and crew and must not be pressurized into accepting government energy policy at the expense of safety.**

**Comment: Pictures of Tow Law so called 'picnic site 'are below. Tow Law's said popularity has been used to support other developments by National Wind Power (NWP)**  
One at Loscar Farm (between Sheffield and Rotherham) and another in South Wales.

RWE Innogy agreed in Jan 2004, a £400m deal with Englefield Capital and First Islamic Investment Bank to finance its wind farms, which will enable its National Wind Power subsidiary to continue developing new sites

## **Tow Law Wind Farm**

Ah, no guard dogs on patrol now, as earlier!



## **High Hedley**



**Hardly picnic sites!**

## **Holmside Turbine Under Repair**

Fault found 23/12/2004

Photograph taken in January 2005

Reports were received during January, February and March that the turbine(s) were not working. However once the blades are back in place we have to consider lack of wind on the site as well as mechanical problems.





## Wind Turbines Shut Down in Safety Alert

### GIANT wind turbines have stopped operating after a safety alert

Extract from Hartlepool Mail - 05 January 2005

The huge 330ft structures across Hartlepool and east Durham are out of action while bosses investigate a fault on another similar North East turbine. Bosses say they do not know yet when the **High Volts** site between Elwick and Hart and the **Harehill** site between Shotton Colliery and Thornley will be back in action.

Jonathan Smith, a spokesperson for E.ON UK, the company that runs Powergen, said: "We have had an equipment failure where a turbine failed and as **a safety precaution** we have basically shut them all down. So all those with the same design have been shut down. "We have launched an investigation to find out what the problem is and we will return them to service as soon as it is safe to do so"

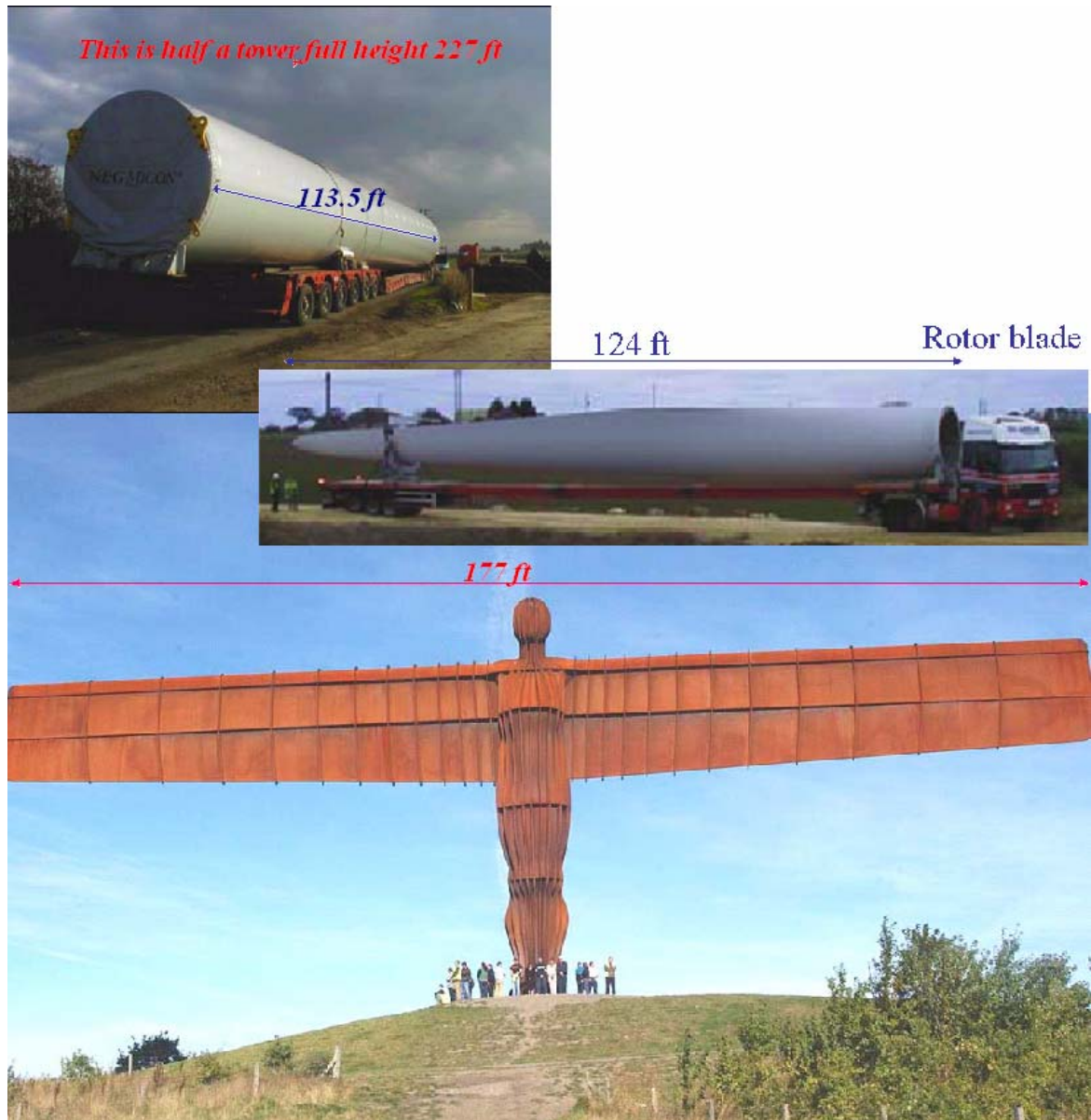
"The problem arose Wednesday, December 23, last year after a fault was found with a turbine at the **Holmside** site near Chester-le-Street. Though **Powergen Renewables stand to lose thousands of pounds**, the energy providers are adamant that the region's power supply will not be affected. Mr Smith said: "The power for everybody is put into the National Grid pot where there is more than enough to go round" It is a fairly impressive piece of machinery and things do go wrong with pieces of machinery, so it is inevitable at some point. It's probably going to cost us thousands of pounds, but it's very difficult to put a figure on it," he said It is not unusual to shut the machines down. It would be unusual to shut them down for a long time." Safety fears are the latest in a series of problems since the turbines were built in 07/03

### Abstract from Press report March 15 2004

More than 40 people have complained that the three turbines have affected their TV pictures. The 340ft structures have caused controversy in the area since they were built near 1000 homes in November. Some people said they were unsightly and noisy. Hartlepool Borough Councillor who objected to the turbines said, "They should be sited offshore. Powergen renewables agreed the turbines were causing problems and that the company would do whatever was needed to sort out the problem. (Initially described as dwarfing the countryside)

Comment: **Holmside, High Volts and Hare Hill all seem to have had regular problems.** Whether due to lack of wind or mechanical problems I do not know, perhaps both. If we are to balance the adverse impacts and wider environmental benefits of reducing carbon emissions then we must check the load factor of the machines and see if they are producing the electricity and making the emission savings stated by the developer. Both the anticipated saving of CO<sub>2</sub> and electricity generation should be stated as accurately as possible, Now the wind turbines are operational, the load factors can be checked using information from the ROC Register. If low and the obsession with regional target for onshore wind persist then my real concern is this could imply **even more** turbines. PPS22 planning proposals allow Government to override local objections to renewable planning applications.

*An' grewed an' grewed an' grewed an aaful suze!*



Comment: They certainly have grown! The above picture attempts to give some idea of scale of the tower 227ft in height and a blade 124ft, compared to the Angel of the North. The low loader is transporting only half a tower. A picture during construction of a Neg Micon turbine follows, courtesy of the Powergen website - 100m (about 325ft to tip) and each 2.75 MW installed capacity.

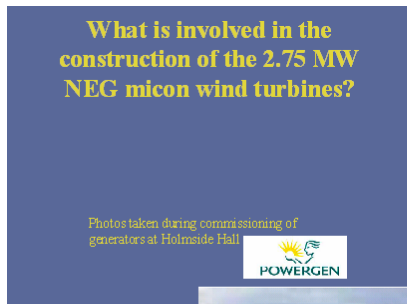
### **These turbines certainly are gobbling up the countryside!**

Antony Gormley's Angel is 20m (65 ft) high, more than the height of four double decker buses. When I first chose the Angel for comparison I did not think the developers or planners would claim that the Angel is **not** 20m in height. Their feisty reasoning is that it stands on a hill! This was the reason given by the Chief Planning Officer in response to the local objectors as to why 45m turbines were not twice the height of the Angel. The Application for two second hand turbines at GSK is used as Case Study 6E in PPS22 Companion Guide. (More detail on pages 40/41 Force10CG).



## Holmside Turbine

I have read that 432 tonnes of concrete will be poured into the ground for this one turbine.



PB Power in November 2003 regarding the Royal Oak Darlington, application for 4 turbines (one of seven EDF applications put forward by PB Power, responsible for the grid study in the RSS) is due to go to committee in Oct/Nov. MOD concerns have not yet been resolved.

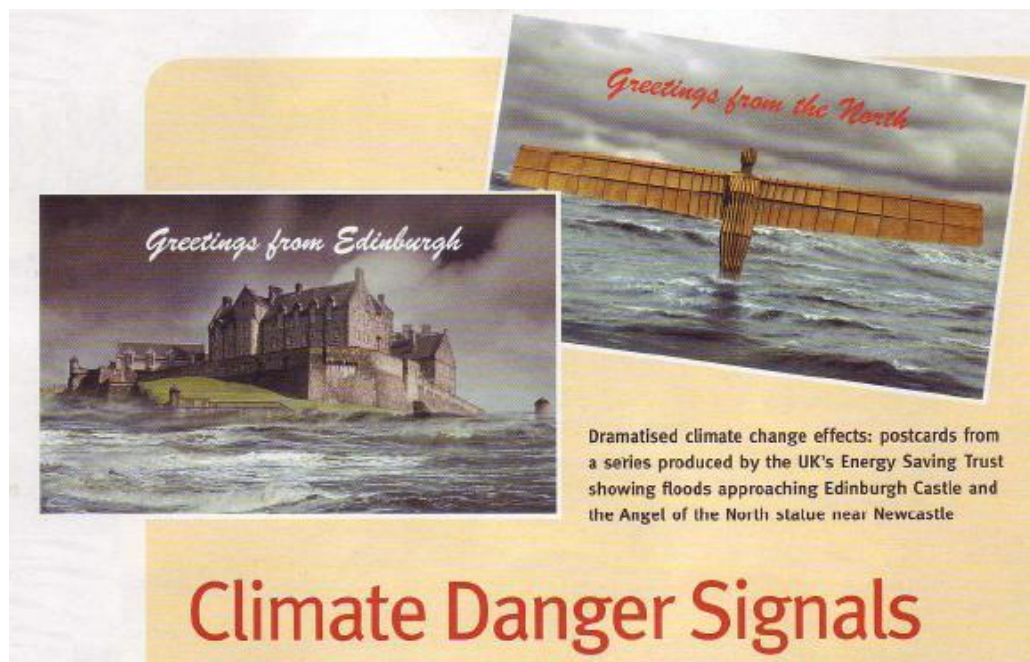
At a Community Involvement in Planning RTPI June 8, 2005 Seminar, Chris Myers, Forward Planning Manager for Sedgefield Borough Council (SBC), delivered a Statement of Community Involvement \* (SCI) in action. SCIs are part of the new planning system (p 66)

Walkway windfarm, Sedgefield decision meeting did not address the public concerns put forward so was it a fair hearing? (see My Case Study p 53) £21000 annually to the community is not the answer. The annual hidden subsidy alone from ROCs paid for by consumers for this development will be about £3million.

**The Environment Council, held a Regional conference** in The North East March 18, 2005 with Ian Todd (ex DTI), NEA, Renewable Energy Systems ((RES). The thrust was very worrying, **namely there are no disbenefits from wind energy** and we must find a way to move forward.

**These training workshops are to take place throughout the UK (see page 104)**

**Chair of Sustaine then a member of One North East and a Teesdale District Councillor** wrote the foreword to the TREC brochure supporting the GSK wind turbines and the wind farm proposed at Hamsterley. Such support I have heard questioned. TNEI managing TREC reneged on their promise of all renewables small scale/Force 10 Chapter 11 /Appendix B



Source: January 2003 Wind Directions

**Case Study 3E PPS22 CG Member Training.** Extract from **NEREG** CD Rom “Guidance for Local Planning Authorities and taking forward renewable Energy Development” 06/04  
The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) concluded in its Third Assessment Report on Climate Change that temperatures are expected to rise by between 1.4 and 5.8°C by 2100; sea levels could rise by between 0.09 and 0.88 metres compared to 1990 levels.  
Comment: It is not misleading to show The Angel of The North which stands on a hill, up to its knees i

**From Sustaine website 30-10-02**

**Phil Hughes Chair**

Organisations GO-NE, NEA, RSPB, Penn Associates, Northumbrian Water, Electrolux, Environment Agency, Durham County Council, ANEC, Sustainable Cities Research Institution, University of Northumbria, Health Development Agency, Voluntary Organisation Network for the North East (VONNE)

The North East regional round table for Sustainable Development (SD) was established to provide a regional focus for the sustainable development agenda in North East England, under the name **Sustaine**.

Extracts from **Sustaine** website. “**Its work will be complete when:**

Principles of (SD) are embedded in the culture of the NE

Economic social and environmental agendas in the NE are fully integrated

**Sustaine** will achieve this by overseeing development and implementation of the RSDF, Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) and integrating these principles into **the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)**”

**It seems all roads lead to the unelected North East Assembly! NEA**

## High time to strike back by Lyn Harrison Editor Wind Power Monthly Sept/04

Why should the reactionary antics of a “**has-been island**” off the north European coast be of concern to the international wind power industry? Because if Britain's current energy policies give way under the pressure, the wind market will collapse, taking with it the reputation of this entire industry.

Michael Howard has well and truly shot himself in that foot. Ask the people of Britain to make a choice about electricity generation and most will vote for wind power. His action has boosted what is already an exercise in the power of propaganda; it should go down in the history books. The campaign's most recent tack is to disguise itself as the “genuine” renewables movement. For a clue to the source of much of the most creative reporting of recent weeks, take a look at the Renewable Energy Foundation at <http://www.ref.org.uk/>.

Choosing the weapons - If the wind industry is to stop the anti-wind power rot in Britain it needs to take serious action on two fronts. First, it must put huge sums of money into an aggressive counter campaign, nothing less than a painstakingly informed, beautifully articulate, highly professional, well orchestrated, wide reaching and proactive public relations crusade. A first aim should be to mend the British public's disconnect between the problem of global warming - and one of its best solutions. **Arming a top celebrity or two to lead the charge would be good.** The message has to be **clear, confident and unapologetic.** The best campaign tactic of all might be to get Britain's nuclear program reinstated. That would force a seriously thorough examination of all the alternatives for prevention of global warming and avoiding an energy crisis. Wind would emerge a clear winner.

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**Letter to Carol Vorderman from BWEA CEO Marcus Rand,** Source Spytel

“Dear Carol, we are writing to ask if you will back a groundbreaking national campaign in support of wind energy...”

Comment: I have no idea why Carol did not back the campaign or if she received the letter. Of one thing I am certain. She would have ensured that figures and statistical surveys quoted were not misleading. Several reports are currently contradicting the oft cited numbers said to support wind farms. I refer you to the Satley Poll, page 75. They already have wind farms.

-----  
**In my opinion, the following information as it stands is educationally unsound.**

**1) The number of houses supplied:** Although calculated on an average 4.7MW pa per household, an accepted figure; electricity, for hospitals, shops, factories, schools, street and lighting, essential to the needs of everyone is **not** mentioned.

**2) The number of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> saved:** This does not give figures relating to UK or global emissions as I see it a serious omission. UK emits 550 million tonnes pa. Global emissions by comparison are about 44 times as much at 24000 million tonnes pa.

Inconsistencies give cause for concern. **0.86** tonnes per MWh as quoted by **BWEA**, and replacing output from coal fired power stations. **DTI fact sheet 14** and North East Regional Renewable Energy Strategy **NERRES 2005** quote **0.43** tonnes per MWh.

The factor 0.43 is calculated on the basis of the current UK mix of plant and fuels used in power generation (**NERRES 2005 p12**) Developers using the **,86** factor would need twice as many turbines to save emissions claimed. They would need even more if the load factor were to be less than 30%

The [Air Travel Calculator](http://www.climatecare.org/exploreworldwide) on [www.climatecare.org/exploreworldwide](http://www.climatecare.org/exploreworldwide) calculates emissions for any destination. Comparisons can then be made with savings relative to wind energy.

## The Embrace Campaign seems to be in line with Wind Power Monthly ideas.



British Wind Energy Association launches its first advertising campaign. The British Wind Energy Association (BWEA) is launching a £100,000 billboard campaign to promote wind power this autumn. From 1 November, over 350 posters will go on display at 120 locations throughout the UK as part of Embrace the Revolution, a national

campaign to give a voice to the silent majority of people - 74% - who support wind energy (BWEA figures) The campaign concentrates on locations where there is either an existing wind farm or an application to build one.

Comment: The Satley poll p73 differs! They have 2 existing wind farms and a third has been granted permission. Sustained opposition has resulted in the number of turbines for the fourth proposal being reduced from 22 to 12. CPRE have objected at District, Branch and Regional level on the cumulative impact (CEWT) Now NEREG are looking at the effects of CEWT The Developer took their promotional caravan to a supermarket car park several miles away recently to gain support. A complaint to the Manager resulted in the Developer moving.

BWEA's Chief Executive, Marcus Rand, says, "This campaign is intended to challenge people's perceptions of wind turbines. It's saying not only do they benefit the environment and help tackle climate change, they are also stunning. As campaign champion Chris Tarrant says they are modern day guardian angels. A common myth is that wind turbines are ugly, a blot on the landscape. We know the public doesn't agree."

**Reality.** The following abstract is from a letter I received from Chris Tarrant after sending him a copy of Force 10. The complete letter is on page 20.

"I do agree that to erect them in some of our most beautiful countryside would be tragic ... I do believe that wind power will have an important role to play in all our futures but I certainly agree it should be done sympathetically with a genuine ear listening to local grievance."

Comment: I am pleased Chris Tarrant agrees there is a need to listen to local grievance An **EIA for all wind farms would be a start** - a real EIA, not the developers' interpretation, which appear to rely heavily on BWEA guidelines. Should not written representations at Public Inquiry be allowed **only** when 'both sides' agree to this. A Third Party Right of Appeal would help to avoid the undemocratic 'Heads They Win, Tails We Lose' situation.

'Oyster' Awards in London Nov 2002. Cherie Blair's comment.

I had been selected as the North East Regional nominee for the National Oyster Award for Environment. (The successful landscape protection fight to protect Barningham High Moor and the nearby National Park from inappropriate wind energy development) Talking to the nominees, Cherie Blair commented on the turbines, "We don't want those on the hills,"

Extract from letter written by Tony Blair's agent on behalf of the Prime Minister 2004

"They should **not** be put near houses or in the case of Trimdon where there is subsidence." The Appeal (Written representations) has been won by the developers (July 05)

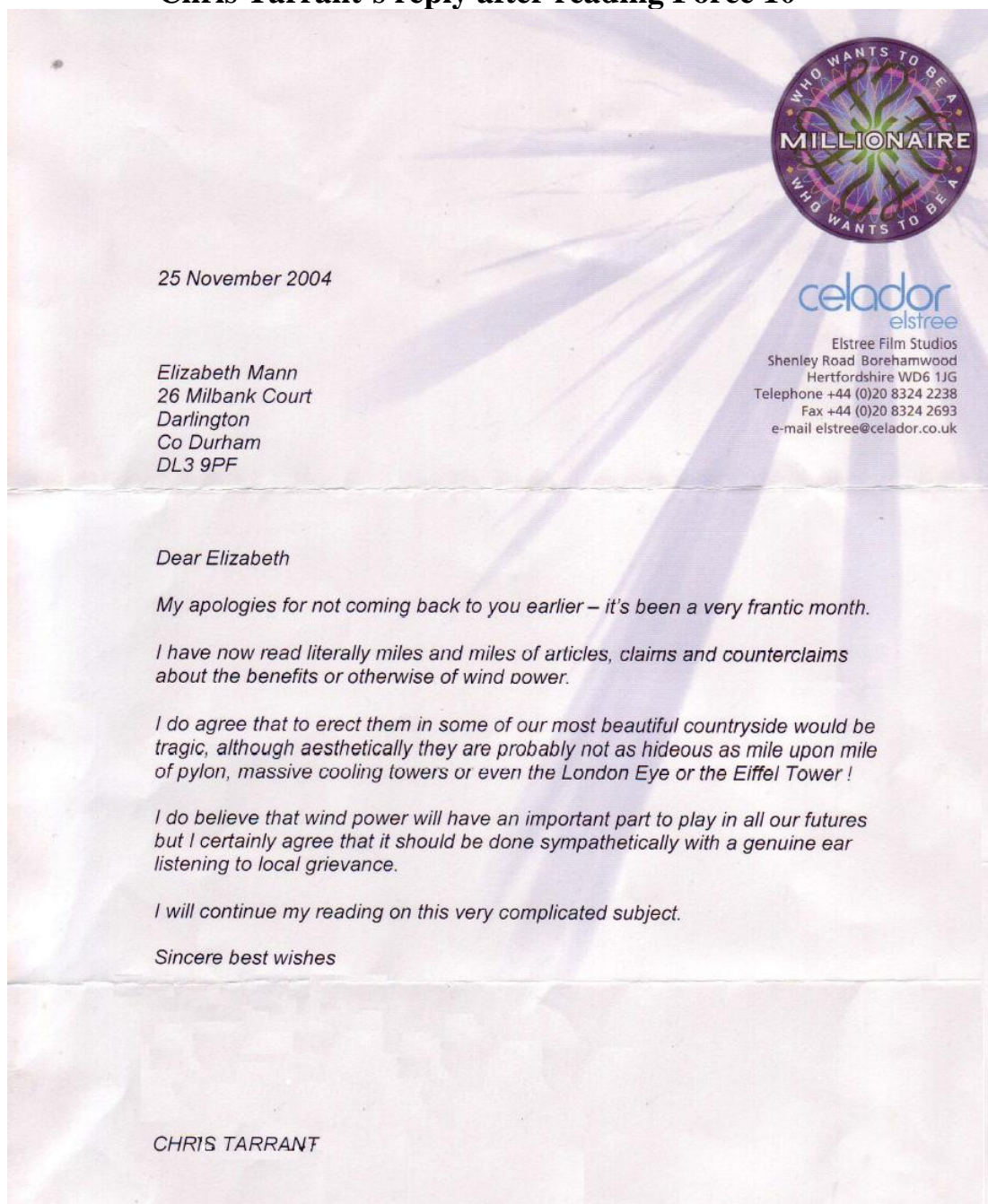
With no chance to cross-examine and elicit some answers could this not constitute bias?

Aug 28/29 2005 Wind farms across the UK will be opening their 'gates' to the public in support of Embrace the Revolution, the national campaign for wind energy. Windy activities on offer will include the opportunity to touch a turbine

*Comment: As a responsible member of the community I could not condone the opportunity to touch a turbine, as it must involve an element of risk however small this may be.*



## Chris Tarrant's reply after reading Force 10



Comment: The letter from Chris Tarrant mentioned on page 19 in connection with the BWEA Embrace Campaign appears in full above. I have removed his signature for security reasons. The statement “Sympathetically and with a genuine ear listening to local grievance” is not in my experience the methods generally used by the wind energy developers. FOE stated on their website. “A new campaign has been launched called "Embrace The Revolution", which will demonstrate public support for wind power, and challenge the various myths about wind farms.” The Embrace Campaign did not appear to succeed in challenging the ‘myths’ about wind farms. Surely the problem with the Ardrossan wind farm supports the request to GO-NE that all wind farms have an EIA. (Page42)

**“I cannot afford to live here but walking on those moors I feel like a millionaire”  
Spontaneous comment from a witness at the Barningham Public Inquiry 1998**

Lyn Harrison, WPM editor writes also of an extraordinarily persistent, anti-wind campaign, relentlessly feeding the press and media with a diet of well-turned lies and misinformation. She suggests taking a look at the Renewable Energy Foundation. <http://www.ref.org.uk>. This she says disguises itself as the “genuine” renewables movement.

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**The following is from REF website [www.ref.org.uk](http://www.ref.org.uk) and explains their aims.**

REF is a not-for-profit foundation formed of individuals concerned by the uncontrolled growth in proposals and planning applications for power stations in inappropriate rural areas. We are part of a growing national consensus that the United Kingdom's energy policy is unbalanced, and that the drive for renewable energy generation has been inadequately planned, a fact that has resulted in a developer-led industrial feeding-frenzy that is neither green nor sustainable. It is improbable that this current broad-scale industrialisation of the countryside will bring about any significant reductions in the emissions of greenhouse gases or meet the long-term energy needs of the UK (as laid out in the **Feb 2003 Energy White Paper**). We aim to raise public awareness of the issues and encourage the creation of a structured energy policy for the UK, which is both more ecologically sensitive and effective.

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**The Following email is from REF chairman Noel Edmonds**

Dear Elizabeth,

As reported in the Sunday Times - through one of my companies, VMC, I have offered free video conferencing equipment to the two major UK political parties. After many years of trying to open the politicians' eyes, I am seeking to make sure that they “practice what they preach” by reducing unnecessary travel which in turn will make a significant contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

At the present time transportation equates to over 30% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and so even a small reduction in unnecessary travel will have a positive impact upon this very serious issue.

**Indeed reducing just 5% of existing UK travel will totally negate the emissions argument associated with wind turbines!** As you will see from my work with the Meeting Without Moving Foundation, ([meetingwithoutmoving.com](http://meetingwithoutmoving.com)), and the Renewable Energy Foundation ([ref.org.uk](http://ref.org.uk)) I believe we have to have a totally fresh approach to the way in which we work, the way in which we travel, and our relationship with our environment and our use of natural resources. Harnessing modern technology and **encouraging** behavioural change is vital if we are to address many of the serious issues which we now all face. I hope this is sufficient clarification for you.

Best wishes,  
Noel

Comment: What could be more genuine than a structured energy policy and the acceptance of a change in lifestyle with everyone doing their bit. Being less wasteful could help to save the planet and save us all money. This could be part of the answer

**Some interesting facts**

- 1) [www.dartdorset.org](http://www.dartdorset.org) gives a detailed calculation showing the comparison in CO<sub>2</sub> savings by buying low energy light bulbs as compared with a 2 M W wind turbine.
- 2) Darlington Council are replacing older inefficient mercury type lighting with new energy efficient white lights, so saving the Authority around **£28,000 a year**,
- 3) New measures to make buildings more energy efficient will save one million tonnes of carbon per year by 2010, equivalent to emissions from more than one million semi-detached homes, **ODPM** and **DEFRA** announced today **15 Sept /05**

## BWEA Press Release



Monday, September 20, 2004

Cllr. Margaret Munn, Ardrossan, Scotland:

“The Ardrossan wind farm has been overwhelmingly accepted by local people - instead of spoiling the landscape we believe it has been enhanced. “The turbines are impressive looking, bring a calming effect to the town and contrary to the belief that they would be noisy, we have found them to be silent workhorses.”

## Times on Line

May 15, 2005 Ciaran Hancock

Airtricity makes 7.8 million euros from disposal of wind farm stakes 49% of its Ardrossan wind farm in Scotland to Viridis Capital, an Australian-based investment fund

*Comment the wind farm is sold less than 8 months after it was built.*

## Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald, Friday September 24, 2004 by Billy Bain.

Ardrossan's much-discussed new windfarm is causing severe interference to television reception on Arran and all parties involved are now discussing who will foot the bill for new TV aerials for the islanders! And MP Brian Wilson, who was contacted by concerned residents on the mainland-facing side of the island, is looking into the situation. Now talks are being held between North Ayrshire Council, telecoms regulator Ofcom and windfarm owners Airtricity to determine who is responsible for rectifying the problem. Denying they simply forgot about Arran while commissioning a technical assessment of the windfarm. Ofcom claim that that interference is occurring much further away than normally expected. Arran lies around 20km to the west of the Ardrossan site, and is therefore well outside the area where visible effects usually occur.

On the question of who should pay for the work, Mr. Madry (Ofcom) stated that it depends on whether North Ayrshire Council **placed any relevant conditions on the developer**. He added: “If the planning authority has not done so, the windfarm developer will be under no obligation to rectify degraded reception although they may be willing to do so voluntarily.” NAC's assistant chief executive, Brian MacDonald, said: “We are currently in discussion with the owners, Airtricity. “There is a requirement under the planning agreement for any problems such as these to be rectified.” An Airtricity spokesman said: “We are currently examining the claims and we will also be talking to NTL and NAC about the situation “We must admit that we are surprised by the claims of residents and will be looking into the case to clarify what the root of the problem may be.”

**Concerned MP Brian Wilson told The Herald: “Arran should obviously have been included in the technical assessment and, if it had been, these problems would have been pre-empted.** “I hope we can now get everyone around the table to discuss a way forward. I also hope lessons will be learned from this experience.”

Comment: Surely this highlights the need for a thorough Environmental Impact Assessment **EIA**. As CPRE, and with National Office backing, I wrote to GONE requesting an EIA for the GSK proposal since it was both unusual and out of scale in the area. The council had said at a **rare and not well-attended public meeting**, an EIA would give people a chance to voice concerns.

**Yet they had with TNEI agreed months earlier one was not needed.**

Hardly democratic or fair. This is a further reason for taking issue with case study 6E Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK) in PPS22 Companion Guide.



## The 3 M's - Might, Money and Mendacity

**WPM Editor, gave her idea of a campaign to stop the “wind power rot in Britain,”** A wide reaching public relations crusade painstakingly informed beautifully articulate (p18)  
Comment: These conferences appear painstakingly ill informed and beautifully biased  
They lack the Heineken element, reaching the areas other consultations don't, **the people**

Lyn Harrison editor of Wind Power Monthly (September 2004) said “To prevent the collapse of the wind industry, it must put huge sums of money into an aggressive counter campaign” DTI had already began to pursue such an idea in February. Porter Novelli has been appointed by Department for Trade and Industry to increase awareness of renewable energy sources amongst investors and planners. Porter Novelli's managing director, Fiona Joyce, heads up the team and reports to DTI's renewables adviser, D. Still

### **Once again aimed at councillors and planners, not the people!**

As usual there appears to be no balance. It seems that there are two sides to all arguments except windpower. A colourful presentation, any colour as long as it's green, any renewable source as long as it is wind energy. Yet renewables are not just wind, something I pointed out during the RPG where the lobbying to weaken the planning system began (Force10 page 82.)

So concerned about the growing opposition to wind farms the DTI awarded (Feb 2004) an international public relations company a contract, said to be worth £2 million to promote wind farms through workshops and conferences.(Resulting venues and dates listed below)

### **Regional Planning for Wind Energy Conferences. Information from BWEA website**

Northern Ireland (Limavady, June 2005)

Wales (Aberystwyth, May 2005)

East Midlands (Skegness, May 2005)

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South East (CEME Centre, Rainham October 2004)

South West (Hustyns Hotel, St Breocks Downs, October 2004)

West Midlands (Hafoty Utcha Windfarm, October 2004)

East of England (Swaffham, October 2004)

**North East (Hartlepool July 2004)**

North West (Kendal June 2004)

I applied to go to the Hartlepool Conference. The responses from BWEA are below.

#### **Emails from Helen Barnes at BWEA**

- 1) Thank you for your interest in the Planning for Wind Energy event on 28 July in Hartlepool. **BWEA has been given DTI funding on the basis that we run a series of free events for Councillors and local authority planners.**

As a result we regret that we are unable to accept your registration for the event. However, if we find there is space available nearer the time I will of course get in touch and will be pleased to give you a seat!

- 2) “Further to my previous e-mail I'm afraid we DO NOT have room for you at the Hartlepool conference next Wednesday.”

Comment: I was pleased to be told the presentations would be available on BWEA website soon after the event. I have read them all but they are not to my mind balanced. **They are more indoctrination than informing on how to make a balanced decision.** Councillors have a duty to those they represent and are not just puppets with Government pulling the strings.



**Hartlepool Conference details follow.**

**Planning for Wind Energy**

**A Workshop for the North East Region**

**28th July 2004, Hartlepool.**

**Supported by Government and Industry**

*My comments are in italics*

Following on from the success of the national event in Hull and the first regional event in Cumbria, BWEA held the second in a series of regional one-day conferences for Councillors and local planners in Hartlepool on 28 July 2004, supported by the DTI.

Government policy and commitment to renewable energy has grown significantly over the last few years. The Energy White Paper has been published, renewable energy targets have been set and the Renewables Obligation has been put in place to kick start the market required to foster renewable technologies for future development and growth. As a result, there are now greater demands for renewable energy development, and particularly wind energy development, being the leader in renewable technology and deployment. **BWEA have therefore set up this series of events, supported by the DTI, to inform assessors and decision makers of the considerations to be made in plan making policy, case assessment and decision making for wind farm development.** The conference introduced new Government policy on energy and on planning for renewable energy, both of which reflect the increased Government commitment to renewable energy.

