



7th February 2011

Dear Sir,

PUBLIC INQUIRY ON WIND FARMS

I would like to express the opposition of my Action Group to the building of on-shore wind farms. There are numerous reasons why they should not proceed:-

1. Wind Farms are not efficient or reliable; in the UK they run at about 19% efficiency and in the recent cold period in December 2010 a ridge of high pressure occurred over the UK creating windless conditions causing a dramatic drop in the amount of electricity produced by wind turbines. What other form of energy production requires a complete back up system to provide electricity when there is no wind? You are paying twice to provide energy in a time of economic down turn, it doesn't make sense.
2. In the UK there is a tendency to apply for planning permission far to close to local dwellings, there should be a minimum distance stipulated of 2 kilometres, for turbines between 100 and 130 metres high, away from villages.
3. Local people have no deciding say whether the wind farm should be placed on their doorstep but have to live with the consequences with no recompense.
4. There appears to be no regard as to where these turbines are sited with landscapes and traditional rural villages blighted by these developments.
5. The impact to wildlife and ecosystems is barely considered and often ignored in the pursuit of "green" technology.
6. Best sites are rarely selected, they are chosen because a willing landowner is prepared to rent their land to the power company, suitable wind speed and location does not seem to be an issue in where turbines are sited.
7. The subsidies offered to energy companies on the prices they can charge to the consumer for "green" energy are scandalous, making it an extremely profitable investment and is a win situation as it is the consumer who pays and feels the pain not the government.
8. The impact on individuals in terms of health issues is considered unimportant and unproven by planning officials and energy companies.
9. Similarly the impact of noise from wind farms is a "fallacy" despite numerous complaints and the associated ill-health.
10. There is currently no recompense to homeowners for the drop in house values. If there had been a major road or rail link constructed nearby, compensation would be paid.

The list goes on and on and yet governments seem transfixed by the word "green" and "carbon free" and not by "inefficient" and "unreliable". Thank you for debating this issue and taking the time to read my submission on behalf of the Stop Molesworth Wind Farm Action Group.

Yours Faithfully,

Vicky Wood (Mrs) Chairman