

Lincolnshire wind farm 'harm' to autistic boys

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The planning inspectorate dismissed the appeal for three reasons, including the impact the farm would have on the boys.

Developer Grange Wind Farm was not available for comment.

The farm was also rejected on the grounds of the effect it would have on the character and views of the landscape and on the amenities and health of residents.

'Spinning objects fixation'

The developers appealed to the planning inspectorate after North Lincolnshire Council refused the Flixborough Grange wind farm last year.

The farm would have overlooked the front of the Glathorne's house so they campaigned to get the application refused because they said it would harm their sons who both have Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

A report dismissing the appeal detailed evidence from a clinical psychologist who said the boys had "a fixation with spinning objects" and the "time they spend engaged in spinning and observing objects has to be limited in order to allow them to engage in other more meaningful activities".

Mrs Glathorne told BBC News the existing Bagmoor wind farm overlooking the back of their home had had a "massive effect" on her sons.

"Both boys just stand and scream and flap their arms ecstatically at them spinning and get quite cross when they don't spin... it's unbelievable the effect, really worse than we could have ever imagined."

She said Ross had become so obsessed with the turbines that they had been forced to move his bedroom.

Mrs Glathorne added: "We just weren't prepared to make them prisoners in their own home... why should we when they've got such a lot of freedom and a such a lovely place to grow up."

Planning inspector John Braithwaite said: "The effect of the Grange wind farm on the health and well being of Lewis and Ross, and on the health and well being of their parents and sister, cannot be underestimated.

"It is, in fact, difficult to imagine how the family could continue to live at their home if Grange was to be built in addition to Bagmoor."

Web link: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/humber/8646326.stm