### **Session I: Government Policy for Renewable Energy and Planning**

#### **Welcome and introduction from conference chair**

Chris Tomlinson, Head of Onshore Wind, BWEA

#### **A New Industry for Britain: Government Policy and Commitment to Renewable Energy**

Dr Cameron Stewart, Deputy Director, DTI Energy Group

**Dr Stewart** presented the Energy White Paper, published in February last year, **the most positive statement on renewable energy by a UK Government.** The Government has also set targets for renewable energy, **which the regions have an obligation to meet.**



*Comment: Did not the Energy White Paper EWP stress reducing consumption through efficiency and conservation measures, also development of primarily marine renewables, offshore wind wave and tidal power?(Extract from E Mann's response to PPS22 consultation).*

## **PPS22 - Some myths and clarifications**

### **David Wilkes, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister**

David Wilkes, the civil servant at ODPM responsible for writing PPS22, outlined the new draft national planning policy statement. His presentation set out some of the misunderstandings about the document that arose during consultation and clarification as to what the policies mean for planning authorities.



## **A Regional Perspective for the North East**

Dan Grierson & Caroline Oldridge, Planning Consultants, TNEI (The Northern Energy Initiative)

Dan and Caroline provided an insight into the Regional Spatial Strategy and renewable energy targets for the North East. They also highlighted, using case examples, some of the proactive work being undertaken by their organisation and outline how they can help and advise planning authorities in understanding the need for wind energy at a regional level



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*Comment: I reiterate my concern that Caroline Oldridge, formerly Policy Officer for the NEA to whom consultations for the Renewable Energy Strategy for the NE were sent has joined TNEI. Adrian Smith and colleagues from TNEI prepared the draft NE Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the NEA. There is still a preoccupation with wind energy at regional level*

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## **Session II: Technical Planning and Development Issues**

### **Landscape & Noise Constraints and Considerations**

Lynda Thomson, Associate Director, EDAW & Andrew Bullmore, Hoare-Lea Acoustic Consultants

Lynda and Andrew, expert consultants on technical issues, described and explained the landscape and noise considerations for site design and location. They also highlighted the models and methods available for measuring landscape effects and noise, which form a key part of all Environmental Impact Assessments.



### **Birds & Wildlife Considerations**

Tim Norman, Technical Director, RPS plc

Tim covered the considerations which are taken into account to avoid adverse impacts on birds and wildlife and introduced mitigation options that can be employed.



## **Session III: A Range of Perspectives**

### **Climate Change and the Need for Renewables**

Elanor Gordon, Greenpeace UK

Elanor reminded us all why we are investing in renewable energy in the UK and throughout the world. She looked at the scientific reality of global warming and its predicted effects on the environment from a global down to a local perspective.



### **The Industry Perspective: EIA and Consultation Processes**

Richard Barker, Wind Prospect

**Richard Barker, from BWEA Member developer Wind Prospect,** presented an in depth analysis tailored to the planning and Councillor audience, highlighting the range of considerations that are made during the detailed Environmental Impact Assessment. He used case examples to demonstrate best practice in consultation during various stages in the development process to ensure effective working with local communities.



### **Local Perspective: Local Planning and Decision Making**

Rod Hepplewhite, Senior Planning Consultant, Blackett Hart & Pratt Solicitors

Rod Hepplewhite has experience in a wide range of planning issues based on his work in local government for the councils of Hartlepool and Sunderland. He specialises in major projects for the firm and is currently advising on a major leisure development in the Teesside area.



### **High Volts Wind Farm: prelude to site visit**

Neil Riley, Senior Project Developer, E.ON UK Renewables

Neil outlined the process which led to the site selection, planning approval and construction of High Volts wind farm.



## **Debate and Discussion**

### **Visit to High Volts Wind Farm**

Hosted by E.ON UK Renewables, project developers and operators Commissioned only in December last year, High Volts displays some of the most advanced technology across its three majestic turbines. **As one of the most modern working wind farms in the UK, the development is typical of many proposals for the North East.** It also provides enough electricity to supply the needs of nearly 4,500 homes and saves nearly 15,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases each year

Comment: High Volts. **One of the most modern working wind farms in the UK** and typical of many proposals for the NE, We must ensure it is doing what the developers claim in CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions and the electricity produced. Above all is the technology really working? Having been sold down the Tees Wear and Tyne we deserve to know. A report published on May 19 2005) by the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC), to tackle the problems of climate change and energy security stated ‘ **wind power must be made to work**’ (see p33/4 Load Factors) Does this not indicate necessity for on site anemometry to check wind speeds prior to a planning application? I am not aware that GSK or Walkway had any on site measurements of wind speed taken. This could account for the poor performance of the GSK turbines, based on information from the Ofgem ROC Register but does not explain the phenomena of the turbines reported turning on apparently windless days.

## **Presentations from the Hartlepool Regional one day Conference July 04**

**Supported by DTI.** *My comments are in italics*

*The Pdfs will I am sure still be available on the BWEA website and I recommend accessing them Obviously as power point presentations one does not have the privilege of hearing the 'asides' but the slides are certainly awareness raising! Unfortunately for me it simply confirms my concerns that any consultation after this is solely a con, a sop. It is all too clear regions have been given targets which they are told it is obligatory to meet.*

### **David Wilkes ODPM responsible for writing PPS22**

*I have pointed out on page 8, that PPS22 had no need to dwell on Wind Turbines or Wind Farms as its Companion Guide, has done just that!*

*I would like clarification on PPS22 at 14 as I believe it could be misinterpreted It states that Regional Planning Bodies and LPAs should not create 'buffer zones' around international and nationally designated areas and apply policies to these zones that prevent the development of renewable energy projects. It further states that the potential impact from renewable energy projects close to their boundaries will be **a material consideration** to be taken into account when determining planning applications*

**Tim Norman- Birds & Wildlife Considerations.** *I would have preferred more detail*

### **Andrew Bullmore Hoare - Lee Acoustic Consultants**

Turbines increasing in size to > 2MW. All other things being equal original .350m separation distances should now be > 700m *An interesting fact*

<b>Neil Riley - EON UK Renewables.</b>	<b>High Volts Wind Farm</b>
<i>Praise from the developer seems to conflict with reality (see p 33-35)</i>	

### **Caroline Oldridge and Dan Grierson - Planning Consultants TNEI**

Slide13


Present Installed capacity 35.55 MW from 33 turbines. Enough electricity for 21,500 households or 51,000 people. **Prevents the emissions of 80,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>pa**  
*This slide, the most contentious from TNEI is one of 8 copied on page 28*

Slide17 RENEW Tees Valley Commissioned Wind Capacity Study undertaken by TNEI, based on constraint mapping .identified 100 -150 MW potential wind energy Resource Areas in the sub region  
*Are the people who will be affected aware?*

Slide18,21 Local Authority Awareness Raising CD. A useful Tool
<b>Prepared by North East Renewable Energy Group NEREG.</b>
Aimed at Local Authority members and officers.
<b>Piloted in Sedgfield and Wear Valley Councils Launched on 29 June 2004</b>
<i>These are frightening in their assumptions and intentions (Walkway page52/3)</i>




**TNEI PRESENTATION at HARTLEPOOL** Caroline Oldridge and Dan Grierson  
*Comment; Holmside, Hare Hill and High Volts have over half the installed capacity of the turbines currently operating. Therefore any problems with these turbines are crucial – see page 14 wind turbines in safety alert. Note Kirkheaton has only 3 X 600 kW turbines.*




## A Regional Perspective for the North East


Caroline Oldridge & Dan Grierson

Planning for Wind Energy  
28th July 2004









Local Authority Awareness Raising CD




## Provides Guidance to Local Authorities in taking forward renewable energy developments








## Today's Presentation


- Regional Planning Guidance
- Renewable Energy Strategy
- Regional Spatial Strategy
- Meeting The Targets
- RENEW Tees Valley Study
- NEREG Awareness Raising







Prepared by North East Renewable Energy Group





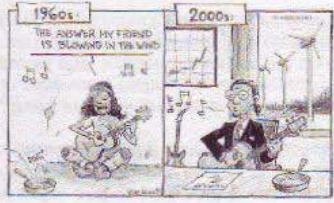

Aimed at Local Authority members and officers




Piloted in Sedgefield and Wear Valley Councils

Launched on 29 June 2004









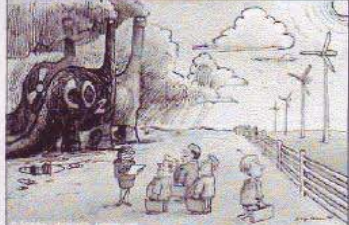











## What have we got now?

Windfarm	Turbines	MW
• Kirkheaton	9	2.7
• Blyth Offshore	2	3.8
• Blyth Onshore	9	2.7
• Great Eppleton	4	3
• Holmside	2	5.5
• Hare Hill	2	5.5
• High Volts	3	8.25
• Tow Law/High Hed.	6	4.5
• Glaxo	2	0.5






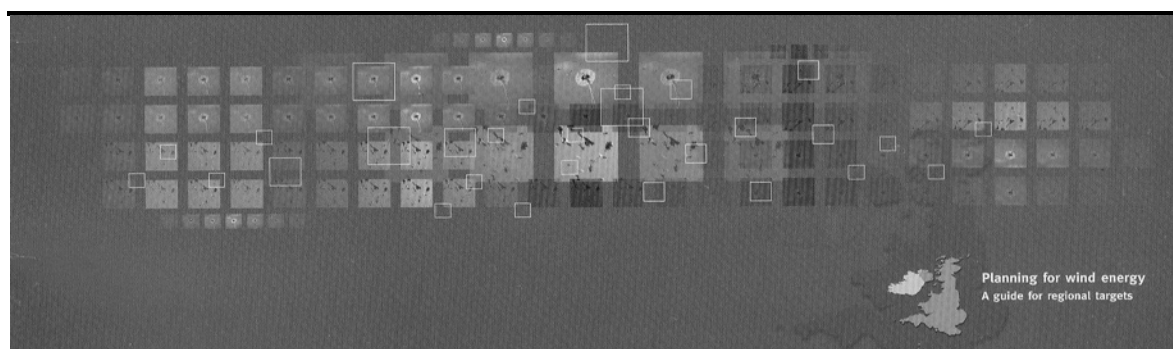
## Installed capacity

- 35.55 Megawatts from 33 turbines
- Enough electricity for 21,500 households, or
- 51,000 people
- Prevents the emission of 80,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum



Is the guitarist in 2000 singing that old song “Money is The Root of All Evil” or perhaps a lullaby, “ROC a bye baby,” who knows?

## Regional Targets for Wind Energy (Produced By BWEA)



Cover of document\* recommended by A Moore

Alan Moore (NWP) PRASEG conference July 6: “I would ask DTI, DETR to promote renewables more actively than they do. We need some sort of **independent** authority promoting renewables in general – **wind in particular**. We welcome the proposals for **regional targets** which were announced in February.

I am able to announce today that the **BWEA** have been working the last few months to **produce their own targets for wind energy in each of the regions of England and Wales and Scotland**. This is the document I would recommend to you\*.

**They are available from the BWEA.”**

Abstract from the document “**To assist UK regions in implementing national targets for renewable energy**”

Comment: Whom did they consult to produce these targets? Notice the land take is given as a % of region’s total land and I believe covers only the area of the turbine bases! That is misleading. Percentages are used when it suits their purpose yet not when it seems appropriate i.e. national or global emissions (p18)

REGION	Regional share of onshore wind power target (%)	No. of wind turbines for region (using 1.5MW machines) projected for 2010	Total land area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area suitable for wind generation (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area required for regional wind target (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area required as % of region's total land (km <sup>2</sup> )
North East	5%	137	8,542	2,970	22.8	0.27
North West	7%	178	14,158	2,362	29.6	0.21
Yorkshire & The Humber	5%	131	15,482	1,590	21.8	0.14
East Midlands	3%	81	15,595	516	13.5	0.09
West Midlands	4%	95	12,994	895	15.9	0.12
East of England	4%	99	19,142	54	16.5	0.09
South West	10%	251	23,877	4,976	41.9	0.18
South East	6%	151	20,659	954	25.2	0.12
London – see p19	n/a	-	-	-	-	-
England	44%	1,123	130,449	14,317	187.2	-
Wales	8%	193	20,857	4,028	32.1	0.15
Scotland	39%	973	79,002	40,798	162.1	0.21
Northern Ireland	9%	227	14,184	6,109	37.8	0.27
UK	100%	2,515	244,492	65,252	419.2	-

**Martin Marais (NWP) South East.** Head of On-shore Developments, npower renewables. Invited panel member at NAREC launch Feb 2005.

*Comment: Plans for the then largest windfarm in Europe at Rookhope c1998 were shelved after **much local opposition** and the dismissal of NWP’s Barningham High Court challenge.*

*Martin Marais was in charge of the Rookhope proposal.*



### John Ainslie NWP North East-

*Comment: In 1998 NWP's appeal to the High Court following their loss of the High Moor Wind Farm Public Inquiry, was **dismissed on all four counts**. John Ainslie was in charge of the Barningham proposal, the largest wind farm then proposed in England.*

	Regional share of onshore wind power target (%)	No. of wind turbines for region (using 1.5MW machines) projected for 2010	Total land area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area suitable for wind generation (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area required for regional wind target (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area required as % of region's total land (km <sup>2</sup> )
North East	5%	137	8,542	2,970	22.8	0.27
Regional representative John Ainslie BWEA c/o National Wind Power Drax Business Park PO Box 3 Selby North Yorkshire YO8 8PJ Telephone: 01757 613 822						

Wind Prospect is the developer at the Walkway wind farm at Sedgfield (My case study)  
Dr Eaun Cameron, Managing Director Wind Prospect *needs* to be mentioned for his words of wisdom in Australia (c 2004) a verbatim transcript from 'It's not easy being green' Do green technologies offer a future for Southern Australia?

The mysterious thing called NFFO which was referred to earlier, was the Non Fossil Fuel Obligation that was **a very clever wangle by the Government**. They managed to get some State aid support past the European Commission by piggy-backing on the State aid that was actually available to the nuclear industry which is also a non fossil fuel, of course.

Comment: How do you follow that? The Renewable Obligation Certificates ROCs, nothing less. The Wind Industry claims it is not a subsidy. Is it a subsidy or a levy? It is in fact a 'hidden subsidy' coming from the consumer not the treasury

**Surely a level of deception that I believe no one but government could get away with.**

The Renewables Obligation has been put in place to kick- start the market. As a result there are now greater demands for renewable energy development and particularly wind energy.  
(Source BWEA/DTI Conference for councillors and planners Hartlepool July2004) p24

Comment: This complex system of the Renewables Obligation (RO), the climate Change Levy exemption (CCLe) and the marketing of RO Certificates (ROCs) must be one of the most ingenious arrangements ever set up. Founded by an Einstein of the financial world it would seem, concealing the fact that the RO and CCLe are effectively a hidden tax on all electricity consumers and a huge hidden subsidy to renewable energy providers.

**BWEA Market Overview March 2004 UK** identified as the best market for wind in the world due to its favourable combination of wind resource, strong offshore regime and the recent extension of the relevant legislation **the Renewables Obligation** to 15% by 2015 (see page3)  
Last March, at a presentation to investors, LM Glasfiber boasted that the British market was one of its most important and was set for "substantial growth in 2005. Sunday Times May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
reported a donation of £250,000 for Labour from Doughty of Glasfiber.

## It's natural. The importance of Outdoor Life for Health and Well-Being

Recent research has identified the benefits of outdoor life. It concludes that outdoor activities boost people's level of fitness and self-esteem whilst reducing anger, confusion, depression and fatigue. *We have been saying that for years but now it is official!*

**The Research puts the cost of physical inactivity to the UK at 8.1billion.**

A Countryside for Health and Well-Being is available at [press@english-nature.org.uk](mailto:press@english-nature.org.uk)

**The word "tranquillity" appears in a great many policy document and also numerous publications which promote places for tourism and inward investment.**

Whatever it is and wherever it is to be found, it is clear that it is important and judged to be worth protecting (From the Executive Summary, NE Tranquillity Project) This is available at [www.northumbria.ac.uk/tranquillity](http://www.northumbria.ac.uk/tranquillity) from the date of its launch Wednesday 23rd March 2005, it will be possible to download from this site the various images and maps.

Barningham and the Stang, sketch by unknown artist is featured. I had nothing to do with this but was delighted to find it included! Windfarms were amongst a list of perceived non natural features identified as detracting from tranquillity.



Now intrusive lighting will be treated as a statutory nuisance with the passing of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act April 7, 2005.

Comment: November 2002 by the Minister for Tourism Dr Kim Howells. Tourism is worth £1.8 billion to NE economy, about 50,000 North-East jobs are supported by tourism, with a further 50,000 relying on its economic spin-offs, in total 10% of the regional workforce. The first in the UK the study is the most accurate and detailed to be carried out into the economic benefits of visitors to the region. It is expected to pave the way for other studies, which would provide a National picture of the value of Tourism. From April 2003 One North East will have responsibility for strategic tourism development. Will politicians find a balance for the 'national interest' and protection of the Open Countryside? Profit must not override interests of ordinary people.

Planning to be open and transparent Byers told the Commons in 2001

## THE POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW (ROCs)



npower renewables

RWE group

**“Without the renewable obligation certificates (ROCs) nobody would be building wind farms” said Paul Golby, the chief executive of Eon UK**

**Article by Aaron Patrick. Daily Telegraph 26/03/2005.**

Calculating the cost and benefits of wind power is difficult. What is usually left out is blight of large turbines dotting the countryside and the reduction in land values or the benefit of reducing carbon dioxide emissions and the damage to Britain’s reputation if it were to opt out of the international climate change agreement. (Royal Academy of Engineering).

In 1998, the best ‘wind year’ Britain’s wind farms operated at only 31% capacity (DTI).

With Britain spending billions of pounds subsidising wind power, policymakers have a responsibility to ensure it is the most effective way to protect the environment.

**Prof. Ian Fells, one of the world’s leading experts on renewable energy, states that behind the building of windfarms is a gold rush, created by a government struggling to meet its own renewable energy targets.** It has led to developers racing to build turbines with little care for the environment. The real profit comes from the sale of renewable obligations certificates (ROC s), that ingenious hidden subsidy. A wind farmer is allowed to create one ROC for every 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity generated, potentially 2628 ROCs each year for each 1 MW turbine installed using a load factor of 30% for onshore wind. eg A 4 MW wind farm over 25 years and assuming one ROC is worth £50. The subsidy of  $£4 \times 25 \times 50 \times 2628 = £13,140,000$ .

Certificates can be sold to the big electricity suppliers, who need them to prove to the government that some of their electricity comes from renewable sources.

**House of Lords Science and Technology Committee HL Paper 126-1 at 2.24**

It is worth underlining the fact that the Government’s 10% target is normally referred to in terms of the percentage of renewable energy generated from renewable sources without more precise definition, but to be strictly accurate it refers to the contribution of those renewable sources **eligible for the Renewables Obligation”**

## Methods used to ‘inform’ decision makers and assessors

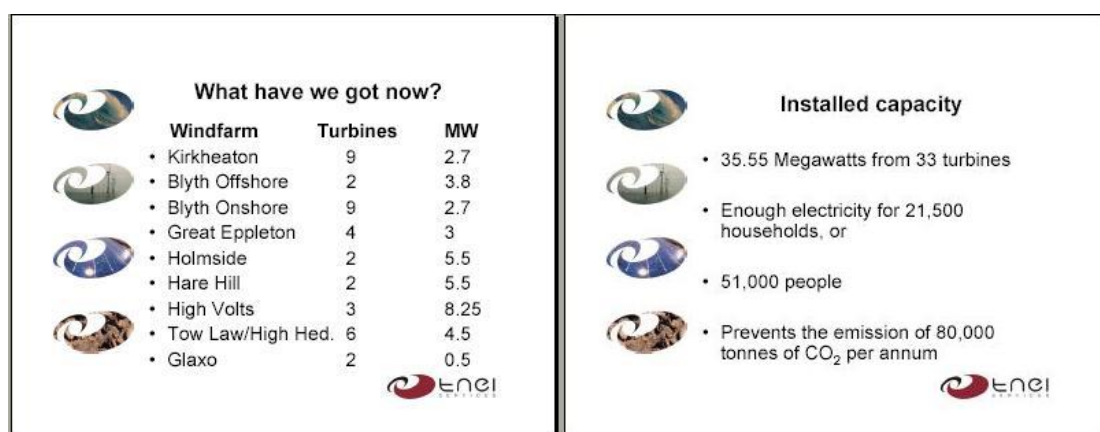
### BWEA, DTI funded workshops seem to be the favourite

Comment: These have no balance, and are simply indoctrination in my opinion. Slides below are from TNEI’s presentation at the Hartlepool workshop Ten locations are identified where 33 turbines are said to be producing 35.55MW, enough for 21500 homes and. preventing the emissions of 80000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum.

**Are these turbines reducing emissions as claimed?** This is important as councillors and planners will be making decisions based on this information.

Furthermore, TNEI are the support consultants with a Welsh firm to Arup who are leading on **PPS22 Companion Guide** for the Government.

BWEA are now using a lower figure of 560 households so as not to overestimate.



**Note:** Kirkheaton has 3 x 600 kW turbines (1.8 MW) not 9 x 300 kW turbines (2.7MW)

This is probably a typing error and I can accept that being a contender for the world’s worst typist! However I do not accept that **The Sustainable Development Commission**

**Booklet on Wind Power in the UK, peer reviewed and highly commended by the RTPI appears not to know its Gigawatts from its Megawatts.** Are they not therefore claiming only one thousandth of the emissions per MW claimed by the Wind Industry!

Comment: Benefits of wind power in line with the Energy White Paper and emissions saved is a material planning consideration so the load or capacity factor needs to be about 30% as the predicted if emissions saved and electricity generated are to be as claimed.

#### HL Paper126 at 3.1

*Doubt was cast on this UK load factor of 30% by Hugh Sharman an independent energy consultant working in Denmark. He noted Danish turbines have operated at a load factor of only 21%. If this was to be the case in the UK not only would half as many turbines again be needed to deliver the same target output but potential investors would face dramatic reductions in the income derived from wind farms.*

Details on ROCs, awarded 3 months in arrears, can be accessed from the Ofgem website and used to calculate the LF (CF). A 12 month period is needed to cover seasonal variations of the wind. Ofgem can be contacted on renewable@ofgem.gov.uk but there is still an element of confidentiality so all queries can not be answered (see Load factors below)

**Load Factors.** I source ROCs for Blyth offshore Wind Turbine 2 or Kirkheaton.

**High Volts:** Accredited in March 2004 no ROCs were issued at all for any of these three turbines for several months. Ofgem said it is confidential.

'Missing' ROCs for High Volts did appear in May 2005

However **only four of the 7 x 2.75 MW at the 3H's had the actual IC of 2.75MW recorded. Of the other three, one was 0.619MW, two were 2.325 MW.** Ofgem said they would contact the operators but if confidential I would have to check site updates. An extract from the updated Ofgem Register Sept/05 I find even more confusing. 4 turbines are still listed as 2.75MW each but the remaining 3 are each 0.995MW. Ofgem did make a vague reference to Installed generating capacity (IGC) being related to the Grid. Is **35.55 MW IC on the TNEI slide above really 30.285 MW?** I would have appreciated an explanation for this discrepancy of almost 15%

CCL Accredited	Generating Station Name	IGC (Kw)	ROC Accreditation Number	Post Code	Date Accreditation Effective	Date Accredited by Ofgem	Date Station Commissioned	Cap CCL sites
YES	Hare Hill Wind Farm (eon)	2,750	R00139RQEN	DH6 3QL	9/1/2004	Oct-04	9/5/2004	1
YES	Hare Hill Wind Farm NFFO	995	R00140RQEN	DH6 2BA	7/1/2004	Oct-04	7/2/2004	1
YES	High Volts Wind Farm	5,500	R00132RQEN	TS27 3DT	1/1/2004	Mar-04	12/1/2003	1
YES	High Volts Wind Farm NFFO	995	R00133RQEN	TS27 3AW	1/1/2004	Mar-04	9/1/1993	1
YES	Holmside Wind Farm	2,750	R00141RQEN	DH7 0DT	7/1/2004	Oct-04	6/26/2004	1
NO	Holmside Wind Farm NFFO	995	R00142RQEN	DH7 0DT	7/1/2004	Oct-04	6/26/2004	0

From my calculations **Tow Law and High Hedley** appear to be performing as predicted with LFs (CFs) over 12 months, calculated as over 30%. Others listed seem much lower at **less than 20% and with GSK about 11%**. At Holderness Wind farms Public Inquiry in 2000, evidence from Powergen gave figures for Great Eppleton as 18% average CF over five year period 3/97 -3/02 and Blyth onshore 18.1% year ending 3/02. On page 105 there are comments on the recent European Parliament **Turmes** report, A6-0227/2005.21. I have drawn attention to the inconsistency in factors used to calculate emission savings from wind turbines. At the Hartlepool presentation pages 25/6 TNEI and EON are using different factors to calculate the emission savings. Using the DTI factor would give 40000 tonnes not 80000 tonnes. Does not the overall output suggest savings could be less than 30000t?

The New Lambton Wyrn will destroy the whole of the UK unless it is stopped **now**.  
**Sadly this destruction appears to be without justification.**



## **High Volts Wind Farm E.ON UK Renewables**

Some of the most advanced technology.

One of the most modern working wind farms in the UK, Typical of many proposals for the North East.

From the Hartlepool Workshop funded by BWEA/DTI (p26)

**With such performance from one of the most modern wind farms in the UK, I rest my case m'lud**

### **High Volts**



Turbine no3 (100metres high but only part is visible) View from the A19. Jerry Mulders

**Never mind the quality!  
See the height!**


Danish Problems *More information*

From a power point presentation by Elsam Flemming Nissen,

Vindeller forsvind 27 maj 2004

Slide 16 of 18

**Udfordringer i det danske energisystem**



- Forceret vindmølleudbygning i Danmark øger kravet til tilskud i øre/kWh
- Øget vindmølleudbygning reducerer ikke den danske CO<sub>2</sub>-udledning
- Behov for nytænkning på elforbrugsområdet (afgifter og teknologi)
- "Vindzin" (Metanol på baseret på vindkraft)

FN/BLU 30-04-2003 Dec. 31-møde på NV

1

Slide 16 Point 2. Growing wind power construction will not reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Translated personally by Hugh Sharman - Director of Incoteco Denmark

**Horns Rev Wind Farm Back On-Line posted by mpalmer 14 Dec/04 12.54pm**

### **World's Largest Off-Shore Wind Farm Completes Upgrade Hyannis, MA Dec 13 2004**

According to information provided to Clean Power Now by a representative of Elsam, the owner and operator of the Horns Rev wind farm, all of the 80 wind turbines at Horns Rev have been repaired and upgraded by the equipment manufacturer, Vestas. Currently, 75 of the 80 turbines are back in operation, producing clean renewable energy. The remaining 5 turbines are awaiting pre-start testing before they can be placed back in service.

**Problems Taken Seriously** According to a press release from Vestas, the turbine manufacturer, the decision to perform the repair and upgrade was made in July, and all the nacelles were re-installed by November 10. The final commissioning of the last turbines is expected by the end of the year. "Vestas and its employees have demonstrated trustworthiness and the power to act by taking the responsibility for the performance problems at Horns Reef very seriously," the company said in its press release. Vestas went on to acknowledge that the lessons learned at Horns Rev were "expensive," and they have been "taken into consideration in the implementation of ongoing offshore projects."



**Financial Times 24 May 05** Hugh Sharman has said that Denmark's wind power does create stability problems. Very little of the 20% wind power produced is actually consumed in west Denmark. I calculated this to be about 4% in 2003 when >80% was exported along its strong inter-connections with Norway, Sweden and Germany.



Comment: **I take issue on how PPS22 has evolved** Regional targets have become an obsession. I will concentrate on PPS22 CG Case Studies that are, sorry, that appear feisty and so reiterate my concerns regarding PPS22CG

I admit some case studies appear acceptable and a range of renewables are mentioned. It would be churlish to ignore that a lot of work has been put into this document.

**Case Study 6G Beddington Zero Energy Development (BedZED) Sutton.** Several renewable technologies have been integrated into one residential development. However PPS22 CG's elusiveness worried me, sorry apparent elusiveness. The document must be challenged, using facts and the truth.

Case study 2D Community Benefits –Awel Aman Tawe (AAT)

Case Study 6E Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK)

Case Study 3B Regional renewable energy planning in North East England

Case Study 3E Publicity about renewable energy. Member training North East. To be piloted with Wear Valley District and Sedgfield Borough Councils

Case Study 2C Renewable Energy Education.

*Comment: Case Study 2C. Adrian Smith kindly assists students at Durham University with renewable energy studies, particularly wind energy. When these students request CPRE's view I give that and suggest they also access various other websites. That way any dissertation should be well balanced and supported by scientifically validated facts.*

*Comment: In general the photographs are good where they relate to renewable technologies other than wind. However wind turbines are not shown in their true scale - they are consistently portrayed in a misleading manner. What you see is not what you get. This has always led me to wonder if this contravenes advertising standards.*

*Renewables at Regional Level and Community Involvement are mentioned at some length, as is the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and LDFs 2007. All serve to show how the planning system has been changed or dare I say **manipulated**. Force 10 page 65/66 explains the connection between RPG, Chris Blandford's study, TREC and **TNEI's Energy for a New Century**.*

*Even FOE complained the latter had been given a high profile at The EIP for the Regional Planning Guidance and had had no public consultation. I am not aware PPS22CG has. All are precursors of the changes in the planning system and so give cause for concern.*

***TNEI** were Support consultants with a Welsh firm Dulas Engineering, to Arup who led on PPS22 Companion Guide for Government. A detailed account of our concerns when TNEI, managing (TREC) reneged on their promise of all renewables small scale is in Force10 Chapter 11. Chapters 12 and 16 offer background to TNEI.*

*Currently ETSU 1997 is used to control noise level but DTI's current study on Low Frequency Noise to update ETSU is ongoing. Details in Appendix B*

I have tried emailing a cabinet office address given in PPS22 CG to ask to use some of the material. The email has been returned 'address not known'. I have no fax and a letter would take too long assuming I would even get a reply. In the public interest I have no choice but to go ahead and use it whilst acknowledging crown copyright.

**Therefore information and comments on other case studies are below.**

## Case study 2D - Community Benefits - Awel Aman Tawe (AAT)

### Case study 2D: Community Benefits – Awel Aman Tawe

Following public consultation in relation to Neath Port Talbot BC's Agenda 21 programme in the late 1990s, Awel Aman Tawe (AAT) was set up to pursue the idea of a community-led wind farm with tangible local benefits. In addition to its broader environmental advantages, contributing to local social and economic regeneration could be significant: the area has been in economic decline for decades.

AAT aims to contribute to the regeneration of the Upper Amman/Swansea Valley areas through the development and implementation of a Community Energy Scheme. A further aim is to use its experience to promote the development of sustainable community energy schemes elsewhere in the UK.

AAT submitted an application for a 5-turbine windfarm in the Upper Amman and Swansea Valley during the autumn of 2004, following extensive public consultation and data gathering exercises. Wherever possible, local community groups and people from the surrounding areas were actively encouraged to become involved. Volunteers and residents from the surrounding area were trained in local cinemas and halls by lecturers from Swansea University in survey and data collection techniques.

Profits from the sale of electricity will be channelled into community initiatives such as an education centre to attract school groups and tourists. Profits will also be used to support small businesses and local regeneration projects.

Key lessons so far:

- local people's awareness of the broader issues of renewable energy and their exposure to wind farms are key factors in their acceptance of the proposed project;
- there appears to be no pattern with regards age, gender, employment status or proximity to site that can determine what people's opinions will be regarding the wind farm;
- community consultation, decision-making and ownership are new ideas to many people but the majority support these aspects of the project;
- people's approach to change appears to influence the way they view the project; and
- the social and political links of the project are crucial factors in effective information distribution and have an effect on people's opinion.

Photos: a visit to Carno wind farm (owned by National Wind Power), and Children from Ysgol Cwmilynfell, South Wales, learning about renewable energy. Courtesy of Awel Aman Tawe



*It is difficult to comment on this application as it is governed by TAN 8 not PPS22. It surfaced whilst I was visiting friends in October 2004 and received a lot of opposition which has been sustained. However, I was particularly interested in it as it was said to be a 'community project' and we were about to hear of community benefits at Sedgfield Walkway Wind Farm Co Durham. I contacted the developers when I returned home explaining my interest but was unable to acquire information. I tried the local authority at Neath Port Talbot who told me any information would come from the developers. The application was in fact deferred and has not yet been decided. I am concerned that the application, in spite of the hype from politicians and John Prescott's praise for it, had come as a surprise to many local people. I am afraid it may therefore be a fait accompli and do not think it should be used as a case study in PPS2CG. Is this not a devolved issue? (See PM's comment on Porthcawl p59)*

**Update 01/09/05 AAT community wind farm was refused unanimously. See p109**

## **Support for Kielder in spite of MOD concerns and DTI's pending refusal**

***Comment: I am concerned that the letter below is from Dan McCallum  
Project Co-ordinator for Awel Aman Tawe Wind Farm***

Dear Mr. Mohammed

I am writing to express our support for Ecogen's windfarm proposal at Kielder. We have worked with EcoGen and found them to be an excellent company.

