

Richard Smith Response 13/07/2009

Cumulative Impact

Dear Oliver

Further to our recent telecon and your voicemail message left for me last Friday, this is to confirm that at an extension of time period letter is currently being drafted and will be posted out to you in the next day or so.

With regard to the question of possible cumulative impact, as mentioned, this has become an issue in this case which requires consideration because of the number of existing, approved and proposed turbines in the area of the proposed development. These are listed below with relevant grid refs and application numbers for ease of reference. You will note from the attached SNH consultation that it has also drawn this issue to the Planning Authority's attention by querying the level of landscape and visual interest assessment undertaken to date. To assist the planning consideration process (and in line with PAN45 and the Council's supplementary planning guidance 'Wind Energy Proposals in Moray' http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_48798.html) please submit a cumulative impact assessment taking into account the proposed development and surrounding turbines/schemes in the area. Additional guidance on assessing cumulative impact can also be found on the renewable section of the SNH website. This should address such factors as:

1. the number and sensitivity of receptors from which the turbines/wind farm are visible together or sequentially;
2. the duration, frequency and nature of combined and sequential views;
3. relative impact of each individual turbine/wind farm with regard to landscape character;
4. inter relationship between zones of visual influence and
5. length of A, B and C class roads from which the development will be visible.

The other turbines/wind farm that the assessment should take into account are listed below. Applicants/agents details can be viewed on line at <http://public.moray.gov.uk/eplanning/>

1. The Aultmore wind farm proposal of 13 turbines 3-6 km to the west of the current site. The application reference number for this proposal is 07/02375/EIA and grid ref details are 345156 (E) 858607 (N).
2. The single turbine constructed at Balnamoon 2.9km to the southwest of the site. The application reference number for this proposal is 04/02472/FUL and grid ref details are 347582(E) 855758(N)
3. The single wind turbine at Myreton close to the site for which your client recently obtained planning consent (application reference 07/01102/FUL).
4. The current proposed wind turbine development of 2 turbines at Netherton Of Windyhills approx. 500m to the west of the current site. The application reference number for this proposal is 09/00763/FUL and grid ref is 349280

(E) and 857259 (N).

As an aside, you'll also see that I have attached some consultation responses for your information in addition to the comments from SNH.

The above comments are written without prejudice to the final recommendation on the application and are not binding. In addition there may be other matters that arise during the consideration process that may require your response/attention.

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