We understand that the MOD are opposing the project on the grounds that wind turbines 'interfere' with radar. Whilst I am not an expert with regard to radar, I understand the MOD are alone in the world in holding this view.

***(Comment: This is not correct see Force 10, page 69 – Nevada Test Site. A \$130 million wind farm has been abruptly cancelled by a federal agency due to military concerns)***

Given the importance of reducing our CO2 emissions and the positive steps taken by the government in recent weeks towards achieving this, it should be imperative on the MOD to devise a technical fix to the radar problem, if indeed such a problem exists. Of additional concern is that if Kielder is not given planning permission due to MOD objections, a significant number of other sites, which are on or close to flight paths, may be affected.

Yours sincerely, Dan McCallum – Project Co-ordinator  
Awel Aman Tawe Community Windfarm Project

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### **A letter published in the Western Mail follows**

**“A Welcome in the Hillside”** How long before the words of this beautiful Welsh song no longer ring true? The welcome from my Welsh friends I know will always be there, but the hills I love will soon have lost their magnetism, their beauty, peace and tranquility destroyed forever. **Why?**

The Wind Industry, young and ambitious, appears determined to be the leading renewable energy source in the UK. In its haste to achieve this end, it seems to be taking short cuts, many of which appear to raise serious issues of governance. Is not one such issue raised by DTI's appointment of such a large proportion of wind enthusiasts to the supposedly objective Renewables Advisory Board? There is a democratic deficit to which government itself has contributed by allowing developments in excess of 50 MW installed capacity to be determined by the Secretary of State for Industry. (Cefn Croes)

Surely in a democracy people have a fundamental right to be properly consulted on what is done to their own community. Throughout the UK we must continue to fight to protect those areas, designated or not, which mean so much to us, but which apparently mean little to those who govern us. I hope councillors and politicians reading this will learn to value the countryside for its own sake and help to preserve it, mainly for those who live there but also for the many like us, **the tourists.**

**Elizabeth Mann**

**Western Mail December 16, 2004**

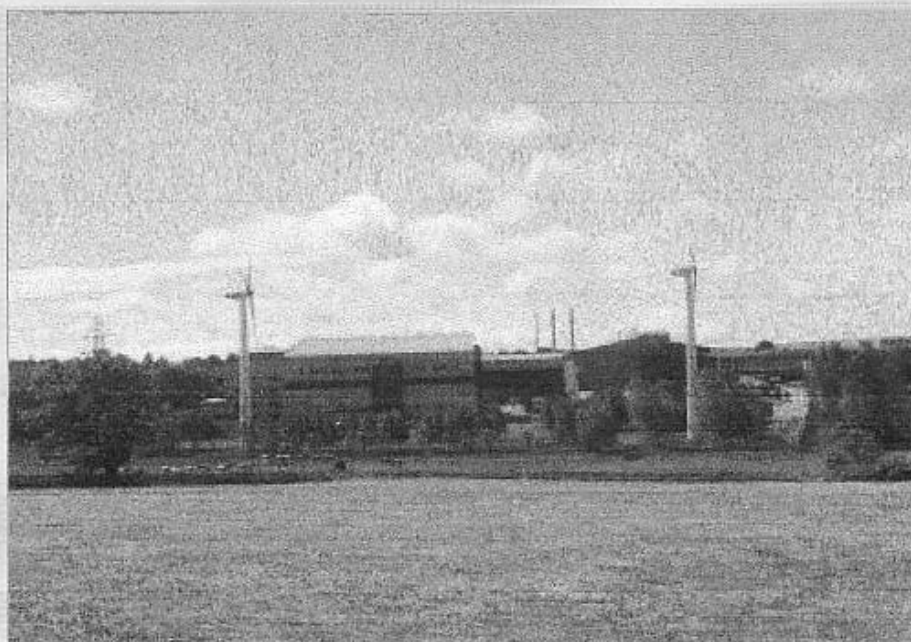
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***Comment: In May 2005 my holiday to Scotland for June was cancelled, as I was the only one booked. Is the proliferation of wind turbines now taking effect on tourism? Hikers, climbers and lovers of the outdoors seek peace and tranquillity - qualities not for many associated with wind farms. (See North East tranquillity project page31)***

## Case Study 6E - Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK)

### Case study 6E: GlaxoSmithKline, Barnard Castle, Co Durham

The GSK factory in Barnard Castle has a constant, high demand for electricity. It is located on the outskirts of Barnard Castle, one of County Durham's most attractive historic market towns. The company recently explored possible sources of on-site renewable energy as part of the Teesdale Renewable Energy Challenge, TREC, which examined ways of putting the district onto a pathway towards 100% renewable energy supply.



Wind was considered to be the only technology offering a meaningful proportion of the factory's electricity requirements. Site constraints, proximity of housing, and visual considerations ruled out the use of turbines of the scale currently deployed by commercial wind developers. Additionally the wind resource at the site is economically marginal. An alternative approach using two second hand wind turbines imported from the Netherlands was evaluated and found to give the company an acceptable payback on investment over a period of less than four years, with a further 10 or so years of very cheap electricity. The turbines have a blade tip height of 45m, they sit comfortably alongside the factory buildings and have no significant impact on the setting and appearance of the town.

Teesdale District Council was a partner in the Teesdale Renewable Energy Challenge (TREC) project and appreciated the value and purpose of the GSK turbines. Completion of the project was achieved within a year of the submission of the planning application.

Photo: Adrian Smith

*Comment: To add insult to injury, unsupported and incorrect statements were given at the committee meeting which decided the planning application. **The Chair requested that if personal interest was such that it would prejudice their decision significantly they should leave the room**, Cllr Hughes, who wrote the foreward to the TREC brochure supporting GSK turbines and the Hamsterley Wind farm proposal, stayed and voted.*

*Adrian Smith (TNEI) represented GSK, and did not mention the Renewable Obligation Certificates, at that time worth £45 per MWh! One councillor voted in favour to spite his colleague! David Hand Principal Planning Officer gave misleading information regarding the height of the turbines in relation to the Angel of The North. I mentioned the fact to him but could not pursue it as he had by then been head hunted by John Prescott. (No connection intended or implied) Was the decision flawed? A resident states the site is in an area of High Landscape Value and about 2 mile from the AONB. A spokesman for GSK confirmed that no on site wind speeds were taken. I do not think this an appropriate case study for PPS22CG*

Update: Load Factors for GSK turbines from 06/04 to 05/05, are very low, about 11%
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## More Support for Kielder in spite of MOD concerns and DTI's pending refusal.

Sent: 28 March 2001 13:32

To: 'Gary.Mohammed@dti.gi.gov.uk'

Subject: Wind Farm Proposal By Ecogen in Tynedale District

Dear Gary, I represent Renew North, The Northern Energy Initiative's renewable energy in the North East of England. I understand that there is a strong possibility of the "Kielder Wind Farm" proposal by Ecogen being refused permission by the DTI this week. I wish to register the strongest possible objection to a refusal of planning permission.

As you will be well aware wind developments are frequently controversial, but this one has broad based support from the local authority, environmental groups, the local population, and others. A recently published study commissioned by the Government Office for the North East indicated that for this region to play its part in meeting the Government's target of 10% renewable electricity by 2010 some 200 to 350MW of new on-shore wind generation must be provided. The region has a number of virtual no-go areas for wind in terms of national and local designations, which recognise and seek to protect the landscape. The site in question is in our opinion the best location in the region for large scale wind development, it will positively add to the interest of the landscape rather than detracting from it. Refusal of permission will have the effect of increasing the degree of development pressure on other less suitable sites, and will lead to failure in meeting the Government's target for renewables. In other areas of planning, such as housing and retail site selection, the Government uses a sequential approach to ensure that development takes place first on the least damaging or sensitive sites. A refusal on this site flies in the face of that well established approach. Other benefits to the rural economy will also be lost, at a time when new employment in the wake of the local Foot and Mouth outbreak is desperately needed. I should be grateful if you would convey these concerns from the region's Renewable Energy Agency to the Minister concerned. Yours sincerely, Adrian Smith General Manager, Renew North

*Note. Any comments regarding the GSK application and the way it was determined have no reflection on Glaxo Smith Kline nationally or internationally. They are a company with global interests yet have the concerns of the dales people at heart. Each branch I understand makes the decisions to aid survival in a cost competitive market. Initial monitoring of the GSK second hand turbines has shown they appear to be performing badly yet they are reported in the press as doing well. However to be fair a 15 month period must elapse before any real assessment can be made as to their load factor (LF) The ROC register shows ROCs accredited 3 month in arrears and it needs at least a full year in operation to cover the seasonal variability of the wind. Government's working assumption for LF for onshore wind in the UK is stated as in the order of 30% of installed capacity. HL Paper 126-1 page 20.*

*However I am concerned that the letter above is from Adrian Smith, Renew North/TNEI, now an independent wind consultant, as he with TNEI colleagues, have prepared the Draft NE Renewable Energy Strategy for the Northern Assembly, the unelected regional body!*

An abstract from the DTI website shows close ties with TNEI recently commissioned by the dti to populate this website ..... [www.tnei.org.uk/Home/News%20Items/Newsdti.htm](http://www.tnei.org.uk/Home/News%20Items/Newsdti.htm) - 7k - 12 Jun 2005 ... 'Information for **planners and local councillors** which aims to dispel some of the myths often associated with some of these technologies'

Further News. **Installation of wind turbines at Glaxo.**



## Headhunted by Prescott

*Comment: How can e-mail planning work fairly whilst some people do not have e-mail facility? Weekly planning lists for Teesdale I have to send by snail mail to some contacts. Website 'outage' is on the increase and websites seem more vulnerable to internet 'bugs and 'worms, none of which is conducive to e-mail planning.*

### E-planning pioneer is headhunted by Prescott

A NEW one-stop shop service, the first of its kind in the country, will be launched by one of the smallest local authorities on Monday.

An up-to-the-minute web site will allow those submitting planning applications to Teesdale District Council to do so on-line, either via the council's own web site at [www.teesdale.gov.uk](http://www.teesdale.gov.uk) or directly to the planning portal site at [www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk).

The Government-sponsored initiative, led by David Hand, will also allow applicants to check if they need planning permission, see if their local plan is on-line and find out more about the appeals procedure. A facility will also be in place to pay fees on-line when submitting planning applications. The aim is to encourage all authorities to use it to get e-planning under way.

Mr Hand was, until Friday, principal planning policy officer with Teesdale Council, where he worked for 14 years, but he has taken up a new post after being head-hunted by the Government Office of the Deputy Prime Minister following a talk he gave on Teesside.

"My role will be to oversee the setting up of similar portals with councils across the North, especially the under-performing ones," said Mr Hand. "But I don't have a title yet."

Teesdale planning department was singled out for praise by the Audit Commission earlier this year, seeing its work rewarded with a £283,000 delivery grant from the Government.

Mr Hand said the new policies would free officer time and would prove even more cost-effective, both for the council and for property owners.

**The following letter I wrote to Ian Martin at GO-NE after an exchange of e-mails that clearly explained why we felt an EIA was needed for the GSK turbines.**

To Ian D J Martin,

Thank you for the time taken to decide if an EIA was needed for that particular proposal even though with all due respect I do not agree one is not needed. However it is you who had the power of decision though I do hope in future that all wind power developments under schedule 2 will be subject to an EIA that would bring clarity and quality to the planning system and as a result speed up the process.

I notice that you have taken into account comments made by a resident, CPRE and Teesdale District Council. Comments made on behalf of CPRE were of necessity constrained. The resident who wrote was not contacted until late in the day and some close to the site, not at all. TNEI, acting as the agent for GSK produced a list of reasons in support of the application, under their TREC (The Teesdale Renewable Energy Challenge) a TNEI initiative.

TNEI and Teesdale Planning Authority came to a conclusion in March that no EIA was needed. Yet several months later it was inferred that an EIA would give people chance to voice their concerns. The lack of public involvement, particularly as this is said to be central to Government policy must give cause for concern.

May I add that on behalf of CPRE I gave support to Tees Wind North, the World's Largest Urban Wind Farm and to a small scale 2.5 kw turbine in the AONB. To accept renewables the public must be contacted and their concerns addressed. I write this in the hope that it will provide some constructive criticism for the future,

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Mann

## **"Barney Liar" Teesdale Mercury May18 2005**

The Teesdale Mercury was named North East Weekly Newspaper of the Year and the Barney Liar was crowned North East Columnist of the Year (N E Press Awards May 2005)  
Comment: I have reproduced the article and letter to preserve my sanity in this fight

She felt that her feet were hardly touching the ground. Never had she experienced such joy, such unsolicited attention. Gone this week was the humdrum round of work, ill mannered men and accusing, jealous women. No, this week she was a princess. At last she was appreciated for the jewel she knew she was. Little did she think that this day would ever arrive. Little Kimberly, little 'take-no-notice-of-me', was away in paradise, ready to assume her birthright. Aloof, distant Charles, in that outwardly cold, Scots way of his, had gruffly, so gruffly tossed the offhand comment her way.

At first, she thought it was some kind of obscure joke, but with every passing, delicious moment, she realized it was true, true. She was being carried away on wings of bliss. She struggled to recollect his exact words, but with time, with a little effort, they formed, then melted, then reformed delectably in her mind.

'Kimberly', he had said, slowly. 'Kimberly, the senior management team have, how can I put this, have decided that they would like you to come on a wee team-building exercise in the Lake District.' 'Who? M...Me?' she stammered.

'Aye, lassie, yourself.' All she could say was that she had received a really terrible report from the inspectors.' She couldn't spell, she was late for work, she suffered from halitosis and her sub-section was three months behind on its performance-related management target interim proposal review documents. 'Don't pester yer wee head with that tosh, my bonnie wee lassie,' he had said. 'That kind Mr. Prescott has said that because we've failed all the inspections we can go off to the Lakes to review, revitalise and renegotiate. And it won't cost the Coonsil a penny.'

'Well, sir, who will pay, for I am a poor girl, struggling along on £50,000 a year, and I'm only 19?' She was told that all the bills would be paid by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, authorised by Bruiser John, the man who likes to punch the electorate. 'But who give Mr. Prescott the money to give us, kind sir?' blubbered the distraught Kimberly. The taxpayer, she was told. 'Oh, that's all right then, count me in' she had replied. Kimberly hoped this day would never end. You and I wish it had never started.

### **Abstract from a letter in Teesdale Mercury April 13, 2005 (Same story as above)**

Your anonymous 'whistle blower' says it will be a waste of taxpayer's money` Despite the grandiose, albeit meaningless title of the training course, namely 'The Impact programme for leadership development' the traitor as I call them, has a point. The course comes under the auspices of John 'one job' Prescott's office of the Deputy Prime Minister. This in itself guarantees the kiss of death. Bizarrely, the attendance if our officials is the direct result of the council being criticised for its poor leadership and even more bizarrely, they have been congratulated for being selected to partake in what is described as 'this exciting journey' What utter claptrap!

Of course the ultimate responsibility for our council's incompetence lies with our councillors and perhaps they should be dispatched on an exciting journey? With luck the whole caboodle might get lost, never to be seen again.



*Comment I am concerned that David Still who was then Manager for Amec Border Wind, the Applicant, is now with the DTI Renewables Advisory board (RAB)*

**Kielder –  
The Decision Letter –  
5.00pm 29th March 2001  
David Still Esq**

General Manager EcoGen Developments Limited  
c/o AMEC Border Wind  
Bridge End, Hexham  
Northumberland NE46 4NU

Our ref: AAH/1/96 29 March 2001

Dear Sir  
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990  
APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE WIND TURBINES  
AT HUMBLE HILL, KIELDER, NORTHUMBERLAND

The Secretary of State has considered your application dated 14 April 1993 and varied on 18 April 2000 for consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate a 80 MW windfarm at Humble Hill, Kielder, Northumberland, and for a direction under section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 ("the Planning Act") that planning permission be deemed to be granted.

The Secretary of State has considered your application carefully and in particular the contribution of the project towards the Government's target of reducing emissions of "greenhouse gases".

He is also aware that the Tynedale Council and the Northumberland County Council, the relevant planning authorities, raised no objection in principle to the proposal. Their decisions were subject to the provision of suitable conditions attached to any planning permission the Secretary of State may have deemed to be granted and the Company entering into an agreement under section 106 of the Planning Act. Subject to agreement on the terms of the planning conditions and the section 106 agreement the RPAs would not have maintained their objections and therefore the Secretary of State would not have been obliged to hold a public inquiry. He was also of the opinion that the other objections he received to the proposal were not sufficient for him to exercise his discretion to hold a public inquiry

However, as you know, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) objected to the original proposal on the grounds that the wind turbines would interfere with primary and secondary radar therefore impairing the effectiveness of the nearby Spadeadam Electronic Tactics Range (EWTR). In an effort to overcome the MOD's objection the Company reduced the number of wind turbines and reconfigured their location on the site. To this effect the Company submitted a variation to the application on 18 April 2000.

**The Secretary of State** is aware that further consultations were undertaken with the MOD. The conclusion of those consultations was that the MOD maintained their original objection, that is, a windfarm operating in the vicinity of the EWTR would be unacceptable as the training facilities of the EWTR are unique and imperative for the front line training of RAF crews. MOD believe that the proposed windfarm would interfere both with radar and also with low flying, creating an acute safety hazard both to members of the public and RAF crews.

The MOD indicated that current studies have not conclusively proved that the rotating action of wind turbine blades has no effect on ground or airborne radar. Therefore they rely on their own research which concludes that wind turbines cause interference to primary surveillance radar and also that detection and tracking of aircraft flying over a windfarm is extremely difficult since the responses between the aircraft and the turbine cannot be distinguished.

MOD further indicated that the Spadeadam EWTR is a Tactical Training Area (TTA) where aircraft can be flown at 100ft above ground level, which is significantly lower than the 250ft height which applies to most of the rest of the UK low flying system. Therefore for the safety of members of the public and aircrews it is imperative that any hazards to low flying aircraft are minimised, especially those hazards over 100ft high. The safety of low-level flying assumes increased importance in a high workload environment such as the EWTR and the associated TTA. Notwithstanding the "terrain screening tactics" alluded to by the Company, pilots flying in this area are subject to simulated surface to air missile attacks and respond with sudden low level evasive manoeuvres. Whilst pilots are carrying out such manoeuvres it is an unacceptable flight safety hazard to place 107 wind turbines each of approximately 240ft high in the same area.

#### **SECRETARY OF STATE'S DECISION**

The Secretary of State has fully considered your application including the environmental benefits and the Government's commitment to the Kyoto Obligation to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. However he has also to take into account the needs of others, in this case, the Ministry of Defence, and their duty of care to members of the public and aircrew and how best to prepare the RAF to meet any military threat. He agrees that the Spadeadam EWTR is an integral part of the training of RAF aircrew, providing facilities unique in Europe. He also believes that the site of the proposed windfarm in relation to the Spadeadam EWTR could create a hazard to the safety of aircrew and consequently the public which would outweigh the other benefits mentioned above.

The Secretary of State takes the view that national security, the importance of the Spadeadam EWTR in the training of RAF aircrew and consideration of safety leave him no option but reluctantly refuse to grant consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and not to give a direction under section 90 of the Planning and Energy Act 2008.

Yours faithfully,  
Nigel Peace  
Director Energy Regulation

## **Blast from the judge blows out wind farm May 3, 2002**

Tony Henderson, The Journal

EcoGen wants to erect 100 80-metre turbines - twice the height of Grey's Monument in Newcastle - at Humble Hill near Kielder. But a year ago then Trade and Industry Minister Stephen Byers reluctantly turned down the bid after the Ministry of Defence's objections that the turbines would interfere with jets training to dodge simulated surface-to-air missile attacks and radar systems at nearby RAF Spadeadam. EcoGen then won permission to seek a judicial review and yesterday the company was in the High Court asking that the decision be quashed. But Mr Justice Sullivan rejected the application, criticised the company and ordered EcoGen to pay £4,392 in Government costs. Last night EcoGen chairman Tim Kirby described the hearing as "bizarre" and said that the company may appeal. "We are disappointed. We don't think the judge properly considered the background to the case," he said

### **The judge had warned against "procedural games" in High Court challenges.**

The court heard that Spadeadam contained a "unique and imperative" front-line tactical training area, where planes fly as low as 100ft and engage in sudden manoeuvres. Permission to bring a full legal challenge was granted to EcoGen last December. It was on the basis that Mr Byers might have acted unfairly by refusing to give the company the opportunity to explain why it believed a public inquiry should be held. Robert McCracken, appearing for EcoGen, argued in court that, before there could be "meaningful representations", the decision last March to refuse planning permission for the wind farm must be quashed. Until it was quashed, the Government planners would lack the necessary powers to take further action, he said. Referring to the argument as "Alice in Wonderland", the judge said: "I have never heard such a ridiculous thing in my life. " Then he said: "Correction. I have heard things in this jurisdiction more ridiculous, but it is still running some of them close. It seems to me there is no real difficulty in the Secretary of State considering whether there are any arguments for holding an inquiry, and then deciding in the light of that information whether or not it would be appropriate to consent to the quashing of his decision."

*Comment: Air Safety: This problem is universal and the then apparent cavalier attitude by some gives cause for concern, particularly when the increasing height and numbers must exacerbate any problem. Wind Prospect assured me that new techniques will be operational in 2008! If so then why not wait? Testing is taking place in Wales (August 2005) but any advances in radar technology must be thoroughly tried and tested **throughout the UK** and the findings made public.*

**04/09/05 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and BWEA members are financially supporting BAE Systems to lead the science behind the technology, known as the Advanced Digital Tracker (ADT). If successful, the Advanced Digital Tracker ADT, could be on the market to tackle site specific wind farm issues by the end of 2006.**

Extracts from letters from various Airports concerned with safety issues:

- Operational capability and health and safety issues are our primary concerns
- Safety is NO ACCIDENT/ Possible degradation of primary radar returns
- Objections are raised to proposals within 66km in line of sight of Air Traffic Control.
- If a solution were found through advances in radar technology grounds for objection wouldn't exist
- 20/06/05 The Ministry of Defence says the turbines proposed for Royal Oak, County Durham could interfere with one of its main airfield's radar system, at RAF Leeming.



## Case Study 3B Regional renewable energy planning in North East England

### Case Study 3B: Regional renewable energy planning in North East England

A Renewable Energy Strategy for the North East of England was prepared during 2003 under the guidance of a steering group which included representatives from GO-NE, the North East Assembly, government agencies, local authorities, the region's universities, environmental groups and different sectors of the renewable energy industry. In preparing the Strategy the region's potential resources were assessed using a number of tools including a geographic information system, complemented by grid and landscape studies. It was concluded that 10% of the electricity consumed in the region could be supplied by a range of renewable energy sources by 2010, and that this could be increased towards 20% if a strategic wind farm were to be developed within Kielder Forest. These targets were put forward for inclusion within forthcoming RSS.

Having assessed the region's resources and established targets the Strategy also put forward suggested RSS criteria-based policies which would help deliver the targets, and identified the broad areas where hydro, biomass and wind projects may be considered appropriate. These broad areas are shown in the "Draft Indicative Diagram" below.

The suggested criteria policies RE 2&3 below, while giving particular encouragement to developments in the areas shown in the diagram, also make it clear that projects in other areas will also be encouraged. One of the benefits of taking the proactive approach adopted by the NE Strategy has been to highlight the substantial potential of the Kielder area for wind, biomass and hydro power.

#### RE 2 – Spatial Strategy for Onshore Wind Development

In preparing policies and proposals for onshore wind projects Development Plans should conform to the following spatial strategy, broadly illustrated in the Renewable Energy Indicative Diagram:

- a) Within designated National Parks, AONBs and Heritage Coasts wind developments should be limited to individual turbines of no greater than 100kW installed capacity, to provide power to off-mains properties and other small users.
- b) Kielder Forest should be the subject of further investigation to see if it could become a Strategic Wind Resource Area, where positive encouragement will be given to major wind farm developments.
- c) Particular encouragement should be given to the development of small to medium scale wind farms in the locations broadly illustrated in the Renewable Energy indicative Diagram and described in Annex 3 of the Regional Renewable Energy Strategy.
- d) Encouragement should also be given for wind developments in other parts of the Region, including appropriate urban and brownfield locations.
- e) Preference should be given to concentrated rather than dispersed or scattered patterns of wind development.
- f) In all cases proposals must be fully assessed against Policy RE3.

Point (d) is especially important in that it does not exclude sites elsewhere in the region, subject to the criteria being met.

**RE 3 describes Factors to be considered in Planning for Wind Farms.** These include: residential amenity (on noise and visual grounds); safe separation distances; nature conservation features; landscape characteristics and visibility; heritage designations; green belts; and any visual impact of new grid connection lines.

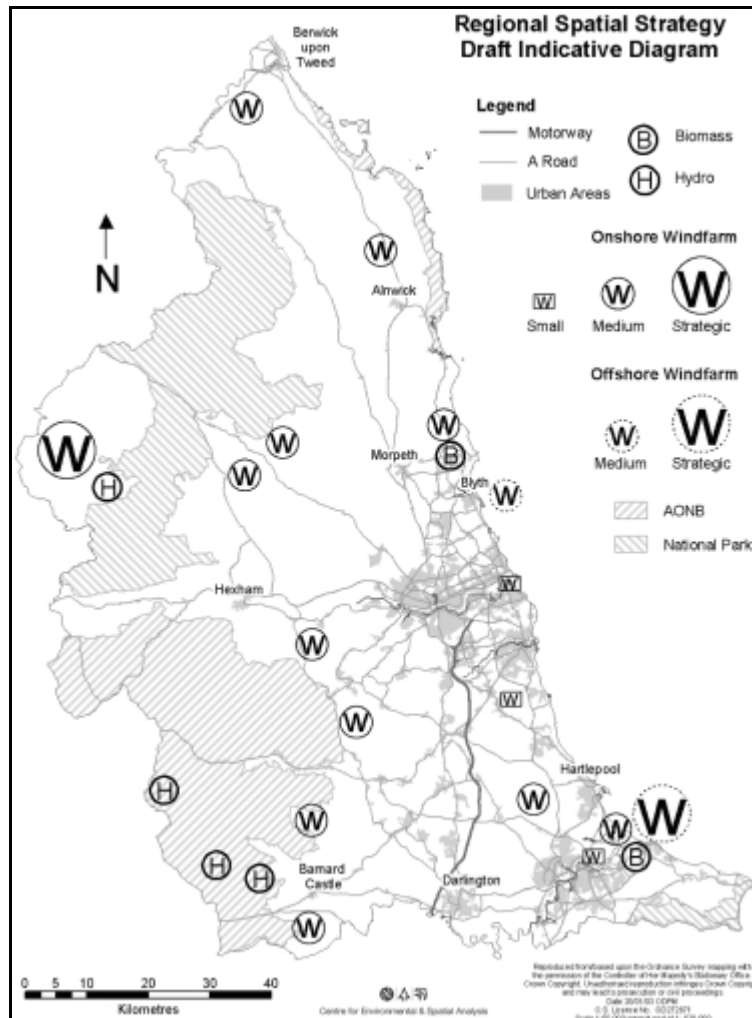
The above policies and the diagram below, produced in July 2003, were the subject of a North East Assembly led consultation, and are being modified for inclusion in forthcoming RSS for the North East. Further changes are anticipated as RSS progresses through its formal consultation and examination stages.

The North East of England Regional Renewable Energy Strategy and its supporting reports can be accessed at: [www.northeastassembly.gov.uk](http://www.northeastassembly.gov.uk)

*Comment: Compare paragraph 1 of Case study 3B with "BWEA Invited Seminar 1999" "Ideas or a Blue Print for the Future" and Adrian Smith's presentation "The Way Forward" all on p69 Force10 CG. Definitely neither cricket nor a level playing field over the years.*

Diagram below is on page 31 of PPS22 Companion Guide and is referred to in Case Study 3B (see the previous page) Regional Renewable Energy planning in the North East of England.

Development between the A66 and the Stang forest\* is still indicated though it was removed in the RSS consultation earlier (see next page)\* Is its reappearance careless or sinister?

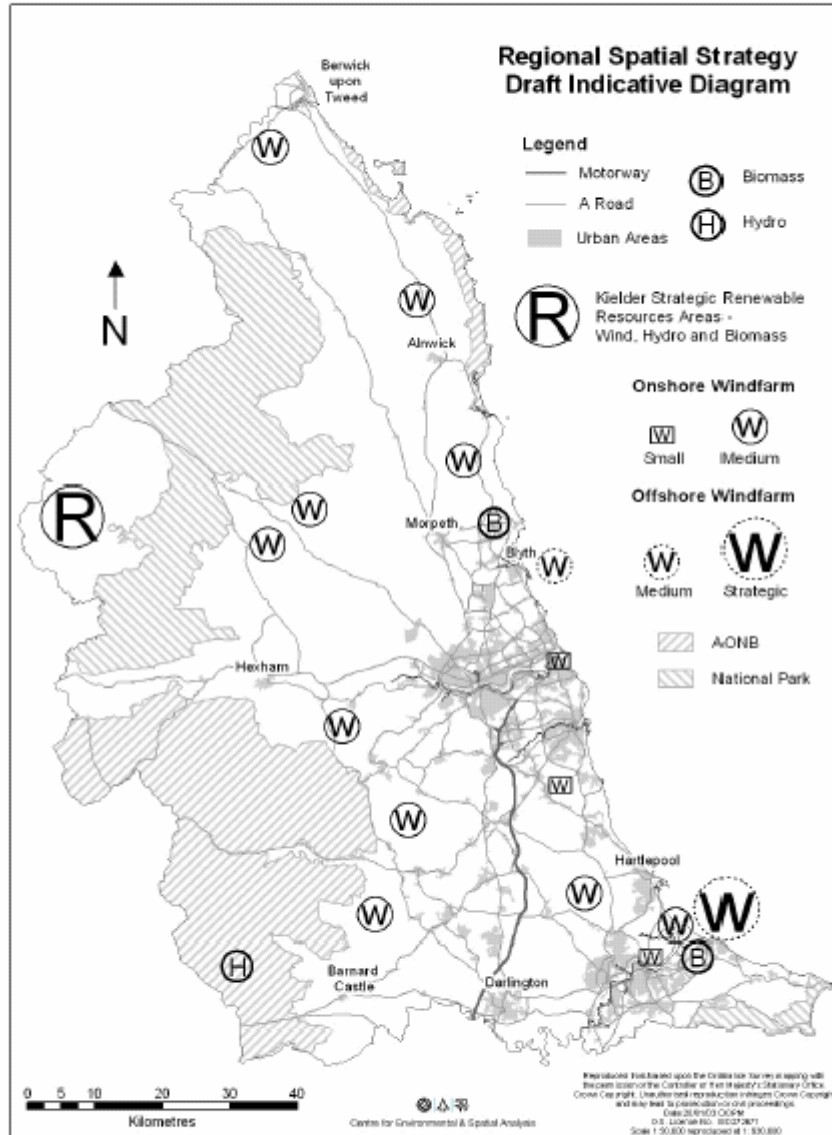


The above map was part of the presentation by a Adrian Smith at the NAREC launch in Feb 2005. planning for Onshore Wind to 2010 it explained the involvement of GONE, TNEI, Northumbria University, BP Power and North East Assembly with NEREG as the steering group and the development of the RSS.

Onshore wind is expected to deliver 76% of the output. Sub- regional resources were quoted and a technological split by 2020 gave wind as 85% of MW installed. Most worrying were the significant projects planned for Northumberland when local people appear unaware of these proposals.



## Regional Renewable Energy Strategy Indicative Diagram



**BHMCg; Please** record the above diagram showing ‘removal’ of the Stang area. You and your supporters fought hard and long protect that area from any development. We are all better informed now about wind energy than in 1998 when we had to contact Germany and Denmark for information.(Force10 App A) Landscape protection, to preserve the peace and tranquillity such areas give, particularly in a stressful and violent world was our aim. Truth was our strength. The outcome showed justice can prevail. Barningham High Moor must surely carry the greatest presumption against wind energy development of any site in England

## Case Study 3E - Publicity about renewable energy - Member Training NE

### Case Study 3E: publicity about renewable energy – Member training

Several initiatives have been offering renewable energy training for Members, including:

#### NW Region

Concern over a high level of refusals of planning permission for wind projects against positive officer recommendations led Renewables North West to initiate a councillor training programme as a top priority. Preparation included a survey of local media to understand that source of influence on members.

#### NE Region

A stakeholder group led by GO-NE commissioned an awareness raising project for local authority members and officers piloted with Sedgefield Borough Council and Wear Valley District Council. A CD-ROM, *Guidance for Local Planning Authorities on taking forward renewable energy developments*, has been prepared for local authority Members in particular. This is available from the GO-NE and can be viewed on their website at

[www.go-ne.gov.uk/environment\\_rural/energylla\\_guidance\\_renewable\\_energy/guidance\\_index.htm](http://www.go-ne.gov.uk/environment_rural/energylla_guidance_renewable_energy/guidance_index.htm)

Sedgefield Borough Council and Wear Valley District Council are pilots for this Member training initiative. On the CD Rom, there is a section “Guidance for Local Authorities, Wind Farms - Dispelling the Myths” Did this have any bearing on Walkway wind farm decision? (page 51). This member training, Case Study 3B, must put undue pressure on councillors.

*Comment There are people better qualified to argue, and are doing so, as to whether the myths have in fact been dispelled but my concern is the connection between GO-NE.TNEI and this document. Much of the information is identical to that on BWEA website  
Where oh where is the balance?*

I will mention noise as I have experienced that. I have followed the noise from a wind farm for about half a mile and then suffered from tinnitus for six months. However, that is only one incident and other people may not have been affected. (My hearing was severely damaged at the age of 14) Nevertheless, even one instance is proof that noise cannot be discounted. DTI are investigating consistent complaints of noise (infrasound) at 3 wind farms in the UK. The outdated Etsu1997 report is used in PPS22CG to control noise levels. A seminar in Edinburgh 20/09/05 on noise and windfarms is being hosted by The Institute of Acoustics. One speaker is David Crookes DTI (An e-mail from David Crookes on the study to update the 1997 ETSU report is on page 91) Currently 150 of the 200 wind farms in the process of application or appeal are in Scotland or Northern England. Still it appears an unresolved issue.

*Comment: The NEREG CD warns of melting ice caps on mountains like Kilimanjaro. For interest I add some recent photographs of Kilimanjaro. One route has tented camps but one had small huts. Electricity stored in batteries from solar panels provided some lighting. Sheer Hilton luxury on such terrain! Someone left their light on when it was not needed and soon there was none for anyone for the rest of the evening’  
A lesson in Energy Conservation or as CPRE says “The right renewables in the right place”.*



Glaciers at the top of Kilimanjaro 2004



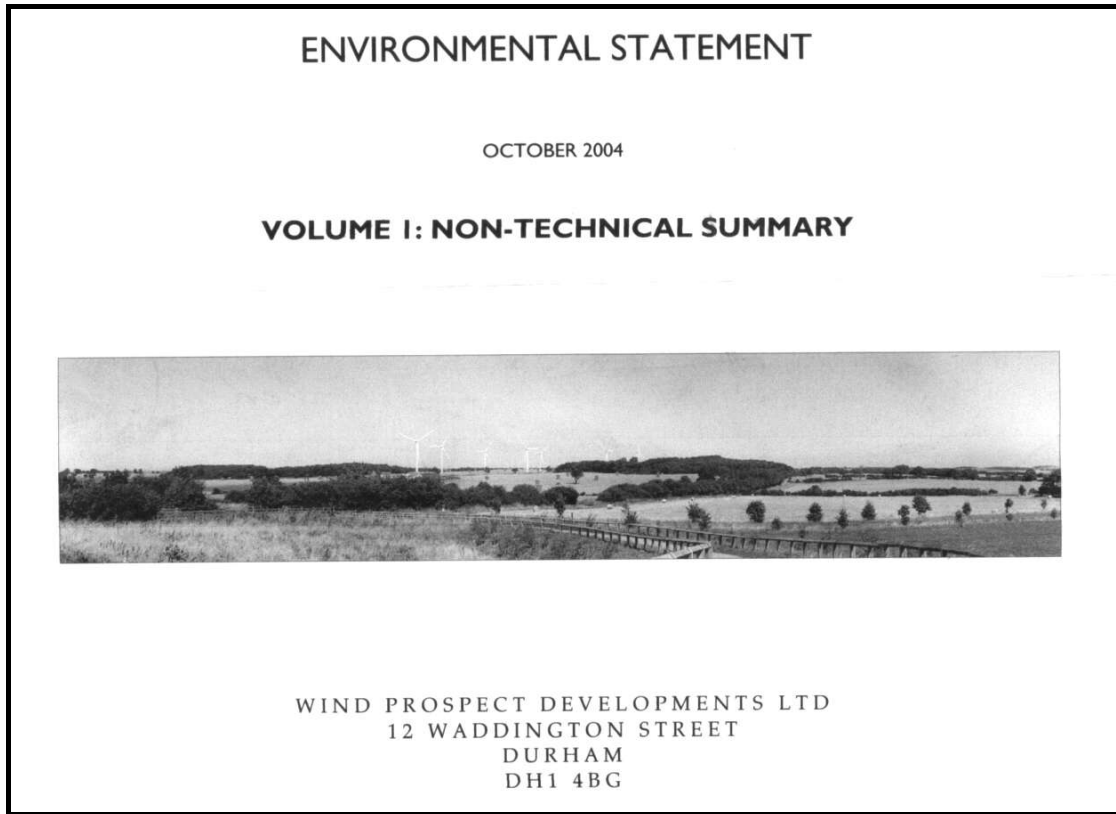
Solar Panels on Kilimanjaro





**My Case Study    Walkway Wind Farm Sedgefield    Section 3**

*Comment: My concern lies with the methods used to procure planning permission*  
Montage shown by Developer.



*Comment: The use of the above montage is in my mind close to being criminal.  
What you see is not what you get. Does it contravene advertising standards?*

Reality for residents



## Walkway Wind Farm Case Study continued. Was this a fair hearing?

Proposed 8 x 2MW turbines 110 metres to tip (100m high turbines is displayed on the book cover and a partial view on page 34) The number was reduced to 7 as one was deemed too close to a house, so rendering the scheme economically unviable! Then 7x3MW, height still 110m to tip were proposed and passed. What happened to the criteria 'economically viable and environmentally acceptable' Details of Case Study 3E, PPS22 Companion Guide can be found on page 49 of my book. Government office commissioned, offering renewable energy training through an awareness raising project for local authority members. **Piloted in Wear Valley and the PM's constituency, was there a snowball's chance in Hell of a refusal?**

It was considered that the site was suitable for a small/medium scale development in line with the North East of England regional renewable energy strategy.

From **Sedgefield Borough Council minutes**

The local group put forward a strong case but several points they raised were not addressed. They did not in my mind have a fair hearing. The Environmental Law Foundation looked at the case and found a solicitor willing to pursue it. She needed the money 'up front' and, with no time to raise funds the group had to withdraw. Legal Aid is not available it seems unless you are a tramp a single mother or a wealthy footballer! I understand some residents are pursuing the council for disamenity and one has approached the European court of human rights. Perhaps "The right to peaceful enjoyment of a person's possessions" may be given more attention in the future (Has Article 6 been tested to see if relevant to a fair hearing?)

I showed the photomontage, Walkway Wind Farm (page 51) as depicted on the ES, to a member of **NEREG**. "That it is how most people see them, several kilometres away on a grey day" he replied *Comment: Those are not the people we are concerned about. Are not developers supposed to provide good quality photographs taken on a clear day?*

**Photomontage limitations.** I have read reports from Government Inspectors identifying the fact that to the human eye turbines appear larger in the landscape than may be suggested by the photomontage. Scottish National Heritage (SNH) 2001 Appendix 1 states photomontage generally underestimate a wind farm's true visual impact *Comment: With modern technology should a video showing the blade movement be submitted with wind farm applications?*

**Sedgefield Borough Council** issued the decision letter with extreme haste in spite of several letters of complaints regarding not only the meeting itself but several other issues. With no third party right of appeal it is Heads they win, tails we lose. Where is the Justice? Do decision makers know or care that turbines have 'grewed an aarful suze' Who has the right to make decisions which can affect people's quality of life?

Wind prospect have it is said finalised an agreement with DTV airport to mitigate any potential concerns they may have regarding this wind energy development

### **NEREG CD Rom. Sedgefield (District) Council wind assessment.**

All the Borough is within line of sight **from Teesside Airport** (turbine heights 120m to tip). Yet Butterwick Moor (11x125m) nearby, South Wingate (20x105m) and Sheraton Hill (3x125) are all in the pipeline.

*In a recent BBC programme the developer described Walkway as 7 turbines and £21000 a year to the community. He did not say the turbines were 110 metres high or mention the Operator would get approximately £3 million each year as a hidden subsidy, in addition to the money for electricity produced. Information on the developer Wind Prospect is below.*

## Companies House gives the same address for both firms.

This report was generated from basic information  
Filed at Companies House

**Business Profile**      **Reg No.:** 04934193

**Name:** WIND DIRECT LIMITED

**Registered Office:** 7 BERKELEY

SQUARE CLIFTON BRISTOL BS8 1HG

**Post Code:** BS8 1HG

**Incorporated:** 16/10/2003

**Latest Accounts:** Not Filed

**Annual Returns:** 16/10/2004

**Account Type:** UNKNOWN

This report was generated from basic information  
filed at Companies House

**Business Profile**      **Reg No.:** 03011376

**Name:** WIND PROSPECT LIMITED

**Registered Office:** 7 BERKELEY

SQUARE CLIFTON BRISTOL BS8 1HG

**Post Code:** BS8 1HG

**Incorporated:** 18/01/1995

**Latest Accounts:** 30/04/2004

**Annual Returns:** 18/01/2005

**Account Type:** Full Accounts

### Do green technologies offer a future for Southern Australia?

From a taped presentation by Dr Eaun Cameron Managing Director Wind Prospect. "The mysterious thing called NFFO which was referred to earlier, was the non fossil fuel obligation that was a very clever wangle by the government. They managed to get some state aid support past the European Commission by piggy-backing on the state aid that was actually available to the nuclear industry, also a non fossil fuel, of course" *Comment: How does one follow that? The Renewable Obligation Certificates ROCs, nothing less!*

Sourced: possibly 2004

NFFO (Non Fossil Fuel Obligation) The Electricity Act of 1989 offered long term contracts and premium prices to renewable and other non carbon generators (initially including nuclear power) NFFO5 was the last round. Existing contracts continue to be honoured and will run until 2018 (page48 Renewable Energy Practicalities).

*Comment: Ocean Power Delivery (OPD) have selected Camcal the operator at Arnish on Lewis to produce tube segments for three Pelamis P750 machines for the worlds first wave farm off Portugal. I have read that Wind Prospect also runs Ocean Prospect and there is an Ocean Power. OPD's Chairman since 2002, Dr David Lindley was founder and Managing Director of National Wind Power (NWP). It was Dr. David Lindley (NWP) when speaking in the House of Lords in1998 said 'we all work for companies involved in some way in the construction of nuclear power stations so we are hardly anti nuclear'*

*Comment: ROCs will provide a hidden subsidy of about 3 million pa at Walkway. The community fund is a pittance, £1000 per MW installed and less than 1% cent of the hidden subsidy which consumers pay. Some say 'Community funds are a bribe' sidetracking the real issues.*

## **The Balance Emissions saved versus landscape impact**

### **Wind farms – At what cost?**

A public meeting at County Hall Durham. 18/06/04 7.00–9.00pm

Chairman: Tony Plowman Durham CPRE 7.00-7.05pm

Speakers:

Paul Hamblin

Head of CPRE's Transport and Natural Resources. 7.05-7.35pm

Ged Lawson

Senior Landscape Architect Durham County 7.35-8.05pm

Interval

8.05-8.10pm

Richard Cowen

Resident and Solicitor

8.10-8.25pm

Professor David Bellamy

World famous conservationist

8.25-8.55pm

Chairman

8.55-9.00pm

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Durham CPRE arranged this meeting with a view to informing everyone, councillors, planners and the community, in as **balanced** a way as possible.

We were and continue to be concerned that only the benefits of wind energy were being presented to decision makers and the public. Planning departments and councillors were invited but not many of them came to the meeting though we had some apologies. However it was well attended by the public who were in general amazed and very concerned to hear of so many windfarm applications in the pipeline.

**The draft RSS consulted on in 2003, elicited considerable opposition to wind development between the A66 and the Stang Forest and resulted in this area being removed from the indicative map (see p 49 Force10 CG)**

Do the developers ever take no for an answer? Do they really misread public opinion or are they fully aware and simply ignore it, secure in the knowledge they have considerable finances available to launch appeals?

This was the area previously targeted for the Barningham wind farm in 98. A departure from the Development Plan, refused by the Local Council, dismissed on appeal at The Public Inquiry and rejected on all four grounds at The High Court Appeal. A passion for justice, for democracy and the protection of the areas they love, cause ordinary people and local authorities to spend scarce resources and money in fighting the unnecessary industrialisation of our landscape. **PPS22 CG (p31) once more shows this area as a potential wind farm site. Is this careless or sinister? The map is copied on p 48 of Force 10 CG**

*Comment: The economic arguments against this intrusion are familiar to experts but it seems not apparent to many well-intentioned activists who appear to favour wind energy at any price. This includes the disfigurement of landscapes, designated and undesignated throughout the UK.*

*It has to be repeated that these wind-fuelled power stations are only viable through subsidy. We cannot combat climate change by building wind turbine. Some simple mathematics indicate we are not even keeping up with the increase in energy demand.*

***County Durham pupils have requested cheap electricity - when they need it!***

## BREAKING NEWS

### House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts

**Department of Trade  
and Industry:  
Renewable energy**

### **Sixth Report of Session 2005–06**

*Report, together with formal minutes and  
oral evidence*

*Ordered by The House of Commons  
to be printed 18 July 2005 -*

## **Summary**

The Government's energy policy and wider climate change programme aims to increase the proportion of electricity generated from renewable sources, such as wind, wave and biomass. The Government's target is to supply 10% of Britain's electricity from renewable sources by 2010, with the aspiration of doubling this share to 20% by 2020. The aims of these levels of renewable generation are to make a significant contribution to national and international targets for reducing carbon dioxide emissions, while improving the diversity and security of the UK's energy supplies. In the period to 2020, however, the contribution of renewables to these aims could be offset by the planned closure of most of the UK's existing nuclear power stations.

To achieve the rapid expansion in renewable energy required by the 2010 target, the Department of Trade and Industry (the Department) introduced in April 2002 the Renewables Obligation. The Obligation requires all electricity suppliers to source a growing percentage of their sales each year from renewable sources. The scheme pushes up the demand for renewable energy, thus increasing the revenue that generators can earn which in turn encourages developers to invest in new generating capacity. Electricity suppliers pass the higher cost of purchasing renewable electricity onto consumers. The Renewables Obligation will cost consumers £1 billion per annum by 2010 rising to £1.5 billion per annum by 2015.

The Renewables Obligation is more expensive than the other mechanisms currently being used under the Climate Change Programme to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. These include promoting energy efficiency through the Climate Change Levy, which is paid by non-household consumers of energy, and controlling the carbon dioxide emissions of key industries through emissions trading schemes. The expense of the Obligation reflects the high cost of renewable generation and poor targeting of the scheme – around a third of the funds exceed the support needed by generators. The Department hopes that funding investment in renewables now will reduce future generating costs and thus the cost of each tonne of carbon dioxide saved. It has not established measures or targets to track the industry's progress in reducing costs, however, and consumers will not necessarily benefit if generating costs do fall.

The Department is working to remove barriers to the achievement of the 2010 target, but this work is imposing further financial and non-financial burdens. Support to develop new and emerging



renewables technologies and the cost of upgrading the electricity grid, so that it can carry the renewable energy generated, is likely to total £2 billion or more in the period to 2010. New planning guidelines, introduced in 2004, seek to increase the proportion of successful planning applications for renewable sites and will reduce the influence of local communities on planning decisions.

On the basis of a Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General,<sup>1</sup> we examined the Department on the contribution of renewables to the UK's energy and environmental objectives, the cost of the Renewables Obligation for consumers, and the challenges of delivering the 2010 target.

<sup>1</sup> C&AG's Report, *Department of Trade and Industry: Renewable Energy* (HC 210, Session 2004–05)

## Conclusions and recommendations

**1. Even if support for renewable energy achieves its planned contribution to reducing carbon dioxide emissions, the Department will need to encourage investment in other zero or low carbon generating capacity, or energy efficiency measures, if it is to meet its overall emissions target.** Options for new generating capacity include replacing nuclear power stations due for closure, or producing both heat and power from the same energy source. The long lead times for commissioning new generating capacity mean that the Department now needs to decide urgently which forms of generation to support and in what ways.

**2. The renewables programme will provide value for money only if it helps industry to lower the cost of renewable energy to levels which approach the combined financial and carbon dioxide costs of other forms of generation.** Otherwise the contribution that renewables can cost-effectively make to the twin objectives of reducing carbon dioxide emissions and improving energy security is likely to be limited. The Department needs to set out the expected rate of reduction in the cost of generating energy from each of the main renewable sources and actively monitor progress.

**3. The Renewables Obligation is currently at least four times more expensive than the other means of reducing carbon dioxide currently used in the United Kingdom, which include levying a charge on non-household users of energy and controlling the carbon dioxide emitted by key industries.** A carbon tax would be a less complex way of reducing carbon emissions. The Department and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs should manage the range of policy instruments operating under the Climate Change Programme so that public resources are applied cost-effectively.

**4. The 2010 target requires the costs of the Renewables Obligation to be acceptable to consumers.** But the Department has no means of informing its judgement on this issue. It should consider surveying consumers or consulting consumer bodies, such as energy watch.

**5. Around a third of the support provided by the Renewables Obligation exceeds the extra cost of renewable generation.** The Obligation provides the same level of support to all eligible technologies and sites regardless of their costs and long term potential to deliver reductions in carbon dioxide. As part of its 2005 review of the Renewables Obligation the Department should reduce the excess support in the scheme. It could, for example, taper or phase out support for lower cost renewable technologies which have limited growth potential, such as landfill gas, or limit the number of years individual generating sites can benefit from the scheme.

**6. By including sites within the Renewables Obligation from the previous support scheme the Department has raised unexpected revenue for the Exchequer from electricity consumers, worth between £550 million and £1 billion by 2010.** Prices paid to generators who agreed contracts under the Department's previous support scheme were not affected by the introduction of the Renewables Obligation, but the prices paid by electricity suppliers and passed on to consumers have increased. So the revenue arising from the output of these sites now exceeds the payments made to generators, and the resulting surpluses accrue to the agency which runs the scheme and are transferred to the Exchequer.

**7. Predictions commissioned by the National Audit Office suggest that output from onshore wind sites should grow from 0.4% of the UK's total electricity supply in 2003–04 to nearly 3% by 2010–11.** These sites are often unpopular with local communities and the likely rapid expansion of onshore wind power in the next five years could create a public reaction against renewable energy.

**8. In the first three years of the Renewables Obligation scheme, the capacity of accredited sites generating electricity from landfill gas has increased by over a third.** Public financial support for landfill gas sites is, however, at odds with the objectives of environmental legislation which promotes recycling of waste, rather than its disposal in landfill, and thus limits the potential of this form of renewable energy.

**9. Wind power generation is much less environmentally intrusive when sited offshore.** The Department should factor in this environmental advantage when considering the relative costs and benefits of onshore and offshore wind power, and the level of financial support provided to each.

**10. Biomass can provide a secure, stable and sustainable energy source, but levels of generation remain low even though public funds have been made available to support the development of the technology.** Drawing on its experience of providing research funding and capital grants for biomass, the Department needs to decide whether to continue to support biomass and, if so, how to make its support programmes more effective.

**11. The Renewables Obligation has the effect of transferring substantial sums from consumers to the renewables industry — over £400 million in 2004–05, rising to £1 billion by 2010 — amounting to some £5 billion over the whole period.** But this subsidy to renewables is not authorised under the annual supply procedure and so, unlike public expenditure, is not subject to regular Parliamentary scrutiny. Requiring users to source supplies from uneconomic providers has the same affect as taxing users to subsidise the providers, but is not as transparent or amenable to parliamentary control. The government should make arrangements for annual Parliamentary scrutiny, and the amounts involved should be reported annually to this Committee.

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IoD (Institute of Directors) Press Release 15 September 2005

Target-setting for Renewables not the answer, say business leaders

Business today echoed criticism of the Government's policy on renewable energy. Following a damning report from the Public Accounts Committee, the Institute of Directors (IoD) agreed that setting targets and subsidising renewable technology was not the most effective way of achieving a balanced energy supply. The IoD also called on the Government to speed-up the debate over the future of nuclear power.

Geraint Day, Head of Environment Policy at the IoD, said:

"It is essential that a reliable energy supply is maintained to individuals, businesses and public services. At present there are many uncertainties around energy. These range from the mix and security of supplies to the price of energy itself. Anything that adds to the cost of energy at this time must certainly come in for public scrutiny.

"Given previous developments in science and technology it seems very likely that new forms of energy supply, including some of the current renewable sources, will indeed come to play a much greater role over time. However, simply setting targets and effectively subsidising particular technologies at this stage is not necessarily the best way to go about this."

Alternatively, the Government should be investing in R&D and education now, to solve the problems of the future, the IoD said. "Investment in research and development and educational infrastructure, to ensure enough expertise is available to tackle these big issues, are all key for the energy agenda. And yes, the Government should honour its promise made in 2003 to start a debate on the need - or not - for nuclear power," Geraint Day added.

**THE WIND OF CHANGE Wind farms and planning policy**

Gregory Jones - Barrister, FIQ and Legal Associate of the RTPI. Abstracts follow.

National Wind Power Ltd v The Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, Teasdale (sic) District Council and Mary Elizabeth Mann the High Court dismissed an application by National Wind Power Ltd against a refusal by the inspector to grant planning permission for a proposed wind farm including 25 turbines in County Durham. Leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal was granted principally on the ground that the case raised a matter of general public importance but the case does not appear to have been pursued further. CO-756-97 01/05/97

Comment: The previous statement is deluding and a disgrace coming from one of the top Barristers in the country. Furthermore to give this paper to such a conference seems to verge on indoctrination.

Was he not able to check and find NWP had accepted the High Court judgement? Members from Barningham High Moor Conservation Group could have told him.

**And there's more! Sadly however the following is correctly reported but no more acceptable as there is bias not balance from official quarters**

1) It's official! People like wind farms.

**More precisely wind farms are liked by the Scots and tourists to Porthcawl.**

2) In its report published in February 2002, Sustainable Energy Strategy (Performance and Innovation Unit Review), the Environmental Audit Committee acknowledged that obtaining planning permission remains a major obstacle to the increased deployment of renewables. It recommended, perhaps rather prescriptively, that the public should '**get used to the idea that wind farms are a good thing**'. It called on the raise the level of public awareness and understanding' of the need for renewable energy schemes

3) However, the report resulted in the headline 'Power bills will rise to pay for wind farms' which reported that household electricity bills would rise by an average of £15 a year over the next decade in order to pay for wind farms and other non carbon-producing power stations. Not quite the sort of media campaign the report authors had in mind (We are told the Royal family costs us each only 61pence a year)

4) If the government is serious about increasing renewable energy, and in particular, wind farms, it has to ensure that developers, local planning authorities and the public can be confident that there will be some consistency as to how their applications will be judged; not only at the local planning stage, but also on appeal.

5) The DTI made clear in February 2001 that it wanted to **lessen the burden on the developer** with its consultation on a 'one-stop shop

6) Some predict that the revised PPG22 is 'to mirror Scotland's NPPG22 (sic NPPG6) reinforcing policy backing for wind power over landscape consideration.

I checked the comments at 1 above regarding Porthcawl and Scotland to see if the Barrister had been given the correct facts. The results are reported on pages 58-61

## Clarification on the “Scarweather Polls” by ICM and Greenpeace

The following Information is from David and Caroline Vaughan Porthcawl

Page 83 of the Sustainable Development Commission's report refers to a Greenpeace Poll in Porthcawl, Wales **I have just checked and there were 2 polls carried out by Greenpeace**

The 1st one took place on the 14-15th October 2003. This poll was commission by Greenpeace and carried out by ICM. The purpose of this poll was to prove that residents were in favour of Scarweather Sands. The poll interviewed a random selection of 506 adults aged 18+, in the Swansea, Neath/Port Talbot and Bridgend areas.

<http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/contentlookup.cfm?CFID=2202822&CFTOKEN=15757056&ucidparam=20031103143908&MenuPoint=D-B-C>

The 2nd Poll (the one that Sustainable Development Commission's report refers to) took place sometime in 2003 on a bank holiday weekend. The purpose of this poll was to prove that visitors were in favour of Scarweather Sands. This was carried out by Greenpeace themselves. The beach that is shown on the Greenpeace website is called Coney Beach. The Scarweather Sands wind farm will not be seen from this beach. The beach most affected in called Rest Bay, a popular surfing beach which also has a European Blue Flag status, which the residents of Porthcawl fought long and hard for.

<http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/contentlookup.cfm?CFID=2202822&CFTOKEN=15757056&ucidparam=20030826184312>

### **The Inquiry Inspector Mr Stuart Wild dismissed these polls as follows**

97. Balanced against that is the uncertainty that the proposal could adversely affect the perception people would have of Porthcawl as a visitor destination. Several attempts had been made to measure visitor attitudes but all were subject to a greater or lesser degree of criticism of the methods used or questions asked. Similarly evidence from other windfarms was criticised as not being sufficiently robust and objective or too restricted in its scope.

98. In my view the evidence is unclear. It would only be possible to be precise if detailed before and after surveys were undertaken on an objective basis. That evidence is not available in this case. Attitudes to onshore windfarms are not, in my view, comparable to an offshore proposal. No doubt there would be some people who would dislike the windfarm so much they would choose not to visit the area, but they might well be balanced by those who were firmly in favour of such proposals. In between there would be a wide range of differing views.

100. In my view the evidence does not help in trying to exactly quantify the degree of effect but in the absence of any real and specific tourism benefits the balance appears to me to lie against the proposal.

**“I find it difficult to believe that a Government sponsored document is using Greenpeace polls of a dubious nature to justify its strategy on wind energy “D Vaughan**

The article below is by Brian Walters, Political Editor of the South Wales Evening Post.
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### **PM Uneasy as Readers quiz him on local issues March 18<sup>th</sup> 2005**

Tony Blair lost his assertiveness and appeared rather uncomfortable last night when he was quizzed over Wind Farms. On several occasions during the Evening Post. Question Time at a Swansea hotel he sought to wash his hands of responsibility.

He insisted the issue of wind farms was a matter for local decision- makers.

**“These decisions are being taken by the Assembly now.** They are part of a renewable energy target, but it has got to be a matter for local decision makers.” he said.

Caroline Vaughan of Porthcawl, posed the question,

**“Why is Wales being turned into a giant wind factory against the wishes of the people living in the areas being targeted?”**

Mr Blair repeated that decisions had to be made locally “That is part of the devolution settlement” And he repeated himself again:

“The only thing I can say Caroline, is that it has got to be left to local decision-making.”

## Scarweather Sands, WAG and those elusive letters.

**06/02/05** We asked a question under the **Freedom of Information Act (FOI)** of the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG)

“Prior to the Scarweather Sands vote on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2004 I would like to know whether Peter Hain MP made any representation regarding the Scarweather Sands Wind Farm to any Assembly members. If so what was the content of the representation?”

See Breaking News at the bottom of this page\*

**07/02/2005** We had a reply stating that they would deal with the request by 01/03/05

**04/03/2005** We received an e mail reference extending target time and stating that information had been found fitting the question

**10/03/2005** We had confirmation that a letter written by Peter Hain about Scarweather Sands had been found and attached to it was a letter written from an individual. The e mail also stated that the Wales Office (Peter Hain's Office) had made representations to the Welsh Assembly not to release the letter to us. We telephoned the officer at WAG following the e mail and were told that The First minister Rhodri Morgan, would decide himself whether or not to release the letter.

**21/04/2005** We received a reply, the letters would not be released to us because Rhodri Morgan had applied the public interest test and ruled against releasing them under Act Section 28 Relations within the United Kingdom and Act Section 36 (2)(c) Effective conduct of public affairs

**22/04/2005** We made an official complaint to WAG over the length of time the letter had taken (they were supposed to reply within 20 days.) and we challenged that the code had not been applied correctly. We also applied separately to the Information Commissioner in Cheshire, (not trusting WAG)

**25/04/2005** We received acknowledgement of the complaint and were informed that two officers would investigate, one to investigate the length of time it had taken and one to investigate whether the law had been applied correctly.

**19/05/2005** We were informed that The First Minister Rhodri Morgan would now be investigating the matter himself! We also tried to get the letter from the Wales Office, they refused well within the time limit using the same Act Section 28  
This has confirmed our suspicions that the letter might have been from John Roberts CEO United Utilities.

**28 /05/2005** We are still awaiting a reply from the Information Commissioner. We tried to prove the Scarweather Sands decision was a political one and nothing to do with planning. We had suspected all along that Peter Hain had applied pressure to WAG to bulldoze the plan through. Where Wind Farms are concerned we are not living in a democracy

\* Breaking News.

WALES Extract from a letter in the Western Mail 06 /08 /05

A Tory AM said he was considering reporting the Welsh Secretary to the Standards Commissioner after **correspondence** involving Mr Hain, First Minister Rhodri Morgan and the chief executive of the company behind the scheme **was made public**. The letters include handwritten notes from Mr Hain saying he is "keen to help" the energy company, and telling Mr Morgan the plan looks 'pretty good to me' A spokesman for Peter Hain said "There is no issue of the Secretary of State trying to interfere in any way with the planning process."

More in the Western Mail 6 Sept/05



*Abstract from “The Impact of Wind farms on Tourism” It relates specifically to Tourism and Scarweather Sands offshore wind farm at Porthcawl, South Wales*

Scarweather proposal was for 30 turbines on the Sandbanks approximately 6.1 km from the towns Blue Flag Beach The height of the turbines above mean sea level would be 135m.

In August 2003 prior to the Inquiry research was undertaken by the Local Authority amongst visitors to the area .This indicated that approximately 10% of visitors would not visit the area if a wind farm was built. Those results follow,

- 34.5% agreed with the statement. Wind farms spoil the look of the Welsh Coast
- 57% of visitors disagreed with the statement. It would be an added attraction if wind farms were located in popular tourist areas.”
- 60% disagreed with the statement. Seeing a wind farm would add to the enjoyment of the Welsh Coast
- 9% stated they would agree with the statement. They would avoid the area if there was a windfarm there.

Assumptions were made that certain types of visitors were more susceptible to the visual impact of the turbines, Most affected were thought to be golfers, watersports enthusiasts and walkers. It was felt that each of these groups would place more importance on the seascape, landscape .and the interrelationship between their enjoyment and the presence of turbines.

**Effects therefore of wind turbines on the economic benefits of local tourism.**

Total visitors to Porthcawl were 912,000 and total spend was £59.2 million (STEAM)

The overall loss was calculated at £7.28 million and loss of visitors about 103,780

**Are Wind farms Visitor Attractions?**

Comment: Energy Companies often state Windfarms can be tourist attractions in themselves.

With so many applications surfacing in the UK. I have decided to include the research done by the Welsh Tourist Board WTB regarding those oft cited locations referred to by wind energy developers.

They are Delabole, Swaffham, Middlegrunden and CAT

Delabole and Swaffham were in a difficult financial position at the time unable to sustain visitor figures..Middlegrunden seemed to concentrate on boat trips and cannot it is said be described as a major visitor attraction. CAT, Machynlleth and Electric Mountain appear more successful, recognising the need to deal with a wide range of sustainability issues and introduce elements of interest to mass markets.

In the case of the Scarweather it was felt by the local authority that there were sufficient grounds on which to object to the proposal in terms of visual and tourism impact, The paper “Impact of wind farms on Tourism” states the paper may be of use to coastal Authorities across the UK it is acknowledged more research is a matter for future consideration.

Comment: Gregory Jones mentions wind farms are liked by the Scots.

Such a sweeping statement concerns me coming from a barrister and apparently based on statistics which in my personal opinion cannot be relied upon. I mention pages83/84 of the Sustainable Development Commission Report.

Averaging statistics covering a 13 year period with so many variables on the size and locations of wind farms surveyed cannot be justified to claim average support as 80%. It is in fact sheer manipulation of statistics, creating delusion of the highest order.

I believe the best way to check whether the Scots like wind farms is to look at the reality of the situation in Scotland at present through some Scottish websites listed below.

[www.saveourhills.org](http://www.saveourhills.org)

[www.scottishwindwatch.org](http://www.scottishwindwatch.org)

[www.islay.com/description/windfarm.htm](http://www.islay.com/description/windfarm.htm)

[www.sw-ag.org](http://www.sw-ag.org)

<http://mcwag.members.beeb.net>

[www.windup.org.uk](http://www.windup.org.uk)

<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/hodgson.copshaw>

[www.clydebelt.org.uk/windfarm.html](http://www.clydebelt.org.uk/windfarm.html)

[www.wind-farm.org](http://www.wind-farm.org)

[www.viewsofscotland.org](http://www.viewsofscotland.org) has much statistical information and maps.

Throughout the UK communities are being destroyed. Hard evidence related to wind energy is now coming forward as opposed to the theoretical claims made for it. Press reports recently on the situation in Skye sound as if they are approaching civil war. Yet all they and many others are doing is simply to protect their valuable countryside and what it has to offer in terms of peace tranquillity To return to the Scarweather issue.

Below is an abstract from a letter Porthcawl campaigners obtained from DTI under FOI -Act

**e-on** | UK

Mr Malcolm Wicks MP  
Energy Minister  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2005

Dear Mr Wicks,

**Scarweather Sands offshore wind farm**

To achieve delivery in 2007 whilst allowing construction activities to take place without undue pressure on contractors and the associated added financial risk to the scheme it will be necessary to secure financial sanction for capital investment within E.ON and E2 by November this year.

Back in August 2004, before the scheme was consented, an application for a capital grant was made by United Utilities, who were then a part owner in the project. It was not deemed possible by DTI to progress the application at the time but now the project is available to go to construction E.ON and E2 have reviewed the need for a capital grant. We have determined that market conditions are such that a grant is necessary to make the scheme viable.

E.ON and E2 have been lobbying the DTI to initiate a further round of capital grant awards in order for Scarweather to be assessed for support. Whilst the DTI have given positive messages and I understand that your office has been briefed on the issue, we have yet to see a proposed timetable for such an award process and this is causing us some concern as we are now only three months from the targeted decision point.

We would be grateful therefore if you could urgently inform us of the envisaged timescale for the likely award of a capital grant for Scarweather together with the process needed to take place.

If you do not believe that in principle approval for a grant will be practical in the timescale set out above, the Scarweather partners will have to schedule construction back into 2008, and potentially beyond to allow time for grant award. Whilst this is not our preferred option, it is imperative that the project is a financial success for both the supply chain and owners.



Jason Scagell  
02476 42 4566  
02476 425005  
jason.scagell@eon-uk.com

**The Unelected NEA is producing the Regional Spatial Strategy  
Policies and proposals for shaping the North East to 2010 and beyond!  
Has Breeze turned to Twister?** Abstracts from Paper 7 Energy follow.

**Extracts from the RSS for NE Submission Draft June 2005 Technical Paper 7**

*My comments are in italics. There appears little difference from the Consultation Draft of Nov 2004 except for page numbers etc. I have used the June 2005 references*

*For convenience the following information has been copied to Force10 Companion Guide. The Indicative map from the RSS is on p49, the Indicative map page 48 is from PPS22CG. GIS constraints and comments are on p 66/7*

**Section 3 Regional Analysis (page 12)**

Renewable Energy is a growth industry with much potential in the **north east specially from wind** due to the landscape. The region is also leading the way with developments such as NAREC in Blyth. (See page 73 NAREC Launch)

In the Region there are many projects in place and others in the pipeline.

**Page10. 2.25** NEA, GONE local authorities, environmental groups and the renewables industry would prepare a North East Renewable Energy Strategy to inform the early review of the revised RPG1 (RSS) to **provide a positive steer as defined in RPG1 policy EN2**

**Page10. 2.26** In November 2002, Government Office for the North East (GO-NE) commissioned the Northern Energy Initiative (TNEI), the centre for Environmental and spatial Analysis at the University of Northumbria (CESA) and the Landscape Research Group as the University of Newcastle (LRG) to prepare a Regional Renewable Energy Strategy (RRES). The North East Renewable Energy Group (NEREG), chaired by GO-NE oversaw the preparation of the strategy on behalf of the North East Assembly. **NEREG brings together the representatives from the Region's Local Authorities, environmental groups, universities, locally based wind developers and government agencies.**

*Comment: The energy consultative group suggested in 1999 by Adrian Smith! (p 69)*

**Page10. 2.28** The draft RRES was the subject of consultation late in 2003 with 112 responses. There was considerable opposition to wind development between the A66 and the Stang forest. *Comment: What did they expect? To attempt a return to the Stang Area after BHMCG's long and costly fight which led to their High Court victory was insensitive.*

Barningham High Moor proposal for the then largest wind farm in England was defeated at Public Inquiry and in The High Court.

**John Prescott** agreed with the Inspector's dismissal of the application.

**Alan Milburn** gave his support throughout.

**Margaret Beckett** assured us the Government was committed to protecting the countryside against inappropriate wind energy development.

**Hilary Armstrong** was reported in the local press as seeing money given to the community as bribes.

**The Rambler's Association** was the main donor for the Public Inquiry. The local group raised funds to support Prescott at the High Court. CPRE branches in the main funded the High Court action.

**Why the U turn by Government? Who is now pulling the strings? Whoever it is has created a tangled web of deception and delusion, now becoming incestuous.**

## Energy paper7 p29 Areas identified for development of wind farms Tees Offshore - Identified as a strategic wind farm

It states the 100MW proposal has been the subject of local consultation and a submission has been made to DTI. *There is a tremendous amount of **local** objection to this development by EDF (see AppD Force10CG) EDF are currently progressing several onshore proposals. France, Germany and the EU have a high profile in the North East.*

## NEREG agreed the following constraints in 2003

P33 Entitled Renewable Energy Geographical Information System (GIS) Constraints

### Annexe B p29 Adopted constraints (c)

Nature Conservation Area footprints include, SPA, SAC, SSSI, RAMSAR, ASN Woodland. No buffer zones have been added to the designated footprints. It is acknowledged that English Nature consider buffers of 800m may be necessary along boundaries of specific SPAs and other important ornithological sites. These have not been included in the GIS.

*Comment: Why not is the question that needs answering?*

April 2003 GO-NE commissioned BP Power to undertake a study of the Region's electricity grid in relation to the emerging spatial strategy for renewable energy **predominately wind**. I believe PB is Parsons Brinkerhoff who are associated with wind power worldwide.

### Summary of The Grid Study/Grid upgrade. Extracts from P34

If **Kielder** emerges at strategic\* level **major investment will be needed to upgrade the current connection to the grid**. The least environmentally damaging and the most expensive would be to upgrade the current grid connection from Kielder dam via Spadeadam to Harker near Carlisle. The existing grid could probably accommodate **125MW** of wind capacity with limited investment to cover the cost of the next step stage in grid improvement. At least **370MW** of wind capacity would be needed

An area in central Northumberland has been identified as possibly suitable for small\*groups of wind turbines. PB power considered the possibility of a new sub station on the 400 kV grid connector in this area. **To justify the cost of this substation 10 small wind farms would be required within a radius of about 10km!** An alternative would be to use the local 20Kv network to allow a more dispersed capture of this resource

*Comment \*.I am not aware of clear definitions for small or strategic. Nor do I believe the people who would be affected by the 10 wind farm mentioned are aware of the proposals.*

In summary: The connection of renewables as identified within this report is considered **feasible** with the grid as currently planned. Routes for new connections must be considered as an integral part of planning the development of the renewable generation areas as they will be crucial in **allowing the region to meet its targets**. Since the July 2003 report was completed further work on the ability of the grid to handle the amount and location of renewable electricity put forward has been undertaken by Northern Electric Distribution Ltd NEDL. This is ongoing and informed by contact between NEDL and developers active in the region.

Comment: Does this need to be reconsidered post the **E-ON Wind Report 2004?** The BWEA, REF and others with considerable expertise are arguing the implications of this report. BWEA are adamant the UK can cope, saying conditions are different in UK from Germany. **The E-ON Wind Report 2005** points out that wind blows, **when, as and where it will**. Its actual strength is difficult to forecast accurately. The wind sadly does not blow where we need large quantities of power. Does the work on grid connection and talk of major investment suggest someone is determined Kielder becomes a strategic level resource in spite of MOD concerns?

The diagram referred to below is shown on p49 of Force10 CG and is on p31 of PPS22 CG



**ANNEX A**

**Further Details of Areas Identified on the Draft Indicative Diagram:**

Resource	Area	Comments
<b>Strategic Renewable Resource Area</b>	Kielder Forest (Tynedale)	Reflecting the potential for the generation of renewable energy at Kielder (Hydro/ Biomass/ large scale wind)
<b>Strategic Wind Farm</b>	Teesmouth Offshore Wind Farm	Came forward as a part of the Government's first round of Offshore Wind Licences
<b>Medium Wind Farms</b>	South and West Berwick upon Tweed (Berwick upon Tweed)	This broad location has a significant amount of potential and should not be constrained by setting a range for the number of turbines – one or more small/ medium scale wind farms, clustered and/ or separated from one another
	North/ South Charlton (Alnwick)	Small/ medium scale, if MoD radar constraints can be overcome. The Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan EIP Panel Report considered that all of the land, on both sides of the A1. It was the Panels opinion that there is likely to be some capacity for development to the east of the A1 which would not significantly affect views from the A1 to the Coast. The Panel Report suggested that Local Plan policies provide an important criterion in examining sites.
	Knowesgate (Tynedale)	Medium scale wind farm development. The broad location should not be constrained by setting a range for the number of turbines.
	Harwood Forest (Alnwick)	Small or medium scale wind farm development. The Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan EIP Panel Report considered the County Council and National Parks objection to the proposal as they felt wind farms in this area could compromise the objectives of National Park designation. The Panel concluded that there was no reason to exclude the area from further testing and evaluation as a potential Wind Resource Area – it is one of the areas of least constraint, but it needs to be handled sensitively.
	Northern Coalfield South of Druridge Bay (Castle Morpeth)	Small or medium scale wind farms – MoD and civil radar constraints. This area was referred to in the draft Strategy as "Southeast urban and urban fringe Northumberland" – the GIS showed that there are more than one "area" in the broad location shown by the "W" in the draft Strategy and it should be given a different name to better reflect its coverage. The Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan EIP Panel Report considered that much detailed work will need to be carried out before specific sites could be identified within the general area, and Castle Morpeth will have an important role in that. There is clearly a need to protect the Heritage Coast.
	Kiln Pit Hill (Tynedale)	Small or medium scale. This is a small area, however the Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan EIP Panel Report considered in order to apply the consistent approach which was taken in the draft Strategy it was necessary to include the site as an affirmation of its potential.
	North Durham Upland Coalfield (Derwentside)	the Strategy identified the possibility of expansion of the existing Tow Law wind farm. It is considered that there is a broader area of potential which would be better reflected if the

- Kiln Pit Hill** Residents voiced their anger when a press comment was the first they heard of the proposal or the RSS which recommended it.
- Tow Law** A strong campaign against has reduced the proposal from 22 to 12 CPRE at District, County Branch and Regional level have objected.



		"W" was moved a little east – thereby maximising the potential of the general area.
	Tees Plain (Sedgefield)	Small or medium scale. This area has low landscape sensitivity – detail contained within draft Strategy remains appropriate.
	South Durham Upland Coalfield (Teesdale)	This area was referred to in the Strategy as "Hamsterley Forest". The potential of Hamsterley has been questioned, given the proximity of the AONB. However, there is good potential due to wind speed and distance from settlements. The "W" has therefore been slightly relocated to cover Hamsterley and some of the coalfield/ upland fringe potential in the area, enabling a greater choice of development scale and pattern, to be determined at the local level.

**Hamsterley Area** *Strong objections to the proposal near the AONB and in an amenity area were raised. This was mooted in TREC.*

#### Renewable Energy Geographical Information System Constraints Mapping

Categories	Criteria	Parameters	Constraint
Cultural Heritage	Historic Parks, Gardens and Battlefields	Footprint	Absolute
	Listed Buildings	Footprint	Absolute
	Greenbelt	Footprint	Consultation
	World Heritage Sites	Footprint	Absolute
	World Heritage Sites	10km buffer	Consultation
Landscape	AONB	Footprint	Absolute
	Heritage Coast	Footprint	Absolute
	National Park	Footprint	Absolute
MOD	Low Flying Area 20	Footprint	Constraint
	Low Flying Area 13	Footprint	Consultation
Nature Conservation	SPA	Footprint	Absolute
	SAC	Footprint	Absolute
	RSPB Reserves	Footprint	Absolute
	SSSI	Footprint	Absolute
	RAMSAR	Footprint	Absolute
	AW	Footprint	Absolute
Radar	Newcastle Airport	Viewshed*	Absolute
	Teesside Airport	Viewshed*	Absolute
	Brizlee Wood	Viewshed*	Absolute
	Fylingdales	Viewshed*	Absolute
	Dun Fell	Viewshed*	Absolute
Safety/Topple Distance	Motorways	150m Buffer	Absolute
	A Roads	150m Buffer	Absolute
	B Roads	150m Buffer	Consultation
	Railways	150m Buffer	Absolute
	Electricity pylons	150m Buffer	Absolute

## MOD

Low Flying area 20 is Constraint whereas Low Flying area 13 is Consultation.

*Comment: Should both be constraint? I am not aware of maps detailing the areas.*

## Radar

Airport constraints are Absolute with the parameter as Viewshed. *Northumbria University did the study, Sept 2003 .Turbines heights and numbers have increased since then!*

## Wind speed

Average wind speed below 6.5m/s at 45m ht indicated in the **NOABL** database are said unlikely to provide a commercial return to any developer in the foreseeable future

**Safety/Topple Distance** is 150m buffer with absolute constraint from an A road and consultation from a B road. *Should not both should be absolute?*

## The New Spatial Planning System. Crossroads or maze?

### DEVELOPMENT PLANS AT A CROSSROAD: THE NEW SPATIAL PLANNING SYSTEM

**The planning system faces many changes over coming months and years, so before jumping in at the deep end, let's take some time to consider the context prevailing over the transformation ahead.**

Firstly let's consider, what is spatial planning? It is a process essentially about anticipating and influencing the best outcomes for the future use of land and the environment. Previously, the lengthy plan preparation process has led to some of them being out-of-date before adoption. The new system of development plans will be quicker, more soundly evidence based, and fully involve the wider community. In responding to change it will address wider spatial issues such as health, job creation and the aims of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's Sustainable Communities Plan.

The 21st Century will see dynamic and dramatic changes to the world we live in, and planning can positively facilitate the changes ahead. The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 provides for new Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) that will integrate spatially with strategies having relevant implications outside traditional land use planning. As such, the modernisation of planning will affect forward planning and regeneration as much as the process of development management and control.

The main areas of change include...

Regional Spatial Strategy, and Local Development Documents (LDDs) within the LDF, will replace Regional Planning Guidance, Structure Plans, Unitary Development Plans, and Local Plans. In the interim, plans can be saved for three years (some policies perhaps longer e.g. Green Belt), with a few old style plans finished through transitional arrangements. RPG1 becomes RSS upon Act commencement, until the new RSS is adopted. Other key changes to plans include the Local Development Scheme (LDS) – the effective project plan for producing LDDs; and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) – the strategy for public consultation. The requirement of an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) every December will bring transparent scrutiny of policy, and LDS progress on key milestones.

LDDs will consist of Development Plan Documents (having "Development Plan" policy status), as well as Supplementary Planning Documents, which when

linked to a parent DPD, give extra detail to policy, just like existing Supplementary Planning Guidance. LDFs must contain a Core Strategy DPD that will set the overarching spatial objectives for an area, having regard to the Local Community Strategy.

LDFs will reinvigorate the plan-led system by aiming to achieve consensus over the best use of land, ahead of actual detailed blueprints hitting the table. The new system will create greater certainty for decision-making, but with sufficient flexibility to help deliver regeneration priorities. Contemporary planning issues affecting the North East include housing market renewal and replacement, and the pressure for waste treatment facilities and renewable energy installations. Competing pressures for land use will all need to be reconciled through RSS, LDFs, and eventually, quality development decisions.

This all sounds very straightforward, but won't the new system grind to a halt with so many plans being prepared simultaneously? No, things should run smoothly so long as Local Planning Authorities set out realistic proposals with their LDS, and consult with the Government Office (GO) and Planning Inspectorate (PINs) over LDD timescales. Future LDF progress could be subject to Best Value performance monitoring similar to efficient management of development control, and progress against an LDS may also eventually influence the reward of Planning Delivery Grant (PDG)!

#### THE DO'S & DON'TS OF PREPARING YOUR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS)

The Local Development Scheme is the public statement of the Local Authority's programme for producing Local Development Documents. It shows priorities over the next few years, indicates opportunities for public involvement, and enables monitoring of Council performance.

##### Some Do's:

- Read Planning Policy Statement 12 and "Creating Local Development Frameworks";
- Submit your LDS to the Government Office within 6 months of the Act commencing (expected September 04, so final LDS by March 05); \*

AUTUMN 2004

4

NORTHERN NEWS

RTPI

*The RSS is part of the statutory Development Plan and will replace SPs and UDP s part 1. The RSS provides a broad strategy for the region for 15 to 20 years.*

*The RSS is prepared by the Regional Assembly (The unelected one!) The NE voted against Regional Governance The new system is more a maze than crossroads. Never fear 'wor' John's here to explain why a body you did not vote for provides a strategy you don't want.*

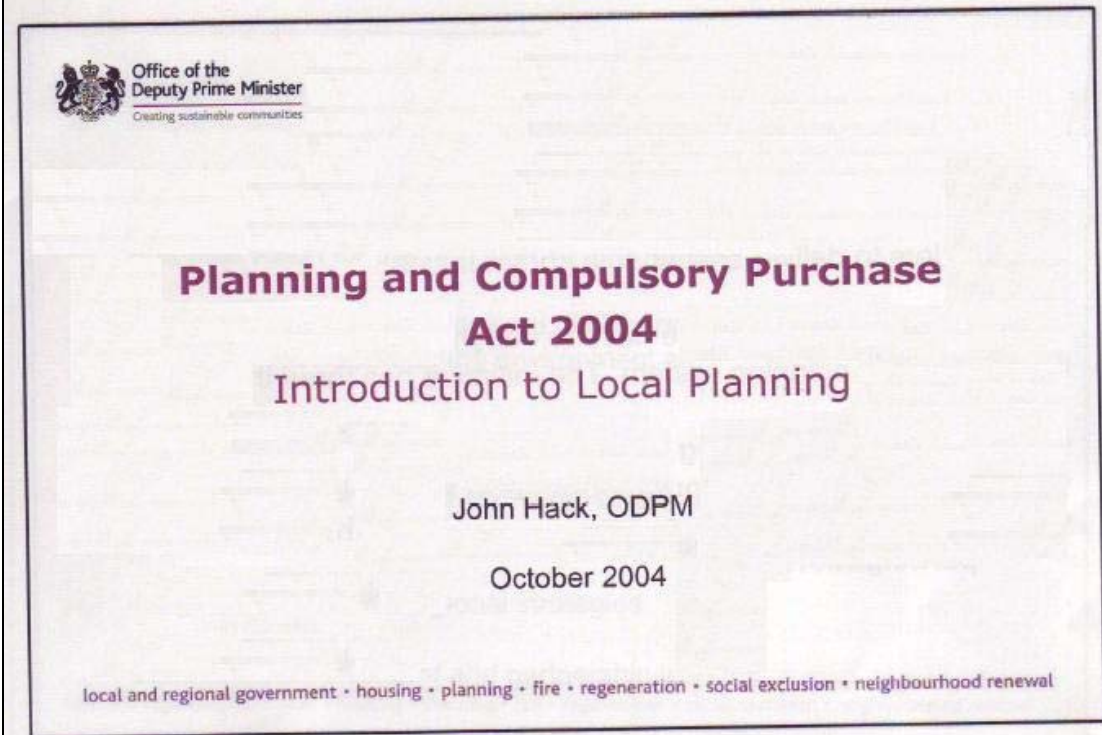
**Forget old battles. We now have the law.**

**Long Live Democracy**



**Development Plans. The Future is Now RTPI Northern Branch –  
Durham County Hall – November 3, 2004**

Comment: The slides below are from a presentation by John Hack (ODPM.) There was much of value but I worry when we are told to forget old battles as we now have the law. Asking whether this applied to PPS22, he replied he was not familiar with PPS22.



Office of the Deputy Prime Minister  
Creating sustainable communities

## Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

### Introduction to Local Planning

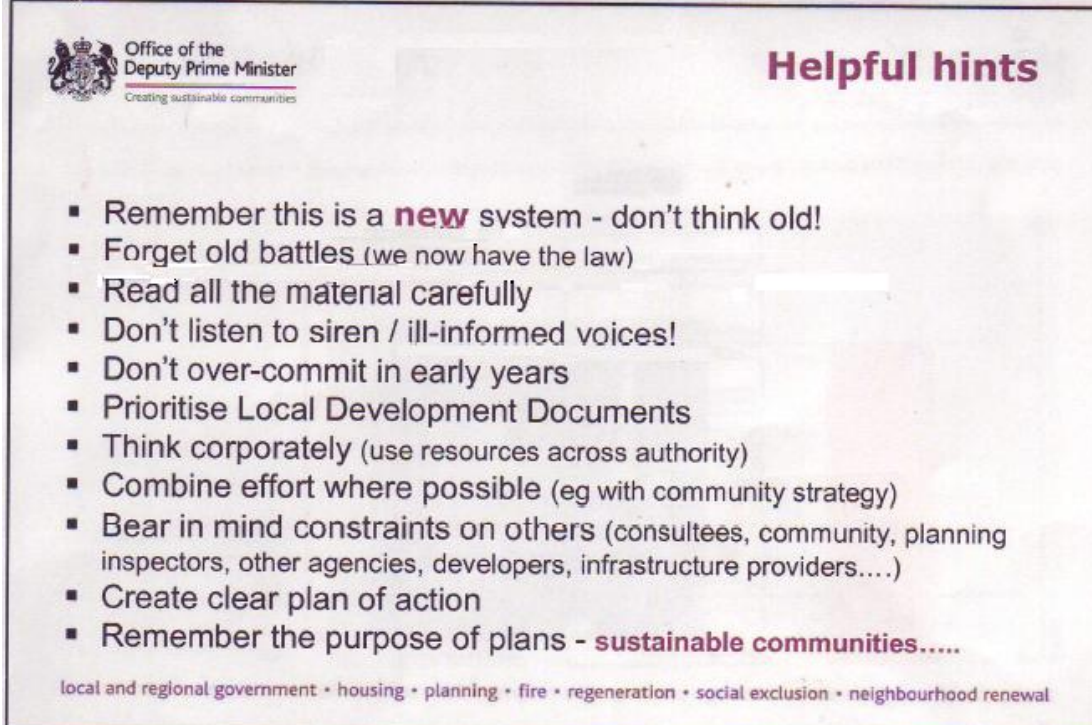
John Hack, ODPM

October 2004

local and regional government • housing • planning • fire • regeneration • social exclusion • neighbourhood renewal

*Forget old battles we now have the law (ODPM)*

*A helpful hint?*



Office of the Deputy Prime Minister  
Creating sustainable communities

## Helpful hints

- Remember this is a **new** system - don't think old!
- Forget old battles (we now have the law)
- Read all the material carefully
- Don't listen to siren / ill-informed voices!
- Don't over-commit in early years
- Prioritise Local Development Documents
- Think corporately (use resources across authority)
- Combine effort where possible (eg with community strategy)
- Bear in mind constraints on others (consultees, community, planning inspectors, other agencies, developers, infrastructure providers....)
- Create clear plan of action
- Remember the purpose of plans - **sustainable communities.....**

local and regional government • housing • planning • fire • regeneration • social exclusion • neighbourhood renewal

## What about CEWT (Cumulative Effect of Wind Turbines)

In the last decade, onshore turbine capacities have increased from around 300kW to 600kW to 700kW to 1300 kW to 1500 kW and 2750 kW and 3000 kW whilst overall heights have increased from 41.5m to 100m to 110m.

Recently permission has been given for 7 x 3000 kW turbines, **110m high**, at Sedgefield in the PM's constituency. These are about 700 m from houses. The objectors' concerns were **not** addressed by the committee. I have used this as a Case Study (pages 52-54) RTPI Planning Magazine 2/09/05 describes turbines of **110m ht** proposed in Wales as **massive**.

Comment: How can CEWT be truly assessed when planners fully aware of proposals in the pipeline, claim those cannot be taken into account as they may not come to fruition? Surely a total nonsense when any refusal can and usually is followed by an Appeal by the Developer. Some people see wind turbines as objects of beauty. That is their opinion and they are entitled to it. Is CEWT being cleverly sidelined? (High Hedley 1 and Walkway)

### Guidance in England

ETSU W/14/00538/REP Cumulative Effects of Wind turbines 2000  
ETSU W/14/00538/REP Qualitative Public Attitude Research Mid Wales  
[www.dti.gov.uk/energy/renewables/publications/pdfs/w1400538.pdf](http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/renewables/publications/pdfs/w1400538.pdf)

Guidance from Scottish National Heritage (SNH) on Cumulative effect of wind farms 2005  
A more recent report than ETSU this is probably better able to assess the specific landscape and visual effects which must result from the increase in height and the accelerating numbers of turbines proposed in an area. NEREG chaired by GONE has overseen work on the strategy preparation and input to RSS. I believe there are flaws in the methodology used throughout and that is the reason for writing Force 10 and this Companion Guide  
Claire Short MP has said you cannot have an environment without people. Yet it is the people who are not being given due consideration in events which could affect their quality of life.

### Who has sold Co Durham down the river, in fact the north east?

Now it seems the whole country has been deluded into accepting wind turbines to combat climate change.

Who pulled the strings until they formed a tangled web? Why? Why the great U turn, or was it a great escape as government got into a situation where it was easier though undemocratic to go with the flow? This record will be buried on Barningham High Moor and nearby locations, where Force 10 and the Barningham booklet are buried. Future generations will know how hard we fought to protect their heritage.

*Noo Lambton felt inclined to gan an' fight in foreign wars an' varry seun  
forgot about the queer worm i' the well  
But the wyrm got fat an' grewed an' grewed,  
An' grewed an' aaful suze*

A synopsis of events from 1988 to 2005 is below. (7 years)

*The same length of time Lambton forgot about the wyrm*

**Extracts from my Power Point Presentation show how Adrian Smith's 'blue print' in 1999 for agreed regional and county targets\*was being progressed. Reduction of carbon emissions and other pollutants now seem lost in the race for regional targets, mainly onshore wind.**

#### **BWEA Invited Seminar June 1999 at Durham Cricket Club**

- Hosted by One North East in association with Government office for The North East. Wind Energy and Planning. Meeting the Challenge
- Attendees list included DTI, DETR, David Still, Marcus Trinnick, Adrian Smith (Renew North/TNEL). Alison Hill and Nick Goodall BWEA
- Adrian Smith presented 'Planning and Renewables, The Way Forward'

#### **Ideas or a Blue Print for the Future?**

- From Adrian Smith's presentation "The Way Forward"
- Renewable energy targets* in RPG and structure plans.
- \**Agreed regional and county targets*
- A Regional Wind Energy consultation group* – to include active developers, facilitating organisations, **e.g. Renew North and chaired by Government Office.**

#### **Reviving a flagging industry**

- Government changes statutory regulations.
- Peter Hain, Minister for Energy, announces new flexibility for non fossil fuel obligation (NFFO) contracts.**
- The press release was careless in its reference to the High Moor Wind farm at Barningham. It suggested that the proposal should be able to proceed
- I contacted DTI who suggested to their press officer a slight modification to read - may now be able to proceed at a different location.

#### **Planning Issues**

- Positive outcome to planning rejection 1998. Details restricted to members.
  - 1998: UK planning system was blamed for the worst year the industry had known.
  - 1999 Feb: Dismal year are in the UK as planning infrastructure fails
  - 1999 Dec: Legal planning defeat for wind in NE England.
  - 2000 Mar: Planning hurdles defeat the wind industry.
- Wind Power Monthly      [www.wpm.co.nz](http://www.wpm.co.nz)

#### **Support for Regional Targets**

- 1998: David Williams of Cambrian Engineering called for *regional targets*.
- 2000: Alan Moore, Managing Director of NWP, Current Chair of BWEA and a member of RAB said *regional targets* will help to alleviate the nimby attitude.
- 2000: David Still then Chair of BWEA and now a member of RAB spoke about pending regional targets.

#### **Roc solid?**

- Further support seemed necessary.
- The Renewable Obligation Certificate (ROC) was deemed to be the answer. It appears to be a 'subsidy' although classed as a levy. To the layman the end result is simply that less than a third of the money comes from actually generating electricity and money from the ROCs make up the rest.
- The quick end-of-year fix of Britain's Renewables Obligation (RO) made by energy minister Stephen Timms in December is failing to provide the market certainty needed to make renewable energy projects an attractive investment (Wind Power Monthly).



## **Dubious Tactics?**

- 17 MP's and 1 member of the House of Lords undertook a two day fact finding mission to witness the success of the Danish wind industry. 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> October 2000
- Alan Moore, managing director of NWP, the UK's leading wind farm developer accompanied the group.
- Flight and accommodation were paid for by NWP (From register of Members' Interests UK Parliament).
- From NWP press release 27<sup>th</sup> October 2000.

## **Deploying misleading concepts**

- Annual requirement of x thousand homes
- Saving y tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions

## **Promises, Promises, Promises**

Teesdale Renewable Energy Challenge (TREC) promised all renewable energies, small scale.

- Local Agenda 21 (LA 21) confirmed this and that there would be no large wind-farms.
- The Truth is vastly different. Amec Wind and NWP are bringing forward proposals for a significant commercial wind farm within Hamsterley Forest. This is an amenity area next to the AONB.
- Several issues have given cause for concern during TREC's implementation and the situation needs to be carefully monitored.

## **GSK - 2 X 250 kW (45m to tip) [Second hand]**

- At the Council Meeting, there was no opportunity to question unsupported statements made by the developer.
- Elected members appear unaware of many aspects of Wind Energy. Level of debate was abysmal, one cllr voted 'for' to spite his colleague! Permission was granted.
- TNEI acted as agent for GSK, as part of the TREC Initiative that TNEI managed. Did this constitute a conflict of interest? *Will they achieve the savings promised?*
- The turbines are now in place and some residents are finding their quality of life is being blighted. (For at least 25 years!)
- No EIA. CPRE's request for one was refused by GO-NE.

## **Environmental Impact Assessment**

- Teesdale planning department decided with TNEI, that an EIA was not necessary for the GSK proposal. In June 2003 the community was given the understanding there would be one though the decision not to have one had already been taken in March 2003!
- No indication that the scheme would be eligible for ROCs appeared to have been mentioned to the general public until after approval had been given.
- Are EIA's being side-lined by developers?
- An EIA for every wind-farm application would be desirable but GO-NE has already said this will not happen! Yet this is the only way the communities can voice their concerns.

Using information from the ROC Register 06/ 04 -05/ 05 the GSK turbines do not appear to have either generated the amount of electricity or saved the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions anticipated. Their load factor over the 12 month period seems to be about 11%. This means that the safeguarding of jobs promised and the emission savings will be approximately one third of those predicted At an LA21 Energy Roundtable, Astley Fenwick of GSK said the turbines would provide extra income of around £60000 pa. The low LF suggests GSK faced a dramatic reduction in this period of approximately £40000 in compared to the income expected. (See p90 paragraph 6 Force 10 CG)

### **The Northern Energy Initiative (TNEI) - Rise to Power**

- 1999 Renew North/TNEI proposed regional and county targets for renewables in Regional Planning Guidance (RPG)
- Gone commissioned Chris Blandford Associates to look at development of renewables targets in the North East to 2010. They drew heavily on Energy for a New Century' by TNEI and commented on the refusal of Barningham Moor proposal.
- 2002/2003. TNEI were appointed consultants to carry out the Regional Renewable Energy strategy for the NE, to be fed into the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) in June/July
- 2003 GO-NE commissioned PB Power to undertake a study of the region's electricity grid re the emerging Spatial Strategy for renewable energy.
- PB Power on behalf of EDF energy is proposing 7 wind farms in Co Durham
- TNEI are support consultants for PPS 22 Companion Guide

I wrote to the co-ordinator for the RSS expressing concern.

**She has left the North East Assembly and joined TNEI.**

### **Planning Officers Society**

- At the least PPS22 should state that the first consideration of land use planning should be the reduction in the demand for energy through energy efficiency and conservation.
- It is noted that a companion guide to PPS 22 is also to be published. Paragraph 9 of the introduction states that the companion guide will be published when the final version of the PPS is published. Given that the companion guide supplements and supports the content of PPS 22 it is essential that this guide is both consulted on, and consulted on prior to the publication of the PPS.

Comment: The above comments (PPS22) are from the most senior professionals and managers of planning services in the English Local Authorities, but will the Government take notice?

### **What a tangled web we weave...**

#### **PPS22 Companion Guide:**

- Contractor(s)
- ARUP  
13 Fitzroy Street, London, W1P 6BQ  
0171 465 5555
- Contract details
- Cost to the Department: £73,995.00
- Actual start date: 10 March 2004
- Expected completion date: 30 September 2004

**From ODPM website**

#### **PPS22 Companion Guide:**

- TNEI are the support consultants with a Welsh firm to Arup who are leading on this for the Government. Final draft to ODPM in August. **NOT from ODPM website**

The above extracts from my power point presentation seem the most concise way to alert people to related events from 1998-2005.(The gestation period of the New-Lambton Wyrn) In my opinion these events give real cause for concern. Unless curtailed the beauty of the county and quality of life for many will be eroded.  
**NaREC** New and Renewable Energy Centre in Blyth is said to be the centre of excellence for new and renewable energy so I hoped their Launch Event, ,described below, would cover research and development into wide range of renewables.

## **Regional Launch Event Draft programme Feb 2/ 2005      Section 4**

*Comment: I had hoped to see all renewable energy sources covered.*

- 8:30 am - Registration and break fast refreshments.
- 9.10 am - Chair person welcome's all and introduces the panel.
- 9.15 am - Guy Madgwick; The purpose of the Launch Event
- 9.20 am - Andrew Smith: Energy Policy - A National Perspective
- 9.35 am - **Adrian Smith: The Emerging Regional Renewable Energy Strategy - Planning the future for On-shore Wind up to 2010**
- 10:05 am - Doug Everard: Renewable Energy - Past Performance and Future Opportunities.
- 10:20 am - Martin Marais; npower renewables Consultation and Development Strategy - **A Design for Northumberland.**
- 10.35 am - Panel & Representatives from n-power & Entec UK Ltd: Q & A's
- 10:55 am - Guy Madgwick - Close the event
- 11:00 am - Break for refreshments.

Invited Panel at NAREC Launch Feb 2005 Chair: John **Shaw**. Managing Director of Utilities Project Management Ltd,

**Andrew Smith:** Senior Planning Consultant for the North, Entec UK Ltd, operating nation wide and guiding major developments through the planning process.

**Adrian Smith** Independent Wind Consultant Adrian, along with colleagues in The Northern Energy Institution, prepared the draft NE Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the NA. Extract from the Personal Profile.

MRTPI, MRIC Renewable Energy Planning Consultant

- 1999 Joined TNEI to lead the work of Renew North, North East's Renewable Energy Agency. Initiated several significant projects including TeesWind in Redcar and Teesdale Renewable Energy Challenge, TREC
- 2002 Adrian became an independent planning consultant still largely working for TNEI Recent projects: Leading work on preparing/ updating NERES and assisting ARUP in drafting PPS22 Companion Guide on Renewable Energy for the ODPM In addition to Adrian's renewable energy work he has chaired a number of recent Structure Plan Examinations in Public on behalf of ODPM.
- Adrian is also active in the voluntary sector aiding asylum seekers.

**Doug Everard:** Chief Executive of the New and Renewable Energy Centre. NAREC NAREC are our hosts today. They are a body responsible for the promotion development of a wide range of renewable energy sources across the region.

**Guy Madgwick:** Head of Development, n-power renewables. Guy is responsible for developing renewable energy generators including hydro turbines and the conversion of existing power plants to renewable fuels.

**Martin Marais:** Head of On-Shore Development, n-power renewables, responsible for the promotion of onshore wind. Steering applications through the planning process nation wide.

I applied to attend the launch but my request was refused. I then requested and received the information available to attendees. I was grateful for the information and the accompanying leaflets. It is on the basis of these I make my comments.

## From npower (RWE group) leaflets at NAREC launch Feb 2005

### Leaflet dated January 2005

1) Independent surveys carried out in recent years, have consistently shown that the majority of the public are in favour of the development of wind .New research in the form of a National Opinion Poll (NOP) survey of 1,000 Adults, in August 2004, on **behalf of the British Wind Energy Association**, showed strong public endorsement of wind energy, those who have actually seen a wind farm, **being more supportive**.

2) People are significantly more likely to disagree that wind farms are a blot on the landscape **if they have seen them** (45%) compared with those who haven't (55%)

#### **People Against Satley Turbines (PAST)**

The following survey is in conflict with the above oft cited statistics  
Satley is a village adjacent to and in full view of the wind farms at Tow Law and High Hedley. High Hedley 2 has in spite of opposition, received planning permission.

Satley Parish Council ballot covered 218 in the parish.  
181 returned the ballot and of that 146 (over 80%) were against.  
There were 20 in favour, largely a farmer's family all to gain.  
13 approx (7%) did not care either way.

The second ballot by Cornsay Colliery Residents Association sent out 222 ballots  
162 were returned with 134 (over 82 %) against

This conflicts with the statement by the Sustainable Development Commission  
Chapter 9, Wind Power and the Community

"Resistance to onshore wind farms was related to knowledge with **higher resistance found amongst the less knowledgeable** groups" This is absolutely false as press coverage with comments from local groups opposing wind farms shows it is their knowledge which has founded their opposition.

**This and other reports I have read appear to dent BWEA's oft cited claims**

A letter from **TV host Chris Tarrant who supports the BWEA Embrace Campaign** is on page 20 Force10 CG. Even with his busy lifestyle he has taken the trouble to read more about the benefits or otherwise of wind energy and my understanding is that he has now a more balanced view. This has happened on numerous occasions when communities faced with a proposal for a wind farm decide to find out more about the pros and cons of wind power. In my experience the resistance has increased with Size and Movement, the latter an essential characteristic of a wind turbine seem to be two of the main concerns.  
Perhaps that is why these appear to be subverted by the developers.

### **Surveys from npower leaflet**

Results for the Northern Region are compared with those for the UK (ICM).

Comment: Was not the UK (ICM) Sept 2004 poll done for Greenpeace? What real value is there in doing any comparison with the ICM poll when Greenpeace are so pro wind. See website [www.yes2wind.by](http://www.yes2wind.by) Greenpeace Foe and WWF

## **Yes2wind website. Greenpeace FOE and WWF**

I noticed the following letter on yes2wind website and as Awel Aman Tawe (AAT) is Case Study 2D in PPS22 Companion Guide it is necessary to include it in Force10 CG

**Awel Aman Tawe Support** AAT has got a week till this Friday 17th June to obtain emails/letters of support for its wind farm planning application. We would be very grateful for your support. Despite a local referendum, over 1500 letters of opposition have been received by the council. These letters and emails have come from across the UK as part of the well-organised anti wind lobby. AAT did not want to undertake a letter writing campaign, but has now been advised to do so as the planning decision on our application could go either way. These are some of the grounds to support the project. You may copy and paste from the following and/or add points of your own. There is a lot of information on our website. Please send this email to all your own email contacts and ask them to do the same. We would be very grateful if you would email your support to the following address (the planning dept, our local Assembly Member - Gwenda Thomas, and local MP - Peter Hain). You can copy and paste these addresses into your email. Many thanks for your support. Dan McCallum, Project Manager, Awel Aman Tawe, tel 01269 822954 [www.awelamantawe.org.uk](http://www.awelamantawe.org.uk)  
[awelat@freenetname.co.uk](mailto:awelat@freenetname.co.uk) [d.waghorn@neath-porttalbot.gov.uk](mailto:d.waghorn@neath-porttalbot.gov.uk);  
[Gwenda.Thomas@Wales.gov.uk](mailto:Gwenda.Thomas@Wales.gov.uk) ; [neathoffice@peterhain.org](mailto:neathoffice@peterhain.org); [info@awelamantawe.org.uk](mailto:info@awelamantawe.org.uk)

Even comments from the Prime Minister are in my opinion misrepresented in **npower's policy leaflet distributed at the NAREC Launch.**

**“Green technologies are on the verge of becoming one of the next waves in the knowledge economy revolution. The global market for environmental goods and services is projected to rise to £440 billion by 2010. Shell estimates that 50% of the world's energy needs could be met by renewables by 2050. Wind power is already a £1.5 billion industry. I want Britain to be a leading player in this coming green industrial revolution.”** Tony Blair. PM Environment the next steps.

Comment: The paragraph from which the above was extracted follows. To me there is a subtle difference. The above being selective, **does not convey the full message**

But if we are actually to halt the process we need to be much more radical. In particular we need to put business, technology and environmental protection in harness together. **Green technologies are on the verge of becoming one of the next waves in the knowledge economy revolution. The global market for environmental goods and services is projected to rise to £440 billion by 2010. Shell estimates that 50% of the world's energy needs could be met by renewables by 2050. Wind power is already a £1.5 billion industry.** By 2010 the global solar market could be worth up to £150 billion. **I want Britain to be a leading player in this coming green industrial revolution.**

We have many strengths to draw on. Some of the best marine renewable resources in the world - offshore wind, wave energy and tidal power. A strong science base, supporting world-class research in biomass generators, micro technologies such as small wind and gas turbines, domestic CHP based on Stirling engines, fuel cells and other technologies for the storage of energy. We have led the way in integrating environmental and economic goals within a liberalised electricity market. And we are leading the thinking in Europe on how to remove the regulatory barriers to development of renewables. I believe the role of Government is to accelerate the development and take up of these new technologies until self-sustaining markets take over.

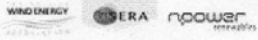
The Government's programme for incentivising renewables will create a new market worth over £500 million through the Renewables Obligation, Climate Change Levy exemptions and the Non Fossil Fuel Obligation. We have already announced £100 million to support offshore wind and energy crops. The complete speech by the PM is at [www.number10.gov.uk/](http://www.number10.gov.uk/)



## NOW THE PARLIAMENTARY GUIDE TO WIND FARMS AND WRITTEN BY BWEA /SERA/npower

### Our Energy Future – the Role of Wind Power

**Yvette Cooper, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the ODPM**  
**launches parliamentary guide to wind farm development**



**BWEA / SERA / npower Press Release**  
**Wednesday 12th January 2005**

SERA<sup>1</sup>, the Labour affiliated environmental think tank, has today, Wednesday 12th January, published a definitive wind power guide for MPs and Councillors. The guide, produced in association with npower renewables<sup>2</sup> and the British Wind Energy Association (BWEA)<sup>3</sup> outlines the role of wind power in meeting the Government's renewable energy targets in the short to medium term.

The briefing document assesses the issues surrounding the development of wind energy and reviews some of the myths and facts about wind power, currently the most advanced of the current renewable energy technologies. It also outlines the challenges that the Government and industry must overcome to ensure that wind energy fulfils its potential in the UK, including a move towards more consistent planning policies and decisions. Difficulties with planning remains the biggest barrier to the development of and investment in renewables.

Yvette Cooper MP, will deliver the keynote speech at the launch event to be held at the House of Commons today. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) will outline Government policies aimed at overcoming unnecessary planning application delays and improving the efficiency of the planning system in relation to wind farm development in particular.

Marcus Rand, CEO of BWEA said, "The future looks bright for wind energy in the UK and 2005 will be a record year with more projects than ever before being commissioned. However, we need to maintain the momentum achieved over the past few years. This initiative by SERA will help ensure decision-makers are able to get to grips with the real facts about wind energy. Wind power is an essential way for the UK to take action on reducing our carbon emissions and bring economic and social benefits for the UK too."

Kevin McCullough, director of npower renewables, added that, "As the UK's leading wind farm developer we hope that this briefing will assist MPs to address any concerns of their constituents. It has never been more important to have a widespread understanding of the need for wind power, the benefits it can bring and the potential for appropriate development."

The recent publication of the UK's review of the Climate Change Programme suggested that the Government would find it difficult to meet the 2020 target without a significant expansion of the renewable sector and a far greater uplift in energy efficiency initiatives.

With this in mind, the UK Government has established the Renewables Obligation, through which electricity supply companies are required to source a percentage of their electricity sales (increasing each year) from eligible renewable sources.

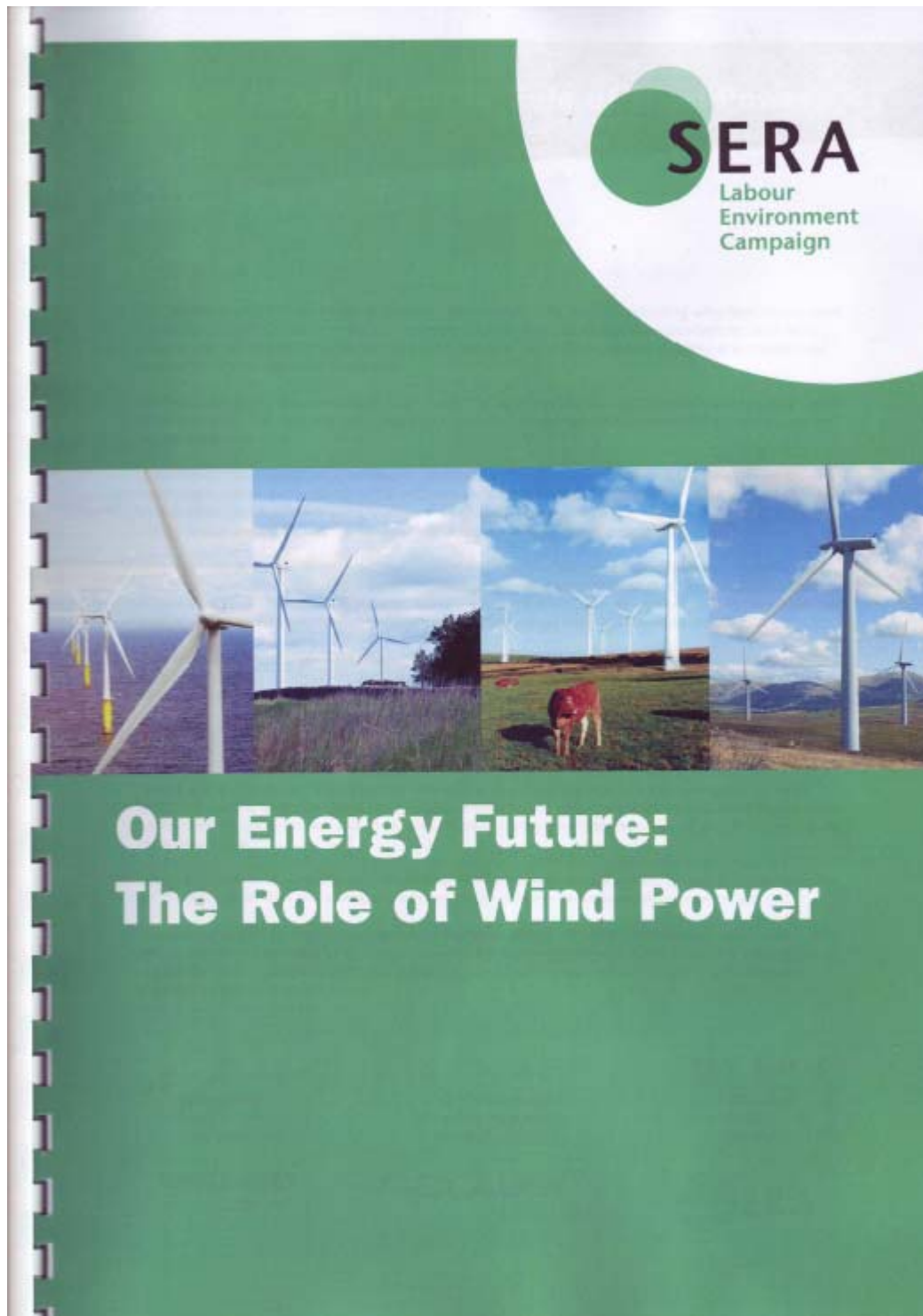
The existing national policy mechanisms, renewable energy targets and the recent public declaration from Tony Blair<sup>4</sup> emphasising the need for UK leadership on climate change at the G8, indicate the importance of such an information source at this time.

Comment: Now not only Councillors but also MP's are being 'educated' as Yvette Cooper\*, Parliamentary Under- Secretary of State for the ODPM launched the parliamentary guide to wind farm development Wednesday, January 12, 2005

Comment .Now we are clear that Parliamentary guide to wind farms launched in January 2005 has been written by the wind industry at least we know where we stand.

**\*Yvette now Minister for Housing and Planning addressed the RTPI Planning Convention 2005, extolling the virtues of the planning system and progress since 1997.**  
 (PLANNING the Journal of the RTPI. 15/07/05)

Comment: Government has done a U turn since John Prescott upheld the Inspector's decision at the Public Inquiry at Barningham in 1998. Is it really the case that we must forget old battles, we now have the law? (Page69)  
 Forget the battles of Barningham, Cefn Croes, Lewis, Skye and so many others?  
**No Minister, it is for you to remember**



Comment; **SERA** The Labour Environment Campaign **written by BWEA, SERA and npower,-** the role of windpower in meeting Government's renewable energy targets. The penultimate paragraph in the Introduction which can be read on page 77 of the document refers to the Renewables Obligation established by the UK government. "Electricity suppliers are required to source a percentage of their electricity (increasing each year) from eligible renewable sources." Cleverly worded **yet total delusion** in respect of the 'hidden subsidy' paid for by us! Not lies but neither is it the complete truth. Is it not time to end this 'con' and give us the consumers, who pay for this, **the truth.**

# Our Energy Future: The Role of Wind Power

## Executive Summary

This briefing is intended to provide an objective assessment of the issues surrounding wind farm development. It is an information source for politicians and local councillors to ensure that the arguments for wind farm development are presented to the electorate in a balanced way emphasising the national and international importance of renewable energy sources.

The Prime Minister has stated that climate change will be one of the two key issues on the agenda for the UK Presidency of the G8. This and other clear signals from the Government demonstrate the importance placed on climate change.

In addition to the contribution to a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> and other noxious particulate emissions renewable technologies will stimulate economic opportunities for UK industry and business. The global wind industry has an estimated annual turnover of £5.5 billion, 84% of which is based in Europe. Wind is the fastest growing energy source worldwide, and has been for over a decade with an annual growth rate of 30%.

With this in mind, the UK Government has established the Renewables Obligation, through which electricity supply companies are required to source a percentage of their electricity sales (increasing each year) from eligible sources. The Obligation is currently set at a requirement of 15.4% by 2015. The Government has also created an aspirational target of renewables providing 20% of our electricity needs by 2020.

The recent publication of the UK's review of the Climate Change Programme suggested that the Government would find it difficult to meet the 2010 target without a significant expansion of the renewable sector and a far greater uplift in energy efficiency initiatives.

This document outlines the challenges the industry and Government must overcome to ensure that wind energy fulfils its potential to contribute towards the 2010 target and 2020 aspiration.

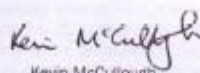
An ICM poll in September 2004 indicated that 80% of the population supports the development of wind farms. However, a vocal minority opposition voice is undermining wind farm development, and planning applications are being delayed and sometimes refused; thereby potentially jeopardising the UK in meeting the renewables target.

The development of wind energy on and offshore will significantly improve security of energy supply within the UK, support job creation and innovation, and reduce the demand for further nuclear development.

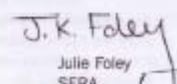
This briefing intends to address the concerns of the small minority of 'wind-farm sceptics', and in doing so to provide reasoned arguments for elected members to counter their concerns. SERA hopes this briefing proves to be a useful information resource and answers a number of common concerns experienced within your constituency or local authority.

  
Marcus Rand  
BWEA,  
Chief Executive

THE BRITISH  
**WIND ENERGY**  
ASSOCIATION

  
Kevin McCullough  
Npower Renewables,  
Managing Director

**npower**  
renewables

  
Julie Foley  
SERA,  
Co-chair

  
**SERA**

I make only a brief comment on what must be seen as a biased document being **essentially BWEA material**. This can be verified by checking their website. The first paragraph of the document with its reference to **objective assessment and balance should be enough to destroy its credibility**. I will waste neither your time nor mine doing further critique on a document which claims independence but to me is in fact indoctrination and built on delusions.



## From RUSSIA WITHOUT LOVE!

ЛЕТНЯЯ ШКОЛА ДЛЯ РУКОВОДИТЕЛЕЙ  
Управление развитием компании



Monday, July 12, 2004. Page 5.

### **Illarionov Attacks Britain, Vows to Bury Kyoto** By Simon Ostrovsky

President Vladimir Putin's personal adviser on all things economic last week accused British Prime Minister Tony Blair's government of declaring "**all-out and total war** on Russia" and using "bribes, blackmail and murder threats" to force it to ratify the Kyoto Protocol. In a six-hour diatribe, Andrei Illarionov accused visiting Blair adviser Sir David King, the British government's top scientist, of trying, through pressure from Blair's office and through Foreign Secretary Jack Straw personally, to hijack a two-day conference on the global environmental treaty at the Russian Academy of Sciences.

"During the past year [the British] have used bribes, blackmail and murder threats to put pressure on Russia, which shows how desperate their case is," Illarionov said without elaborating. "This has not been in the realm of the press, but it had to come out after Sir David King's behaviour at the conference," he said. "King filibustered the conference for four hours in an effort to block opponents of the protocol from presenting their findings," Illarionov said. After signing a trade deal with the EU in May, Putin said Brussels had met Russia "halfway" on WTO, which "cannot but affect positively our position on the Kyoto Protocol." But he also stressed that Russia, "did not package the issues of WTO and the Kyoto Protocol."

**"This is war. But our cause is just and we will prevail."**

*Commen.: Interesting reporting if nothing else! Reference to an all-out total war could be applied to the methods used, culminating in PPS22 and its CG, to foist wind turbine on our precious English landscapes. This at the expense of the quality of the life of local people and intent it seems on overriding their concerns. I challenge this National policy for the reasons set out in Force10 CG. This recounts the methodology used as the policy evolved. As I have already said, undemocratic, unbelievable and unacceptable. The environmental benefits now seem grossly exaggerated and should be investigated and that 'hidden subsidy' the ROCs should be fully explained.*

***Is wind energy being developed at the expense of other technologies? Energy efficiency and conservation are essential elements of any strategy to combat climate change.***

***All renewables in the right place should be the way forward!***

Illarionov Says Kyoto Will Be Ratified  
Moscow Times

By Greg Walters      Staff Writer  
Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Andrei Illarionov, the country's fiercest opponent of the Kyoto Protocol, said Tuesday that Russia will ratify the international treaty to limit greenhouse gases even though he believes the move will destroy its chances of doubling GDP by 2010. Illarionov, President Vladimir Putin's top economic adviser, said Russian officials do not believe in the treaty's scientific or economic merits but will ratify it anyway in a political gesture toward the European Union.



Many do not see this as a realistic image of a wind turbine! This North East Regional Renewable Energy Strategy NERRES, **by the unelected North East Assembly and TNEI** still has a preoccupation with Kielder, vital it is said to reach the **20% target for 2020**. BWEA comments to the RSS state that **2020** should be exceeded not met by Kielder.

**NERRES (4.1)** “Generating **1,500 GW** of renewable electricity would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by **645,000 tonnes**”. This equates to **0.43t/MWh** and is calculated on the basis of the current mix of plant and fuels used in power generation. .Now even DTI have acknowledged the figure should reflect not just coal fired power stations which gives the 0.86 factor, but a mix of conventional power stations. An increasing number of gas fired power stations means the appropriate figure is **0.43 tonnes per MWh (DTI fact sheet 14) and quoted by Mike O’Brien**. Savings of **0.86 tonnes** of carbon dioxide emissions per MWh are still being claimed. Walkway developers claimed **.936-1.079 tonnes/MWh** quoting POST Parliamentary office of Science and Technology. GSK was quoted at **0.38 tonnes/MWh**. Reducing emissions is the all important factor so we need consistency. To claim a factor of 0.86 when it is 0.43 means we would need twice as many turbines as stated



## **North East Regional Renewable Energy Strategy NERRES March 2005**

More comment on the document:

There is a surprising reference to Teesside International Airport, now Durham Tees Valley Airport (TVA) on page 41 "The study contains a number of qualifications the most important of which is the attitude of Teesside International Airport to the development of wind power within their controlled airspace and landowner interest"

I find the attitude of TVA mentioned above, puzzling as there are letters from the airport technical staff giving a different view. Nothing should be taken for granted where safety is concerned and I reaffirm what I see appears as a cavalier attitude to public safety. An extract from a recent press article follows. It is reported that nine turbines the height of Salisbury Cathedral's spire were 'killed off' by MOD who were concerned that the wind farm would interfere with its radar at Portland. Article by Jenna Weekes 22./06/05

A further reference to Kielder is on page 49. "It was hoped that by the time of this report the uncertainty regarding Kielder would have been resolved, unfortunately this has not proved to be the case. Work completed during the last 14 months has not brought forward a tangible project because of ongoing MOD tactical training requirements. However Kielder remains the largest potential renewable energy source area and as such should be revisited with the MOD on a regular basis so that projects can be realised as soon as circumstances permit"

### **Page 31 Considerable wind development indicated in the region over the next two years.**

Strong opposition to the Stang Forest location is mentioned. The letter sent to Bob Gibson NEA re the RSS Consultation expressing our concerns, in particular the exodus to TNEI is in Appendix A Force10 Companion Guide.

Does TNEI's rise to power and their involvement with PPS22 CG suggest a stitch up?

**Alex Watson (Derwentside Council) is the new Chair of The NEA.**

Kielder has become a strategic resource area, now marked by a large 'R' not a 'W' used for strategic wind resource area. It states that in the Tow Law area cumulative visual impact is likely to be an important factor in determining the scale and disposition of development that takes place but there is considerable interest in further developments. That really is a hoot considering they already have 2 wind farms with a third agreed and a fourth at planning stage, the latter reduced from 22 to 12, a result of strong objections from people living near turbines! I believe there are also others visible that are located in neighbouring districts. Cumulative effect is being sidelined. Turbines not yet built though in the pipeline are not taken into account Developers will have had sufficient contact with the local council to decide whether there is support for the project even if the people will be affected have not!

Comment: Energy for a New Century TNEI 1999 and Chris Blandford studies 2000 were used as background for NERRES. Turbines heights have increased considerably since then, with potential for greater visual impact. PPS22CG is mentioned as giving detailed guidance though I am unaware of any public consultations with this or with TNEI 's Energy for a New Century. Still a preoccupation with targets. Potential sub regional targets are quoted yet many locals are unaware of these. Photographs of wind turbines are not realistic and their locations are not given. Tow Law, East of Sedgfield, Hamsterley forest area are targeted in Co Durham (NERRES p39). The area near the Stang which we as BHMCG fought so hard to protect is described in different ways; 'considerable opposition' changes to 'opposition' and later it is described as having a 'limited and fragmented potential'

**The 'Stang' area has now been removed from the Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy Diagram as shown in Annex 1 page 52 NERRES 2005.**

## NERRES continued

9.3 'TREC illustrates how local and regional action can work hand in glove'

Comment: This is certainly not true, **unless that translates to promising one thing and doing another and so reneging on those promises.** TREC promised to look at all renewables and small scale.

**TREC**, the truth, is described in more detail in Force 10 chapter 11 pages 56-65.

Details of some EU funded projects including TREC are in Force10 chapter18, pages 84/85

I draw your attention to one point (page 60) re the questionnaire. Many did not receive this so

I contacted Jane Welsh, then Environment and **Health Co-ordinator for Teesdale and now with TNEI**. Jane checked and agreed many had not been sent. An administrative error?

**48 households out of 14000 were said to be supportive of wind energy.**

Those figures do not justify building wind farms which will impact on the landscape.

**In October 2003** The North East Assembly (NEA) issued a consultative document, namely towards a Renewable Energy Strategy for the North East. (RRES)

**BHMC's response can be seen in Force 10CG Appendix A.**

This was sent to the Policy Officer for the **NEA**, Caroline Oldridge who later moved to **TNEI**

**Today's Newcastle Journal 20 Sept 05 (page 8) reports that Newcastle City Council Leader has branded the North East Assembly, "boring, invisible and a waste of money.**  
Comment: Of particular concern is that **this unelected NEA provide policies and proposals for shaping the North East to 2010 and beyond**

Comment.80% of the North East voted against an elected assembly yet this **unelected body** is producing the **Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)**

The pressure to meet deadlines for consultations is becoming **unsustainable**. Many people are unaware of the documents let alone the deadlines.\*

The methodology used in general to provide new planning policy and to promote wind energy in particular is unacceptable and undemocratic. Verbosity is trying to baffling brains and with consultations often no more than cons it appears to have resulted in flaws in the planning for onshore wind.

### **As the ODPM says," Forget old battles, we now have the law." Consultation!**

Some emerging documents relating to energy, renewables and planning are listed:

\*NE Draft RSS Nov 2004 Energy Paper 7/ RSS Submission Draft June 2005 paper 7

Responses to RSS June 2005 Draft by Oct 5<sup>th</sup> Examination in Public, March 2006

The North East Renewable Energy Strategy (NERRES) March 2005

The Regional Economic Strategy (RES) Draft Consultation for the RES Review, which closed on 30 August and will be submitted to DTI in November.

LDFs are current (see p 68)

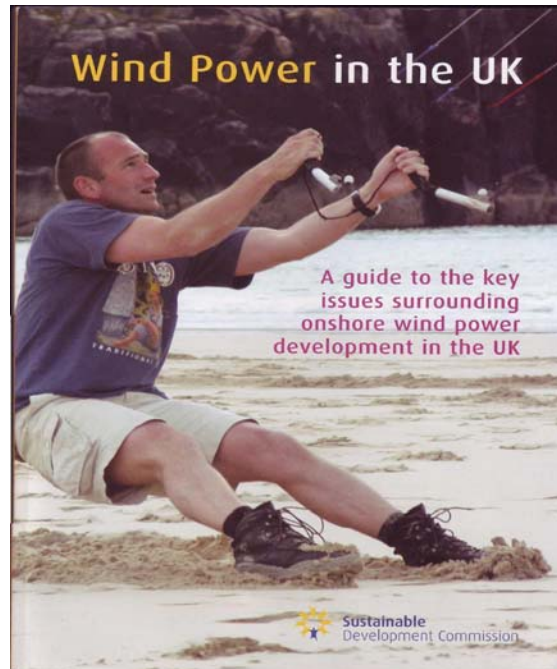
Comment: Local Development Frameworks LDFs and Statements of Community

Involvement (SCIs) are ongoing. With SCIs it seems we are no longer to discuss benefits and disbenefits of wind energy but to find a way to take wind energy forward!

**This certainly was The Environment Council's Agenda at their Regional Training Workshops** on Renewable Energy and Community Involvement which I attended at Newcastle-18 Mar05.

**Funded by DTI and RES** (Renewable Energy Systems). The RES Group specialises in wind energy development worldwide. Chris Shears from RES is BWEA chairman.

## Onshore Wind Power in the UK?



**The cover of The Sustainable Development Commission Booklet on Wind Power in the UK\*, is in my opinion as misleading as is its selective content.**

\* Embrace and the Scottish Renewables Forum supported Sebastian Chastin, pictured on his kite buggy to represent Scotland in the Paris–Dakar wind-powered races- 600 km across the Sahara desert.

15000 free copies were distributed. It is highly commended in the RTPI Planning Magazine Reviews by the Guardian, Independent and the Observer .....peer reviewed, like a scientific paper, to give it greater credibility, so it can be used by planners as an authoritative document. Comment: Who was the author? Who did the peer review? Who paid for it and at what cost? It does to me seem to echo BWEA's views and not to have the balance I would like to see.

**However I suggest reading it in conjunction with the reports below.**

**Malcolm Keay, Oxford Institute of Energy Studies (OIES)** says SDC overstates the benefits. To understand how far their view departs from reality he recommends reading the article "CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, Time for a Reality Check" on the OIES website. Evidence given at **Whinash Inquiry** from leading experts in their own disciplines agree with Keay. Savings of 0.86 tonnes of carbon emissions per MWh are usually claimed by the Developers. 'Electricity from wind turbines replaces the output of coal fired power stations' (BWEA website) This figure is often quoted by developers in the EIAs in relation to the need for the project. Now even DTI have acknowledged this is not correct and the figure should reflect a general mix of conventional stations. The increase in the number of gas fired power stations means the appropriate figure is 0.43 tonnes per MWh. (DTI fact sheet 14) Whinash evidence suggests savings could be nearer 0.31 tonnes per MWh. **The National Audit Office Report** into renewable energy considered current subsidies to wind, through the RO are **overpaid**.

### **Council for Science and Technology 'An Electricity Supply Strategy for the UK' May 2005**

The Council for Science and Technology (CST) is the leading advisory council to the government matters relating to science and technology. Council members are appointed by the **PM**, at present the body is co-chaired by Sir David King, the government's Chief Scientific Adviser, and Sir Keith Peters. **The DTI Energy Group and Ofgem have been consulted as the report has developed.** The paper has been challenged to ensure the validity of its conclusions. <http://www.cst.gov.uk>

### **Environmental Audit Committee House of Commons press release -21 July, 2005**

New inquiry, keeping the lights on: nuclear, renewables, and climate change  
[www.parliament.uk/parliamentary\\_committees/environmental\\_audit\\_committee](http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/environmental_audit_committee) Written evidence should be sent to the Committee by 21 September 2005, preferably by e-mail to [ecom@parliament.uk](mailto:ecom@parliament.uk) plus a hard copy by post (see page 89 Will the lights go out)

## That 'Aarful story' of The New Lambton Worm 1997-2005

**Is the North East, said to be top in the environmental stakes, but bottom economically, now the back door for wind power?** In 1997 Durham County Council officials told me that they were aiming for the then **largest Wind farm in England** at Barningham (177ft) in Teesdale, the then **largest Wind Farm in Europe at Rookhope (300ft)** Weardale (AONB) and a wind turbine in every school in the County. That would it was said make them famous. If all current proposals in County Durham come to fruition the County will **not be famous but infamous**.

**The curse of the New Lambton Worm truly is an awful story.**

Some current heights proposed for wind turbines are **over 400ft**

*But the wyrm got fat an' growed an' growed an aaful suze*

**From an article by G Havery Northern Echo 11 June 05** "If all are approved, drivers along the A68 will see no fewer than 5 windfarms in about 8 miles"

**From an article by Stephen Rouse Newcastle Chronicle and Journal 17 June 05**

A new proposal for a massive windfarm three miles from Hadrian's Wall is the latest in an explosion of bids across the region. Windfarms are mushrooming in Northumberland - England's windiest county- and County Durham.

<b>Onshore wind energy development in County Durham Position at 02/06/05 NEREG</b>			
<b>Operational/ permitted</b>			
<b>Site / Location</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Applicant/developer</b>	<b>Turbine Specification</b>
Tow Law	Derwentside	NWP	3 x 0.750 MW
High Hedley	Derwentside	EDF Energy	3 x 0.750 MW.
Holmside	Derwentside	AMEC	2 x 2.75 MW
Hare Hill	City of Durham	AMEC	2 x 2.75 MW
GSK Barnard Castle	Teesdale	GSK	2 x 0.250 MW
<b>Total operational 16 MW</b>			
High Sharpley	Easington	NWP/Windworks	2 x 1.3 MW
High Hedley II	Derwentside	EDF Energy	4 x 1.3 MW
Walkway	Sedgefield	Wind Prospect	7 x 3 MW
Langley	Derwentside	EDF Energy	4 x 2.75 MW
<b>Total operational and permitted 55.8 MW</b>			
<b>Planning applications</b>			
Edder Acres	Easington	A7 Energy	2 X 2.3 MW
West Durham	Derwentside	HJ Banks	13 x 2 MW
Trimdon Grange	City of Durham	EDF Energy	4 x 1.3 MW
<b>Total current planning applications 35.8 MW</b>			
<b>Pre-Planning / Scoping</b>			
Butterwick	Sedgefield	United Utilities	11 x 3 MW
Oakenshaw	Wear Valley	EDF Energy	3 x 2.75 MW
Broom Hill	Wear Valley	EDF Energy	4 x 2.75 MW
Sheraton Hill	Easington	United Utilities	3x3MW
Hasweil Moor	Easington	United Utilities	5 x 2.5 MW
<b>Total pre-planning/scoping 73.75 MW</b>			
<b>Overall total 165.35 MW</b>			
<b>Applications Refused</b>			
Stanley Moss	Wear Valley	Amec/ Banks	2 x 2.3 MW
Quarrington Hill	City of Durham	Eco Energy	2 x 3 MW
Trimdon Grange*	City of Durham	EDF Energy	4 x 1.3 MW

\*approved on appeal. July 05 Written representations.

**Are they reducing emissions on the scale promised? (more on pages 33/4)**

## AND STILL THEY COME

### Sept 05 RTPI Northern Branch and the Landscape Institute NE Branch at Hexham.

Ged Lawson Durham County Council will speak on Landscape Assessment

Claire Hagget and Robert MacFarlane Northumbria University will present an applied research project, **Identifying potential sites for wind energy.**

Barningham with its NFFO contract first surfaced in 1996 for 30 x 500kw turbines and in 1997 for 25 x 600kw turbines, both being defeated. With almost military precision other applications were targeting areas just **outside** the National Park Boundaries. The defeats were due to the efforts of the local opposition group and Teesdale Council who had the guts to refuse the application. This in spite one of one councillor stating that it was government policy and you can't stop it and 'driving' a meeting which he then chaired (Force10 chapter3)

I reiterate the fact that the High Court battle cost Teesdale District Council nothing, either financially or in terms of preparing material. The Public Inquiry I was told cost very little as they were able to use the services of the same solicitor as the Yorkshire Dales National Park. These facts I draw attention to as it is said that to refuse an application will cost the councils huge amounts of money and Barningham has been quoted as an example. Councillors already under pressure to meet Government targets have been indoctrinated under the guise of educating and informing them on the benefits of wind energy.

I had hoped not to be unduly repetitive but with such a convoluted situation some repetition is inevitable. I must put on record the way deception, misinterpretation, lack of openness and delusion rear their ugly heads **again and again and again.** With no one willing or able to contest this underhand methodology, commercial wind power is threatening the special character and qualities of areas valued not only by British citizens but by people throughout the world. The North East region is most vulnerable hence the term, New-Lambton Worm.

Based on seven years of research, I have looked at the benefits and disbenefits associated with the **said need to build wind farms to save the planet.** In order to attempt to understand the technology fully and balance the situation, I have travelled to meetings and seminars throughout the UK on Renewable energy and related topics. I have listened to the comments from DTI, BWEA, TNEI, RTPI, NATTA and many others.

I have been a member of several organizations, of necessity having different views.

These are the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE),

Network for Alternative Technology and Technological assessment (NATTA)

The Open Spaces Society (OSS)

Overall it has been the **methodology** connected with the drive for wind energy development which has given me the greatest cause for concern. **The result is this Companion Guide to support Force10** written to all intents and purposes as a piece of Social History which in the interest of democracy has to be recorded. It is a personal account giving truth and facts.

### **The real issue must be how we can all contribute to the saving of carbon emissions.**

I have responded to some of Friends of The Earth (FOE) Campaigns Express issues in particular 'carbon dinosaurs' The following is from FOE website and is one of several companies offering green tariffs while being carbon dinosaurs!





### Innogy

Their parent company RWE emits more carbon dioxide than the whole of Spain. RWE is German. Eon is German and owns Powergen. EDF is French. FORCE 10 Chapter18, **the EU connection**, covers the subsidies to companies generating wind power. TREC was an Altener bid (chapter11) and Blyth Offshore windfarm was supported by the European Commission's Thermie Programme.

Are these wind turbines doing what they promised? (see pages33-35)

**No wonder the Regional Economic Strategy for the North East, (RES) submitted to the Minister in 1999 described the North East as "Europe's 'we can do it Region'"**

We are our own region not Europe's!

An official from One North East (ONE) told me at the start of the Regional Economic Strategy (RES)\* that the wind industry had asked them to help weaken the planning system. ONE was obviously sympathetic as was seen when they hosted the Wind Energy /Planning at Chester le Street in 1999 (page71) However they had no power to influence the planning system, but suggested the RPG for the North East could be the best way.

DETR News Release 14 December1998 **John Prescott today announced the board members for England's new Regional Development Agencies.** They will drive forward a new co-ordinated regional approach **to economic renewal.** The RES Review is now underway and still appears not to be openly addressing wind energy development. When questioned about this they just quoted **NAREC**

**NAREC Launch is discussed on page 74.**  
**NAREC Chairman is Professor IAN FELLO one of the world's leading experts on renewable energy and a cabinet advisor. He is I understand, Chairman of TNEI.**

At the Examination in Public for the Regional Planning Guidance FOE were very critical of TNEI's document Energy for a New Century being billed as a regional energy strategy, in spite of it not having had broad stakeholder involvement. Reference was made to an Energy and Environment background paper (paragraph 5.5) and suggested it be used with caution. **FOE expressed a wish to see reference to the TNEI document as a regional energy strategy, withdrawn (see Force10 page 66)** I nor others are aware PPS22 had any Public Consultation (see p73 Planning Officers Society)

It may now be clearer why I included notes on events from 1998 to 2005 (p 71-73)

Now FOE with World Wildlife Fund and Greenpeace([www.yes2wind.co.uk](http://www.yes2wind.co.uk))actively encourage people to campaign in areas they may not even know (Page76) Lollipops for the 'kids' and people wearing costumes in the guise of endangered animals. The theme seems to be "Wind farms or the bear gets it! Walkway wind farm 'flyer' for the wind farm advertised the yes2wind website on the front page! Walkway I have used as my case study page 52

I add a true tale from OSS annual report as it is these wonderful snippets which help to preserve my sanity against the attitude of seemingly arrogant decision makers. They don't appear to care a hoot about the countryside or the people who live in areas that are designated for wind farms. In a visit to DEFRA members from OSS had to provide evidence of their identity. One man used his blood donor card and was issued with the following as identification.

**Mr B Positive**

This bodes ill for me as 'Rhesus Negative' since the latest Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) appears to consider only positive approaches so far as wind power is concerned. This is said to be a strategy for public consultation but having attended 3 SCI s I am concerned in the way they appear to be implemented. This is no criticism of the councils as they are bound by government regulations. Like the subsidy that supports it wind energy seems to be a hidden commodity. However at a Regional Environment meeting it was the main subject of discussion. No longer do we consider pros and cons of wind power but must look at ways to move forward together. It was not if we have turbines rather where to put them!

**A positive approach is now said to be the way forward.**

Does this follow from the ODPM's message, "Forget old battles we now have the law?"(page 69)

The reason some applications are **just below and others just above the 50 MW cut off point** for DTI determination was clarified at that meeting. Apparently it depends on the attitude of the local authority. It was said that if the council support the development it will be kept below 50 MW installed capacity but if their attitude does not appear favourable then a section 36 application will be put forward.

**Clever but undemocratic.**

**I look back in anger as I try to apportion the blame for the curse almost upon us.**

Councillors, Planners,

Wind Energy Developers,

Foe, Greenpeace

Environmental groups throughout the UK

ONE, GO-NE, TNEI, NEA RTPI, NEREG, NAREC,

Government or even the Prime Minister.

Who is really to blame? I believe I now have the answer.

I must point out that I alone am responsible for writing Force10/CompanionGuide

**As for apportioning blame, I can only say that I blame myself. The reason being, that aware first hand of the apparent dirty tricks played at local levels, the cons and the mendacity, I did not openly record those facts earlier. Having agonised long and hard as to whether I should do so I realised that in the interest of democracy I no longer have a choice.**

**Hence the emergence of Force 10 Companion Guide, The New Lambton Wyrms.**

In 2001, I climbed Mount Kinabalu, to raise money for the heart foundation. Prior to that NWP told me they would have sponsored me had I not been coming back as I had caused them enough trouble. Yet I have sought only the truth and will continue to do so.

*Noo lads, Aa'll haad me gob*

*That's aall Aa knaa aboot the story wi the aaful Lambton Wyrms*

## Will the lights go out?

A one day conference on UK Energy Policy. Tuesday 14th December Lancaster University, Lancaster. A full report was posted on their website [www.lancs.ac.uk](http://www.lancs.ac.uk) and a booklet published. A very brief profile on a few of the speakers is below.

**Sir Martin Holdgate**, a member of the Royal Commission Environmental Pollution.

**Sir Christopher Audland**, Director-General for Energy at the European Commission from 1981-1986 Commission's co-ordinator for all the work arising from the Chernobyl accident

**Professor Nick Jenkins** from Manchester University. His research includes renewable energy photo-voltaics, wind energy, power quality and the hydrogen economy

**Professor Roger Kemp** of Lancaster University, a member of the sustainable energy group.

**Feedback** from the conference gave the ranking of the goals of the current Energy policy.

**'Cutting carbon emissions' and 'Security of supply'** were considered clearly more important than 'Promoting competitive markets' and 'Adequate and affordable heating'

Both energy efficiency/conservation and the promotion of R&D for renewables and new technologies were considered a priority.

Lancaster University is holding another one day conference on Energy Policy on 20/09/05, Energy through the Looking Glass. **The Impact of Energy on your Life in 2020.**

A number of eminent researchers will offer their visions of the future on how life will look in 15 years time. The conference will include presentations on the feasibility and impact of using less energy at home, at work and at play. It will also address the way we travel both for work and pleasure (*see page 23. Comments from Noel Edmonds, chairman of REF*)

It states that our world is changing, in part being driven by the consequences of our exploitation and use of energy.

Brian Wilson former Energy Minister will present 'Living with Microwind' He is the PM's special representative on Overseas Trade, with a particular focus on energy issues

(see FORCE 10. chapter 13, Brian Wilson's comments on the Energy White Paper recorded in the West Highland Free Press on 25/04/03)

## Conference, March 15th 2005, Open University Milton Keynes. Nuclear or Not

The Rt. Hon. Michael Meacher M.P opened this one day conference. A range of experts explored some of the key technical, economic and strategic issues. Is nuclear power part of the answer to climate change? Can its problems be overcome? If not will renewables, and energy efficiency be sufficient? Details on OU website. There is also a video recording.

Comment: I would hope in line with CPRE's remit we could cope without nuclear. However simple mathematics show wind alone can not replace nuclear. All the turbines currently installed are not generating enough electricity to keep up with the increase in demand.

White Paper commitment to Keeping the Nuclear Option Open (KNOO)

dti website

The cry of **wind or nuclear** seems to emanate from the Wind Industry Greenpeace and FOE. Yet in 2001 British Energy Chairman Robin Jeffrey said "I'm delighted that British Energy is a partner in this venture\*-the UK's biggest generator getting involved in the country's biggest wind farm (600 MW on the Isle of Lewis, off the west coast of Scotland). But what's so important is that it fits in so well with our vision of the future-with **commercial wind power and nuclear energy as natural partners combating global warming.**

British Energy owns and operates the UK's eight most modern nuclear power stations with a combined capacity of 9,600MW. \*British Energy's partner in this venture is AMEC.

## My Challenge to PPS22 Companion Guide

**I take issue with the Introductory paragraph in PPS22CG copied below.  
House of Lords Science and Technology Committee. Paper 126-1 July 2004**

*"The sources of renewable energy ... are inexhaustible, indigenous and abundant, and their exploitation, properly managed, has the potential to enhance the long-term security of the United Kingdom's energy supplies and to help us cut carbon dioxide emissions"*

House of Lords Science and Technology Committee, July 2004<sup>1</sup>

Comment: The **above** is only an excerpt. **The complete paragraph** which I have copied in full below is 2.8 at Chapter2 of HL paper 126-1. This cleverly selective extract epitomises the delusions to which the public are subjected as this democratic deficit deepens. I wonder whether anyone but government or their representatives could get away with such deception.

We believe the Government are on balance right to encourage further development of renewable energy. *The sources of renewable energy* such as the sun, wind and tides, *are inexhaustible, indigenous and abundant, and their exploitation properly managed, has the potential to enhance the long term security of the United Kingdom's energy supplies and to help us cut carbon dioxide emissions.* However these sources are also diffuse and uncertainties remain over the technical feasibility and cost of converting them into electricity reliability on a sufficiently large scale.

House of Lords Science and Technology Committee, July 2004

Secondly the exploitation of renewable energy sources is to cut carbon dioxide emissions. Is wind power doing this to the extent to which it promised by working at a 30% load factor.

If they should operate at a capacity factor of only 21% not only would half as many turbines again be required to deliver the same target output, but potential investors would face **dramatic reductions in the income** from wind farms.

House of Lords Science and Technology Committee, July 2004

Comment: The present situation appears to be the result of lobbying by the wind industry rather than a true acknowledgement of the emerging scientific and mathematical facts regarding the technology .I wonder if the technology offered what it promised would the methodology being used to promote it be so undemocratic and so unacceptable?

**House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts DTI HC 413 September 2005** Extract  
The Renewables Obligation(RO) has the effect of transferring substantial sums from consumers to the renewables industry.- By 2010 the cost of the RO which does not appear on electricity bills and is not explained to the consumer is expected to reach £1 billion per annum (at 2002 prices). It is the most expensive of the Government's instruments to reduce carbon dioxide under the cross cutting Climate Change Programme.  
This subsidy is not subject to Parliamentary scrutiny and Government should make arrangements for **annual Parliamentary scrutiny** and the amounts involved be reported annually to this committee.

Page102 has a summary on how PPS22 has evolved.

Comment: This response **to Regional Spatial Strategy for the North East** sent to the unelected NEA and copied to DTI elicited the reply from Patricia Hewitt, Feb 2005. Extracts and comments are on page 9

The Government it appears has attempted to weaken the planning system in order to satisfy their obsession with onshore wind.

The methods by which PPS22 and the Companion Guide have evolved and the content has given me no choice but to write Force10 Companion Guide

This is done in the interest of democracy.

Email to Bob Gibson - **North East Assembly**

To: [enquire@viewnortheast.com](mailto:enquire@viewnortheast.com)

Sent: Friday, February 04, 2005 3:24 AM

**Subject: Response to Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North East**

To Mr Bob Gibson Chair of The North East Assembly. Sent by e mail 03/02/05

Dear Mr Gibson,

I make on behalf of Barningham High Moor /Teesdale conservation groups, several points in response to the 'consultation' By necessity these are restricted to Energy issues, in particular wind energy developments.

- Regionalism as an elected body was defeated in the referendum, yet no one asked us to vote on whether we wanted an unelected one i.e." The North East Assembly "
- You say you are a voice for the region but do not appear to be listening to some of us.
- **There are serious concerns as to who is contacted and what questions are asked in consultations**
- The main issues of concern are the apparent lack of concern for the landscape and amenity due to an obsession with targets and onshore wind development. If proposals are allowed to come to fruition, they will change the land of The Prince Bishops to that of the King Turbines. This is not the place to discuss in detail the Government's lack of an energy policy or content of the accompanying technical paper 7, Energy. **I would like however to point out the need to reconsider your plans for wind energy developments in the County if your vision to improve the quality of life in the North East is to succeed.**
- We cannot combat climate change by building wind turbines. All the turbines currently in the UK are not producing even enough electricity to keep pace with the increase in demand. Energy efficiency, conservation and reducing the need to travel must be considered.
- **Many people are still without computers or web access. Hence the resulting poll on your website re building wind farms can not be representative.**

Much research into wind turbines and their effects particularly health and safety is still ongoing. An in depth tranquillity project is due for release next month.

I resubmit the following letter sent by CT Murray, to Caroline Oldridge, then Policy Officer with the NEA, for **the following reasons:**

- **Caroline Oldridge has moved to TNEI**
- **Jane Welsh, Environment and Health Co-Ordinator for Teesdale Council, has moved to TNEI**
- **Teesdale Council's Principal Planning Officer has been head hunted by ODPM**



## **Letter to Bob Gibson NEA (continued)**

Further concerns to the community:

**The RSS Draft Indicative Diagram, supported by NEA, targeted an area that appears to be in the Barningham High Moor area and mentioned areas from the Stang to the A66. After responses to the consultation which showed the very strong opposition to inclusion of these areas, reference to these was withdrawn.**

The final map did not have 'Barningham Area' marked (RSS-NE cons energy 7-nov04)

Yet in PPS22 companion guide the area is once again marked on the indicative map entitled PPS22-CG Map-northeast RSS

The Glaxo Smith Kline second hand turbines are a case study in PPS 22 Companion Guide. No mention was made at the committee meeting of the benefit from ROCs.

Throughout this lack of communication, apparent lack of knowledge, and seemingly total disregard for the community, call it what you will, gives us little confidence or trust in whoever is responsible.

May I remind you we went to High Court in support of the Rt Hon John Prescott and throughout had the backing of the Rt Hon Alan Milburn.

Should we have a referendum on that ingenious subsidy, the Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROCs)? The House of Lords (paper 126-1) said it depends on how much the consumer is willing to pay.

Elizabeth Mann B.Sc

(Secretary) Barningham High Moor and Teesdale Conservation Groups.

Copies by recorded delivery 1) D Foster MP for Teesdale 2) P Hewitt SOS DTI

Comment: A reply was received from DTI on behalf of Patricia Hewitt (p9) There has been no reply from Bob Gibson but the removal of the Barningham area from the RSS draft indicative diagram is enough! Derek Foster MP for Teesdale now retiring did not reply but he had intimated in a letter to the Country Landowners Association\*that the Government were not 'pushing wind' Really!

No reply was not surprising as Derek Foster had told me his contact with Teesdale Council was through Phil Hughes. Phil was the rural representative on One North East (the regional Development Agency) and Chair of Sustainability North East (Sustaine) He wrote the Foreward to the Teesdale renewable energy challenge (TREC) managed by the Northern Energy Initiative. Phil had said it was done most importantly as a concerned individual but some of the councillors did not condone such high profile support particularly after Barningham (Force 10 Page16 and Appendix B) TNEI's involvement with the RSS and PPS22 Companion Guide is mentioned on page36. Coupled with Adrian Smith's ideas in 1999 for a renewable energy consultation group (NEREG's role) it just seems to be a total stitch up!

Recent report from CLA,\* Renewables are not just wind!

Having served Teesdale for 26 years, Lord Foster deserves his elevation to the Lords. .Wishing him well I hope he will have time to reflect on the CLA report and events in Teesdale since 98

**Letter sent to Caroline Oldridge, then NEA Policy Officer. Forwarded to Bob Gibson NEA in response to the RSS for the NE as Caroline had moved to TNEI**

Caroline Oldridge  
Policy Officer  
North East Assembly  
Guildhall  
Quayside  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE1 3AF

**Re: Consultation Summary on a Renewable Energy Strategy for the North East**

Dear Caroline Oldridge,

In response to the invitation to respond to the above document I offer the following as Chair of Barningham High Moor Conservation Group. I restrict my comments to specific locations being targeted for wind energy with no reference to past events.

The Indicative Diagram on page 9, showing locations for wind energy development depicts an area close to the Stang Forest. Exact grid references are not available as it is at present only indicative. However the criteria used, I understand, high wind speeds outside nationally designated areas such as AONB's and National Parks leads me to believe that one location is in The Barningham High Moor area. The points I wish to make are simply

Barningham High Moor must carry the greatest presumption against wind energy development of any site in England. This should be taken into account.

A departure from the Development Plan, refused by the Local Council, dismissed on appeal at The Public Inquiry and rejected on all four grounds at The High Court Appeal  
I enclose some relevant documents in order to give a clear record as to the long spirited fight put up by local residents.

- 1) Summary of the Long Fight to save Barningham High Moor.
- 2) Call for the Wild by National Trust. (Grant from the Countryside Commission)
- 3) List of birds in the area as sent to RSPB and their response.

May I point out that although the judge, Christopher Lockhart Mummery, granted NWP the chance to appeal further if they so wished, **they chose not to appeal against his judgement.** (Letter from GO-NE 29<sup>TH</sup> October 1999) I stress this as I have just read a document written for the September 2002 Environmental Law Update Conference, and entitled Wind farms and planning policy. Gregory Jones, Barrister and Legal Associate of the RTPI, who presented the document, seems to be unaware that NWP had accepted the judgement. I wonder, as PPS22 is in consultative form at present, whether this renewable energy strategy is premature and if such an indicative map should even be allowed. Already it has caused upset to those who were previously involved, particularly as Teesdale Renewable Energy (TREC) promised all renewables on a small scale and this is not the outcome.

**The Northern Energy Initiative (TNEI) 'manage' TREC and have written this document, Renewable Energy Strategy for the North East.**

Yours Faithfully

CT Murray  
26 Milbank Court/DL3 9 PF    Contact address until July 2006

From: Crookes David (Mr D) To: me.mann@virgin.net Cc: Lilly Robert (Mr RW)

Sent: Friday, February 25, 2005 11:20 AM Subject: RE: Low Frequency Noise  
Elizabeth,

Unfortunately we failed to make contact by phone yesterday so I am resorting to email. The study we have commissioned is for the measurement and assessment of low frequency noise three wind farms in the UK where there have been complaints about the effects of low frequency noise and its effects on the health of people neighbouring the wind farms. The data will be collected internally to the dwellings of complainants, in locations where the complainant there to be the greatest problem such as bedrooms and externally. The complainants will take an active part in the process by indicating the times when they consider the problem to be most intrusive. Data will be collected automatically as well to allow an assessment of the internal noise environment throughout the study. The measurements taken will be correlated with turbine operational parameters to determine if there are any common factors which may give rise to the experienced noise. If low frequency noise is found then the source of it will be investigated. Assessment will also be made of the efficiency of the building structures and dominant transmission paths into the living spaces. As you will appreciate the data collection will be subject to the wind conditions, direction, strength etc, that result in the perceived problem and this may influence the study timescales, however we expect to complete the study in the spring. A paper will be published on the findings and conclusions of the study. I trust this information will be useful to you, if you need any more let me know but as **I am sure you are aware all existing published evidence is that the level of low frequency noise emitted from wind turbines is too low to cause health effects.**

Regards David Crookes DTI 2010 Renewable Energy Target Team david.crookes@dti.gsi.gov.uk  
Tel: 07979406771

The following emails are from Robert Lilly DTI

Dear Ms Mann

Further to our telephone conversation this afternoon I can confirm that the department is currently funding a study on the impact of low frequency noise on human health in relation to wind farms which I understand is due sometime in the Spring This should **update the 1997 ETSU report "Low Frequency Noise and Vibrations Measurement at a Modern Wind Farm Site"**. The contact at DTI for further information about this work is David Crookes on 07979 406771. Regards, Robert Lilly  
DTI - Energy Resources and Development Unit Received Feb 05

Dear Elizabeth When we spoke yesterday I told you that David Crookes had now completed his secondment with the Department. As regards the above study I have been advised by Future Energy Solutions (FES) the Department's research programme management consultant that the external noise trials had been completed and that FES is waiting receipt of a final written report from the contractor. Fairly soon after the report is received it should be placed on the DTI website but unfortunately FES are unable to say at this time when that will be. I have asked FES to let me know as soon as they have further information on timing so that I can pass this on to you. For your information I understand David Crookes has now been replaced by Alan Smith.

Regards Robert Lilly DTI - Energy Resources and Development Unit Tel: 0207 215 6122  
Received Aug 05

**The table below is an abstract from Hansard**

**Ms Hewitt:** The following table shows all the people currently working in the Department of Trade and Industry on secondment from the private sector. The table indicates the organisation they came from and the name of the DTI directorate to which the secondee is attached.

Mr. David Crookes	RWE npower plc	Energy Innovation and Business Unit
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Comment.From BWEA website. In response to concerns that wind turbines emit infrasound and cause associated health problems, Dr Geoff Leventhall, Consultant in Noise Vibration and Acoustics, author of the Defra Report on Low Frequency Noise and its Effects, says: "I can state quite categorically that there is no significant infrasound from current designs of wind turbines." ETSU and the Defra report are in use by BWEA

The owner of a wind farm company which stands to make millions from Labour's push for alternative energy will this week emerge as one of the party's biggest donors during the general election campaign. Nigel Doughty, a venture capitalist, gave Labour £250,000 after a dinner with Tony Blair held for potential donors earlier this year. His investment company owns LM Glasfiber, the world's biggest wind turbine manufacturer, which is likely to profit from the huge expansion of wind power under Labour. It has already won many major contracts in Britain. The government has pushed ahead with plans to construct more than 5,000 wind turbines in remote areas despite massive local opposition. Blair has said wind farms are necessary to meet the country's commitment to produce energy from renewable sources. The government's target is 10% of electricity from renewable sources by 2010 with an ambition to double the figure to 20% by 2020. More than £1 billion a year will be given in state subsidies to the renewable energy industry to meet the target. Critics believe that the relatively small amounts of energy produced by each turbine do not justify the damage they cause to the landscape.

Yesterday David Willetts, the shadow trade and industry spokesman, said people were "baffled" by Labour's obsession with wind farms. "Who knows what the donor has discussed with the prime minister about wind farms," he said. The issue will be top of the political agenda next month when the government sets out its long-term energy needs. Doughty declined to comment yesterday. Labour said all its donations were in accordance with Electoral Commission rules declining to comment on Doughty's gift.

Headquartered in Lunderskov, Denmark, LM Glasfiber is the world's leading manufacturer of blades to wind turbines. LM Glasfiber has production and service facilities in Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, India, China and the USA. These factories serve, amongst others, the four largest national markets in terms of MW of installed capacity to date, namely: Germany, Spain, the USA and Denmark. LM Glasfiber's product portfolio comprises all commercial stall, active stall and pitch-controlled blades. The blades are used for wind turbines with a capacity of 200 KW up to 2.5 MW. LM Glasfiber supplies blades to more than 20 wind turbine manufacturers and has a global market share of approximately 40% (Glasfiber website).

**Last March, at a presentation to investors, LM Glasfiber boasted that the British market was one of its most important and was set for "substantial growth in 2005"**

The firm Ernst and Young has recently identified the UK as the best market for wind in the world due to its combination of wind resource, strong offshore regime and the extension of the Renewables Obligation to 15% by 2015 (From UK Market Overview BWEA). Are gifts not a matter for the donor to decide?

**Comment: It is not the gift that concerns me. It is the ridiculous and unfair situation whereby the UK is identified as the best market in the world and Glasfiber boast we are one of its most important markets. The reason it is so lucrative is due to the hidden subsidy of ROCs payable by all. Will the end result be the destruction of our heritage?**

Any attempt to maximise output whilst minimising impact I am certain can now only be done really offshore.

## Appendix D

### Electricite de France (EDF) Same development but different reports!

Comment: Electricite de France (EDF) are looking to build 6 onshore wind farms in the North East, whilst also planning a nuclear power station nearer to London than Paris – A seventh proposal, has been withdrawn but we are not sure why.

**Northern Offshore Wind** is another proposed development.

**Reports on Northern Offshore Wind Farm follow from:**

**EDF's website**

**RSPB**

**Vera Baird MP**

**SOS the local Objection group.**

**The above reports show clearly that the developers are claiming public support that does not exist. Delusion once again.**

#### **EDF Website**

##### **Northern Onshore Wind Farms**

We currently own and run two onshore wind farms in the **beautiful, rugged countryside of Northeast England**. These are a true example of how technology and nature can work together. The wind farms are often surrounded by livestock who continue to graze undisturbed while the turbines rotate, generating clean power.

Located close to the village of **Kirkheaton in Northumberland**, Kirkheaton wind farm has an installed capacity of 1.8 MW and started work in May 2000.

**High Hedley Hope wind farm is situated close to the village of Tow Law in County Durham** and boasts turbine hub heights of 46m and rotor diameters of 50m.

##### **The Northern Offshore Wind farm**

We are also currently developing [Northern Offshore Wind](#). The project's proposed location is **1.5km from the coast** between the mouth of the River Tees and the town of Redcar, Teesside. The wind farm will be made up of 30 turbines and be able to generate green electricity for approximately 72,000 homes. It will help to support the UK's target of 10% of all electricity generation from renewable sources by 2010. The site is close to the Port of Tees, which, along with the industrial and offshore expertise available on Teesside, provides an ideal base to support the project during its construction and operational phases.

**RSPB's Comment** EDF Energy are proposing a 30 turbine wind farm off Teesmouth but after a thorough expressed its objection to the plan in a detailed submission to the Secretary of State. The RSPB is objecting to the proposal because it considers that some of the information and survey methodology contained in the Environmental Statement is inadequate. The RSPB is seeking further information and clarification from EDF Energy on a number of issues that it feels are not adequately addressed in the report. According to Anna Moody of The RSPB's North of England office the location of the proposed wind farm lies close to sites that have been given some of the highest levels of international protection because of their importance for wildlife. We, therefore, believe that any case for a wind farm in this area must prove that there will be no negative impact on important birds and wildlife habitats. Based on the information that we have seen so far, we are not convinced that this is the case.



**Comment from MP Vera Baird.** Local people are being ignored in the rush to build a 30-turbine wind farm 1.4km off the North-East coast, an MP has warned. Vera Baird criticised rules that meant a planning inquiry might not be held to decide the proposal for Redcar, Teesside, despite the opposition of residents, local councils and four MPs. She said: "No matter how rational the local objections, they can be killed in the understandable rush to renewables"

**Ms Baird's protests came during a Commons' debate on the Government's plans to expand wind power to meet its target for generating power from renewable sources.** Those plans include a wind farm off Redcar, with each turbine measuring 135 metres (450ft) high. Ms Baird told MPs: "The easternmost would be 1.4km off the tourist office in the middle of the town and the next would be opposite the seafront cinema." She said the five-mile stretch of sand was a "**special treat for the local people who go there to breathe its free air, refresh their minds with the fresh, clean sea view and lift their horizons from the humdrum**".

She said the area was already making a significant contribution to renewable energy and was happy to do more, but not at such a cost to the town.

She said: "There are real concerns about the impact on the area of such an industrial installation." "If an offshore station were erected, people would be living between two wind farms, which is probably not tolerable. "Between 5,000 and 6,000 people have signed a petition against the proposed wind farm."

**Environment Minister Elliot Morley said Ms Baird had made a strong argument.**  
(House of Commons) Report by Stuart Arnold 28/10/04

Comment: **The Trade Union Council** TUC have also objected!

EDF gave a donation to the labour party of about £6000 which was correctly recorded.

**SOS Reply.23/06/05 SOS is the local group objecting strongly to the proposal.**

The current state is that no decision has been taken the current state of objection is English Nature's objection remains in place. **RSPB's** objection remains in place

**Redcar and Cleveland Council's** objection remains in place. **SOS's** objections are still, even more firmly in place, despite EDF's attempts to persuade us otherwise

There are also the many thousands of local people who have petitioned against it, hundreds of businesses signed the petition also, as did the four local regeneration forums.. Keith Welford, DTI has said that no decision will be made until the consultation process is completed. That includes his visit to the site and a discussion with our group. The only people who support the proposal are from the Wind Industry or related to it. Those who are charged in our community with taking the broader social and economic view are all against it.

Comment on another EDF proposal at Trimdon. Durham City Council's refusal was followed by an Appeal A Public Inquiry by written representations at EDF's request..

This gives no opportunity for the objectors to question the developer.

**Meanwhile EDF resubmitted** their application with more evidence to support it. CPRE continued to object as per their remit.

Resubmission was said to be due to the expected long wait for a PI yet the Inspectorate had said the inquiry would be heard soon with a site visit scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup>

The result in favour of the developer was passed to a resident of Trimdon on July 29th by the press! Once again .No money for a Judicial Review yet EDF will net each year, for 25years, a hidden subsidy of about three quarters of a million pounds.

Heads they win tails we lose. **This is neither justice nor justifiable.**

## Appendix E

### BWEA25 Programme 2003

Extracts from the draft programme 18 September.  
 Comment: The reason for including part of the programme for this annual event is simply to illustrate the diversity and wealth of experience available. It also demonstrates I believe their aim to have the ear of the current Energy Minister. It is a pity so much might and money ended up flavoured with mendacity.

Tuesday 28th October 2003

09.30 – 10.45	Session 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sir John Mogg KCMG, Chairman, Ofgem</li> <li>• Stephen Timms MP, UK Energy Minister</li> </ul>		
11.15 –	Session 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joanne Smith, Planning Division, Welsh Assembly Government &amp; Andy Bull, Planning Division, Welsh Assembly Government and Powys County Council</li> </ul>	Workshop: Financing Wind Beyond 2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ian Temperton, Author: "Financing Wind Beyond 2010"</li> </ul>	Technical Session: Corin Millais, Chief Executive, EWEA & Director of European Renewable Energy Council (EREC)
14.00	Session 3: Aviation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julian Chafer Defence Estates</li> <li>• Andrew Knill, Directorate of Airspace Policy, Civil Aviation Authority</li> <li>• David Hilton, General Manager, Air Traffic Services Glasgow Airport, National Air Traffic Services</li> </ul>	Workshop: British Content, Skills and Jobs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Williams, Cambrian Engineering</li> </ul>	Technical Session: Marine
16.00 – 17.15	Session 4: Grid Issues Chair: Alan Moore, National Wind Power & BWEA Chairman	Workshop: Views from the English Regions Chair: Chris Tomlinson, BWEA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adrian Smith, Chartered</li> </ul>	Technical Session: Trading Mechanisms Chair: Sir David Roche, Baroc Energy Ltd & BWEA Board Member

		<div>Surveyor and Planner, Consultant, TNEI</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nick Goodall, Chief Executive, Renewables East</li></ul>	
Times	Plenary Sessions	Technical & Workshop Sessions	
09.30 – 10.45	<div>Session 5: Scottish Issues</div> <div>Chair: Alan Mortimer, ScottishPower &amp; BWEA Board Member</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maf Smith, Development Manager, Scottish Renewables</li></ul>	<div>Workshop: Europe and Abroad</div> <div>Chair: Corin Millas, EWEA</div>	<div>Technical Session: Offshore Contracting</div> <div>Chair: David Hodgkinson, Amec Wind &amp; BWEA Board Member</div>
11:15 – 12:35	<div>Session 5: Offshore</div> <div>Chair: Rob Hastings, Shell WindEnergy Ltd</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>John Lanchbery, Head of Climate Change, RSPB</li></ul>	<div>Workshop: Yes2Wind</div> <div>Chair: Alison Hill, BWEA</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Emily Armistead, Climate Campaigner, Greenpeace UK</li></ul>	<div>Technical Session: Onshore R&amp;D</div> <div>Chair: Tony Duffin, The Carbon Trust</div>
14:00 – 15:30	<div>Session 7: A Vision for 2020</div> <div>Chair: Marcus Rand, Chief Executive, BWEA</div>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Technical Session: Challenges of Future Offshore</li></ul>
16:00 – 17:10	<div>Session 8: Hearts And Minds</div> <div>Chair: Chris Shears, RES &amp; BWEA Vice-Chairman</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>David Still, Renewables Advisor, DTI</li></ul>	<div>Technical Session: Large MW Systems</div> <div>Chair: David Milborrow, DM Energy &amp; BWEA Board Member</div>	<div>Technical Session: Small Systems and Integrating Wind Energy</div>
18.30 – 19:15	Champagne Reception, Argyll Foyer, Moat House Hotel (sponsored by BWEA & Scottish Renewables)		
19:15 – 02:00	Gala Dinner, Argyll Suite, Moat House Hotel & Ceilidh (Ceilidh sponsored by Your Energy Ltd)		
Thursday 30th October 2003			
10.00	Exhibition Opens	Technical & Workshop Sessions	
10.20 – 11.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Session 9: Finance</li></ul>	<div>Workshop: Onshore Key Issues</div>	<div>Technical Session: Testing, Certification &amp;</div>

	Chair: Dr Chris Morris, Wind Prospect & BWEA Board Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>annual</b><b>Ian Temperton,</b> <b>Author: "Financing</b> <b>Wind Beyond 2010"</b></li> </ul>	Chair: Marcus Trinick, Bond Pearce & BWEA Board Member	Insurance <b>Chair: Paul van Lieshout,</b> <b>PB Power's Wind Power</b> <b>Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Niels Immerkjaer,</b> <b>LM Glasfiber</b></li> </ul>
11.50 – 13.00	Session 10: 'Question Time' <b>Chair: Marcus Rand, Chief</b> <b>Executive, BWEA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alan Moore, National</b> <b>Wind Power and</b> <b>BWEA Chairman</b></li> </ul>		
13.00 – 13.30	Alan Moore, National Wind Power and BWEA Chairman, sums up and closes the conference.		

**I applied to go to BWEA 25 in 2003 but my e-mail was returned unopened! I have identified in red the names of speakers and organisations I would have liked to hear. However I can only wonder what was actually said, particularly by the following;**

David Still	Renewables Advisory Board and Ex-chair BWEA
Maf Smith	SPREG. (Wrote the guide lines for overriding objections to wind farms)
Adrian Smith	TNEI are responsible with colleagues for writing PPS22 Companion Guide
Ian Temperon	Financing Wind Beyond 2010"
Paul van Lieshout,	PB Power's Wind Power Group
Niels Immerkjaer	LM Glasfiber
David Williams,	Cambrian Engineering
Chris French	Director of Research & Development, NaREC
Nic Goodall	Chief Executive, Renewables East. Previous Chief Executive of BWEA (See page 6 Force10 CG) "Hug a turbine Tony. It's a vote winner"
David Milborrow	DM Energy &BWEA Board Member

**The Annual Conference this year BWEA 27 will be held in Cardiff on 18-20/10/ 05 assuming my application was approved I cannot now afford to go.**

Earlybird rate is £599 for members, £725 for non-members.

I can only wonder as to what the change to an Implementation-Based Wind Industry means

<b>BWEA 27</b>	Speakers/Organisations I would particularly like to hear are listed below.
<b>Peter Hain,</b>	Secretary of State for Wales (invited),
<b>Chris Shears</b>	RES Group & currently BWEA Chairman.
<b>Nic Goodall</b>	CEA for ENA speaking on the <b>The Future of the UK's Energy Network</b>
<b>Mike King.</b>	The Environment Council: Engaging Communities in Renewable Energy Planning <b>Jumping the Hurdles from Policy into Practice.</b>
<b>PMSS</b>	Changing from a Planning-Based Wind Industry to an Implementation-Based Wind Industry

Christopher Booker's notebook (17/07/2005) North East Unelected Assembly.

Prescott's regional scheme is well and truly hoist on its own petard. **An extraordinary impasse has arisen in the North-East**, following the referendum last November in which voters threw out John Prescott's plan for an elected regional assembly by an overwhelming margin of four-to-one. Last week the **unelected North-East Assembly**, made up of councillors and representatives of local bodies, announced that it was to set itself up as a limited company under a new name. The reason publicly given for this by the Assembly's chairman, **Alex Watson, was that they wished "to engage with the public better than we have done"**. What Mr Watson did not reveal was the real reason for this new policy. It is now more than a year since Neil Herron, the leader of the campaign against an elected North-East Assembly, uncovered the embarrassing fact that, since the unelected assembly was an unincorporated body, its members were personally responsible for all its financial obligations, including the contracts and pension rights of its employees. Between them they had thus unwittingly taken on liabilities amounting to millions of pounds. Initially the assembly tried to deny this, **but Mr Herron's point was subsequently confirmed by lawyers, including those for North Tyneside council**. Since this unfortunate fact came to light, the assembly has been seeking to set itself up as a limited company, in the hope of relieving its members of this burden of personal liability. But when they tried to set up the North-East Assembly as a company, they found that Mr Herron had got there first. He had already registered that name. Worse was to come, because Mr Herron then pointed out that, under the 1985 Companies Act, for them to set up such a company would not absolve them of their existing obligations.

And then Mr Herron produced his trump card. Since the councillors who were members had voted for their councils to provide the assembly with funds, they were in breach of the 1972 Local Government Act, because **they had voted to give public money to a body in which they themselves had a financial interest**. So it appears that the councillors on the North-East Assembly have not only taken on a personal liability from which it is impossible for them to extricate themselves, but Mr Herron is now asking the police to investigate evidence that they also have been acting in clear breach of the law. Since it appears that similar breaches of the law have taken place in other English regions, he is also making available a set of searching questions (via [neara@btconnect.com](mailto:neara@btconnect.com)) for voters to put to their own councils. **When Mr Prescott sought to impose by stealth his scheme for elected regional governments, he could hardly have foreseen the tangled web in which it would end up being ensnared.**

Comment: As Christopher Booker points out, **80% voted last November against an elected North East Assembly**. The new Chair of the unelected Assembly appears to admit they did not engage with the public satisfactorily. Many in the North East are concerned with the content in the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy, **particularly Policy 42, onshore wind development**. Areas are listed for development yet there has not been enough consultation at local level and the first some heard of these potential developments was from information in the press. Does the NEA understand the term 'quality of life' so obsessed they seem to be with economic growth, even at the expense of the environment.

#### **Prescott's Dream becomes our Nightmare with policy 42 (see below)**

##### **Extract from RSS Submission Draft June 2005 Policy 42 – Onshore wind development**

Strategies, plans and programmes should provide a positive policy framework to facilitate onshore wind development within the following broad areas of least constraint for wind energy developments:

a) **Kielder Forest** has the potential to become a Strategic Renewables Resource Area, including large scale wind energy development

b) The following areas have potential for medium scale development

**South and West Berwick upon Tweed, North/ South Charlton, Knowesgate, Harwood Forest, Northern Coalfield south of Druridge Bay, Kiln Pit Hill, North Durham Upland Coalfield, South Durham Upland Coalfield, Tees Plain, Teesside/ Tees Estuary.**

Small wind farms in urban areas and on the urban rural fringe should also be supported, particularly within the following areas, **Sunderland, South Tyneside and Tees Valley**. The broad locations of these areas should be identified within **Local Development Frameworks**. Other areas will be judged subject to assessments of local impact.



**This summary is intended to show how PPS22 Companion Guide has evolved and why I believe the document should be challenged.**

**PPS22 with its CG** will be fed into the **Regional Spatial Strategy**, itself a subject of an Examination in Public (EIP) That is a misnomer as the participants are ‘invited’ The Guide has case studies which I find suspect yet ‘supports’ PPS 22 currently being used to determine wind energy applications. I hope to be involved in the EIP.

I have attempted to recount the series of events that have culminated in the present situation. **A trail of manipulation.** Might and money are the drivers fuelled by mendacity and with it seems a slogan of verbosity baffles brains. Government, besotted with wind energy and obsessed with targets, regional and national, seem hell bent on destroying that which we treasure. Following The Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 we were told “Forget old battles, we now have the law” (ODPM) The RSS soon to be part of a statutory document has been overseen by the NEA though 80% of the people voted against a regional governing body.

Some topics may be acceptable but the renewable energy appears rigged and community involvement seems non-existent in many of the areas proposed for wind farms.

*The information below is from Wind Power Monthly [www.wpm.co.nz](http://www.wpm.co.nz)*

**1998** Positive outcome to planning rejection. **Details restricted to members.**

UK planning system blamed for the worst year the industry had known.

**1999** Dec: Legal planning defeat for wind in NE England.

Dismal year are in the UK as planning infrastructure fails.

I have always wondered what the positive outcome\* in 1998 really was!

The planning rejection in 1998 and Legal Defeat in 1999 being the Barningham Public Inquiry and High Court Action. Both resulted in defeat for NWP.

### **1999 Wind Energy and Planning at Chester Le Street Co Durham.**

Hosted by (ONE) in association with (GO-NE) and (BWEA), Adrian Smith of Renew North/TNEI proposed regional and county renewables targets in (RPG) and put forward a possible model for a regional wind energy consultative group, Was this to become NEREG? A Representative from the Wind Industry implied that the Planning Inspectors were biased and so were refusing applications for wind farms. GO-NE refuted this. The Head of Natural Resources at CPRE, Lilli Matson had been invited but unable to attend, asked if the Durham Branch representative may go in her place. I went, little realising the deception and delusion that would be used to progress ‘Wind Energy and Planning’ Lilli Matson had met with some members of Durham Branch CPRE during the Barningham campaign and at my request recorded their remit on renewable energy something I have always adhered to.

**2000 Mar: Planning hurdles defeat the wind industry**

Wind Power Monthly [www.wpm.co.nz](http://www.wpm.co.nz)

**Chris Blandford Study (CBS)** gave **regional and sub regional targets** needed for a **10% target** for electricity generation from renewable sources by **2010**. The small but critical mistake in this document and my concern and possible consequences should it filter down to the RPG is detailed on pages 66 and 76 Force10.

**National Wind Power (NWP) Press Release** Following a two day fact finding mission to Denmark to witness the success of the Danish wind generation industry, 17 MPs and 1 member of the House of Lords returned to Britain to consider the future potential of the UK Wind Industry. Alan Moore, managing director at NWP, the UK's leading wind farm developer, operator and owner, accompanied the group on their visit. The trip also highlighted the need for planning reform in the UK. Flights and accommodation were paid for by NWP.

**2001** Extract from a letter to ANEC (**regional planning body and author of draft RPG strategy**)-from Nick Raynsford, (Minister for Housing and Planning) following the completion of Chris Blandford's report. Further work to be undertaken by ANEC to set a more specific regional target and identifying appropriate sub-regional targets by the **early** review of RPG. **This will ensure the government's target of 10% of electricity to be generated from renewable sources by 2010**

**2001 Government changes statutory regulations.**

Peter Hain, Minister for Energy, announces new flexibility for NFFO contracts, non fossil fuel obligation, to help revive the flagging industry (Force 10 chapter14)

**2002 CPRE and NEREG** Conference in Newcastle- (Part funding from DTI) AMEC/TNEI/ANEC/NEA and GO-NE participated. This was to address the practical and environmental implications of on shore North East renewable energy targets. Adrian Smith TNEI mentioned the CB study and TREC.  
**TNEI have reneged on their promise of all renewables, small scale, in the TREC project.**

**Sept 2002**

CLT Conferences Environmental Law Update

**Wind farms and planning policy.**

Gregory Jones, Barrister, FIQ and Legal Associate of the RTPI (see page57)

**2003 North of England Renewable Energy Strategy N E R R E S** prepared for GO-NE and set out in One North East's Regional Economic Strategy (**RES**) . The strategy had been discussed by **NEREG** and key elements set out in a draft Regional Spatial Strategy RSS

The **RSS** should provide clear guidance on the general location of wind and other renewable developments.

District Councils should follow RSS guidance when preparing Local Development Plans LDPs

Kielder to be further examined and consulted with reference to becoming an (SWRA)

**GO-NE's** Final Report. Regional Energy Activity Scoping Study (**REASS**)

Extract. PB Doc33.00/PP01.61971A/04013.

Scottish Parliamentary Renewable Energy group SPREG is an official cross party group of the Scottish Parliament.

70% of SPREG members are from the wind farm industry.

**Guidelines which provide provisions for over-riding objections to windfarms were devised by SPREG (Source Maf Smith Secretary)**

I spoke to Maf Smith who said he was unaware of the document. I sent him GONE contact details but he did not reply and so reveal the over-riding objections I had requested.

### **2005 Environment Council Regional meetings.**

Training for Councillors on how to consult with communities **under the terms of PPS22, funded by DTI and RES.** I attended the workshop at **Newcastle** 18/03/05  
The essence was we are no longer to discuss benefits and disbenefits of wind, but to find ways to move forward together.

**Mike King, Environment Council is speaking at BWEA 27 Annual Conference in Cardiff in October,** on involving communities in Renewable Energy Planning and jumping the hurdles from **Policy into Practice.**

### **Renewable Energy and Community Involvement.**

Putting the environment at the heart of decision-making

North-East -	<b>NEWCASTLE</b> -	18th March 2005
South-East -	<b>GUILFORD</b> -	11th March 2005
North-West -	<b>LANCASTER</b> -	20th May 2005
Yorkshire/Humber -	<b>LEEDS</b>	27th May 2005
East-Midlands -	<b>LINCOLN</b> -	10th June 2005
South-West -	<b>TAUNTON</b> -	15th July 2005
West-Midlands -	<b>BIRMINGHAM</b> -	23rd Sept 2005
South-East -	<b>CAMBRIDGE</b> -	28th Sept 2005

### **2005 BWEA 27** BWEA'S Annual Conference. October 18-20 **Cardiff**

Sponsored by ScottishPower renewables. Earlybird rate is £599 for members, £725 for non-members.

Speakers to include:

<b>Peter Hain,</b>	Secretary of State for Wales (invited)
<b>Chris Shears</b>	RES Group & currently BWEA Chairman

<b>Nic Goodall</b>	CEA for <b>ENA</b> speaking on the <i>The Future of the UK's Energy Network</i>
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<b>Mike King.</b>	The Environment Council: Engaging Communities in Renewable Energy Planning. Jumping the Hurdles from Policy into Practice.
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<b>PMSS</b>	Changing from a Planning-Based Wind Industry to an Implementation-Based Wind Industry.
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### **Does BWEA 27 hold the key to the future? An Implementation-Based Wind Industry.**

**Note** **PMSS** Project Management Support Service An independent consultancy working in the renewable energy and construction industries. Nigel Crowe BWEA board member recently joined consultants PMSS, having been involved in the wind industry since 1997

**Nic Goodall** was CE of BWEA 1997-03 and CE for Renewables East 03/04  
ENA is the Energy Network Association

## BWEA website: Real power and UKWED

It would be neither a fair nor balanced record without visiting the BWEA website.

### Abstracts from Real Power:

BWEA caught up with the new Minister for Energy, **Malcolm Wicks**, to hear his views on the new job and the UK's wind, wave and tidal industries.

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**As you take over this key position, what do you consider to be the top three priorities for you as Energy Minister over the next couple of years?**

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**In the Energy White Paper we highlighted the threat of climate change; challenges and Renewables and especially wind, in the years up to 2010, will play a key role in contributing to our climate change targets** We need to make sure that the infrastructure investment needed for future security of energy supply is happening. Updating the transmission system will become increasingly important as we move towards 2010 **to ensure that all the new wind build can be connected to the grid to allow us to meet our 10% target.**

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**The Renewables Obligation has now been in operation for just over three years: how do you think it is progressing?**

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The Renewables Obligation is working well and there has been **a marked acceleration in developments since it was introduced, particularly in terms of wind energy.** This year we are undertaking a review of the Obligation to ensure it is working effectively. The review is limited in scope and our key priority is to improve the effectiveness of the Obligation whilst ensuring that **investor confidence is maintained.**

**What do you see as the most pressing priorities for a) onshore and b) offshore wind in delivering their share of the 2010 renewables target?**

For onshore wind, as I have already mentioned, we need to **upgrade the transmission system**. We are working hard with Ofgem, and the transmission owners to ensure that there is sufficient network capacity for **new renewable generators to connect to.** We are also working hard to overcome the **myths** that surround the development of wind farms. **There is a small but vocal minority who are opposed to development of future wind projects** and we need to promote a **balanced discussion of the arguments for and against.** Interestingly surveys show that people with first hand experience of living near to a wind farm tend to be more in favour of them than those who have had no experience, indicating that many of the issues are unfounded.

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**Jonathan Porrit**, Chairman of the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) explains **Why Wind Power Does Work.** I have already commented (page84) on the SDC Booklet

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**UKWED:** A wealth of information on wind farms in the UK. There is a detailed calculation showing how a 1MW wind turbine is said to provide the needs of 560 homes. There seems a lack of information relating to emissions savings. BWEA under **Education and Careers** quote the 0.86 factor in spite of DTI using 0.43. A factor of 0.38 has been used at GSK and a similar figure is being used in the SDC report. The overall inconsistency regarding carbon dioxide emission savings gives cause for concern (see page 84)

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### European Parliament (EP) Press Release

Extract from the Document: EP Final A6-O227/2005.21

Renewable energies for the 21st century (4). Recognises the potential from a wide diversity of more than **21 different renewable energy technologies.**

EP votes for increased deployment of renewables calls for a **mandatory 20% target** by 2020. **BWEA website 2 /10/05** draws attention to targets.

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Note. The book mentioned in paragraph 3 of the letter on p107 I did write as Force10. I contacted the Information Commissioner about the "We know where you live" incident (Force10 page 35) In her letter to BWEA on 2 March 2004 the Information Commissioner appeared to have reprimanded BWEA by confirming that it was probably not compliant with principle 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998 BWEA solicitors apologized on behalf of Alison Hill. In fairness I must record that.

## News Releases Sept 05 United in the fight for landscape protection.

### Ramblers

#### **Ramblers welcome critical report on windfarms from public accounts committee and urge the chancellor to slaughter the renewables cash cow**

The President of Ramblers' Association Scotland, Cameron McNeish, has called on Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to pull the financial support from underneath the giant windfarm industry

#### **Commenting on the report on renewable energy, published today by the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee, Cameron McNeish said:**

"This is an excellent report which exposes the absurd levels of funding support which is provided to the multinational energy companies to destroy the Scottish landscape with giant wind turbines. Electricity consumers throughout Britain are funding this cash cow and its about time that the guardian of the public purse, Gordon Brown, led this wayward animal to the slaughter house."

### CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)

#### **Wind farm free-for-all threatens countryside**

In 2004, the Government issued its flagship policy on how local planning authorities should consider applications for wind and other renewable energy development.

#### **This was Policy Statement 22: Planning for Renewables (PPS 22)**

It was written as 'enabling' planning policy to remove what the Government saw in previous planning guidance as obstacles to the development of renewable energy

#### **CPRE believes that there are serious weaknesses in the planning regime for onshore wind farms. Case studies from three areas illustrate what is going wrong.**

**21/09/05** 'Decisions based on flaws in the current wind farm planning regime could spoil fine upland landscapes and leave areas of "ordinary" lowland countryside marred by multitudes of turbines,' warned Andrea Davies, CPRE's energy campaigner.

### Welsh Conservatives

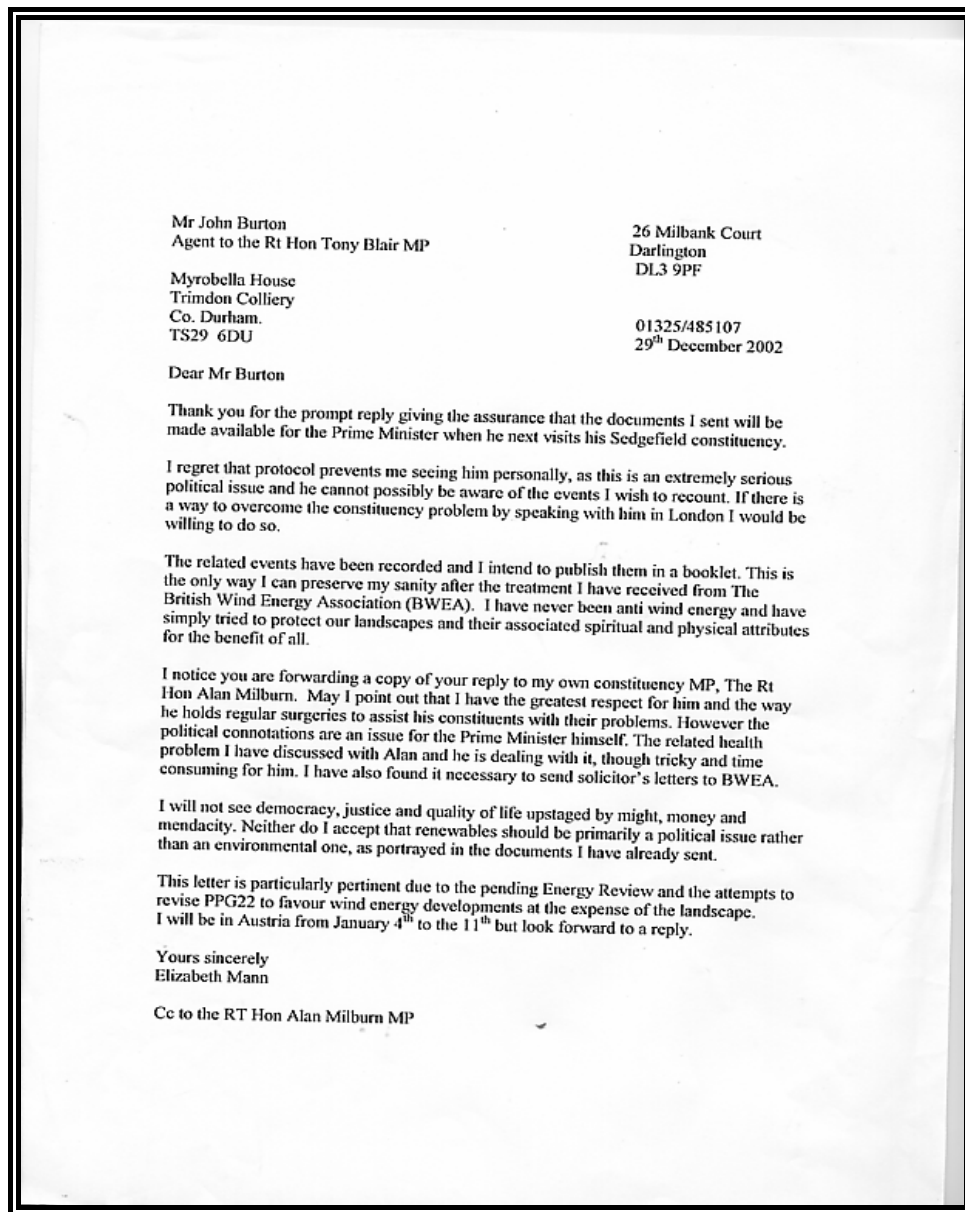
Tuesday September 13, 2005 Cold wind blows in with Welsh wind farm plans  
**Labour's renewable energy policy is a blueprint for the desecration of rural Wales, Welsh Conservatives have claimed.**

And environment spokesman Glyn Davies AM has warned that the proposals will prevent local people from stopping controversial wind farm developments in their area .The Mid and West Wales AM's comments follow the first meeting of the new Welsh Conservative countryside forum, which discussed the Labour Assembly Government's TAN 8 planning guidance on renewable energy proposals .Welsh Conservatives have warned that the Labour government in the National Assembly will cause great environmental damage to Wales for no good economic reason if it pursues the policy. And they have called on local planning authorities to refuse to be bullied into granting permission for wind farm projects in areas where there is considerable local opposition.

Glyn Davies AM said: "The assembly government's planning guidance on wind farms is a blueprint for the desecration of the landscapes of rural Wales and scythes the legs from under local democracy. "Planning authorities have been stitched up by TAN 8. The government is demanding that large swathes of rural Wales are blighted by a visually destructive rush to wind - and will force local planning authorities to say yes to developments when they will desperately want to say no.

**"The landscapes of Wales are about to be abused by an environmentally illiterate bullying government with no appreciation of nature's beauty."**





Introduction to PPS22CG

(IN CASE YOU MISSED IT ON PAGE 90!)

*"The sources of renewable energy ... are inexhaustible, indigenous and abundant, and their exploitation, properly managed, has the potential to enhance the long-term security of the United Kingdom's energy supplies and to help us cut carbon dioxide emissions"*

House of Lords Science and Technology Committee, July 2004<sup>1</sup>

Full paragraph from which the above was extracted is below

"We believe the Government are on balance right to encourage further development of renewable energy *The sources of renewable energy* such as the sun, wind and tides, *are inexhaustible, indigenous and abundant, and their exploitation, properly managed, has the potential to enhance the long term security of the United Kingdom's energy supplies and to help us cut carbon dioxide emissions.* However these sources are also diffuse and uncertainties remain over the technical feasibility and cost of converting them into electricity reliability on asufficiently large scale".

House of Lords Science and Technology Committee, July 2004

**To be or not to be?**

**Offshore**



Is this the future of wind-turbine servicing? A helicopter is dwarfed by this giant five-megawatt turbine built by REpower of Germany. Tallsman is to install such turbines in the Moray Firth Beatrice oilfield

**Giant 5MW turbine of type proposed for in the Moray Firth Beatrice oilfield**

**or Onshore**



**Black Law Wind Farm**

**OPEN SPACES SOCIETY  
NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release  
Monday 5 September 2005

**OPEN SPACES SOCIETY REJOICES  
AT 'NO' TO WIND TURBINES**

The Open Spaces Society<sup>(1)</sup>, the top pressure-group for common land, is rejoicing that Neath Port Talbot Council has unanimously rejected the planning application for four wind turbines on Mynydd y Gwrhyd Common north-west of Swansea.

Says Kate Ashbrook, the society's general secretary: 'The turbines, with their associated substation, access road and other paraphernalia, would have been a great intrusion in this area. We objected most strongly to the planning application.

'These works would have been a grotesque eyesore on this lovely exposed area of common land. They would have interfered with people's right to walk and ride there. They would have destroyed the peace and tranquillity of this lovely area, and people's quiet enjoyment of it.

'Since the turbines were to be sited on common land, the applicants, Awel Aman Tawe, also would have needed consent from the National Assembly for Wales for works on common land, under section 194 of the Law of Property Act. We objected to that application too, since this is an abuse of common land. 'We congratulate the local action group and all who were involved in opposing this application,' Kate declares

Comment: Neither the press release from The Open Spaces Society (above) nor that from Gwenda Thomas AM.(abstract below) agree with comments in PPS22Companion Guide at page 53. 4.29 There it states "Awel Aman Tawe is a good example of a community led scheme that has flourished as community interest has grown, from its original remit to contribute to the regeneration of the local area through the development and implementation of a Community Energy Scheme". (more on p38 Force10 CG)

**GWENDA THOMAS AM for NEATH  
PRESS RELEASE**

Immediate release: 02 September 2005

**GWENDA THOMAS AM WELCOMES A.A.T  
PLANNING DECISION**

**Gwenda Thomas AM for Neath has today welcomed the decision by the planning committee of Neath Port Talbot Borough Council to reject the planning application for Awel Aman Tawe.**

Welcoming the decision **GWENDA THOMAS AM SAID** "I'm very pleased that the planning and development control committee have accepted the advice of officers by rejecting the application"

"There were fears among local residents that the wind turbines would damage the local area's visual amenity which was one of the main reasons why officers recommended refusal"

"I understand Awel Aman Tawe intend appealing the decision, which will go before the Planning.

Inspectorate. I will be making representations on behalf of my constituents in Targwaith, Rhiwfawr and the surrounding area to the Planning Inspectorate, to ensure their views are considered in any appeal"

MARTYN WILLIAMS    Communications Officer.                      Office of Gwenda Thomas AM for Neath

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3. A joint Campaign to Protect Rural England, National Trust and Heritage Link report Recharging the Power of Place, July 2004, Valuing local significance, Campaign to Protect Rural England/The National Trust/Heritage Link, Campaign to Protect Rural England website: [www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk); Heritage Link website: [www.britarch.ac.uk/heritagelink/](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/heritagelink/); The National Trust website: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)
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More recent documents I have referenced in the main text





**Saga Endeavour Awards**

### **2004 Regional Winners**

**Mrs Elizabeth Mann - North East Winner**



Elizabeth climbed Mount Whitney, the highest in the USA outside of Alaska, at 60 with her husband after his triple bypass. Elizabeth climbed Mount Kinabalu, the highest mountain in South East Asia at the age of 68 to raise money for the British Heart Foundation after her husband died and she climbed Kilimanjaro at the age of 70.

Elizabeth said, "We had spent our silver wedding in Kenya/Tanzania on safari and flew in a hot air balloon to see Kilimanjaro. It seemed a fitting gesture in my husband's memory to climb Kilimanjaro in the year which would have been our golden wedding anniversary."

Elizabeth has also worked for 7 years as a volunteer member of the CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England).

I have included this article as it epitomises my love for the Outdoors. I have always loved, respected and tried to protect our countryside from inappropriate developments of any type. My wish is for future generations to enjoy what I have been so lucky to experience in my lifetime, a beautiful natural environment which has brought me both physical and spiritual refreshment. My passion for it, which I was fortunate to share with my husband Stanley for so many years, is so difficult to explain to those who have never experienced it. Once you have there is no need for any explanation.

Published by Elizabeth Mann

ISBN-10  
ISBN-13

0-9551387-0-6  
978-0-9551387-0-6