

From:

Sent: 30 October 2012 09:31

To:

Subject: FW: Renewable energy

Dear Mrs(?)

As a resident of Hampshire I understand your attitude to wind turbines although I may not necessarily agree to it. Would you also be against large scale solar farms for presumably the same reasons?

If this is the case then support for schools and local authority buildings to install PV arrays on roof tops must be forthcoming and yet I find this increasingly not the case.

My company can now offer fully funded (via lease arrangements) PV/Heat Pump/Biomass solutions to enable such buildings to reduce their carbon footprint, futureproof themselves against ever increasing energy costs, and in the case of schools provide a valuable teaching resource.

We are already working with several authorities at local and county level to offer effectively master lease arrangements to enable a rapid roll out of these technologies all at no up front capital cost to the authority.

Can I talk to you or one of your colleagues about how we may be able to get things started with Hampshire.

Yours

Sam.



From:
Sent: 02 November 2012 09:50
To:
Subject: FW: Wind farm ban on council land

----- Original Message -----

From:
Sent: 2012-10-30 14:29:45.0
To:
Subject: Wind farm ban on council land

Re: Wind farm ban on council land

Dear Council Leader:

Concern is expressed about a considered ban on all large wind turbines and wind farms on council owned land.

A council report said that while the "benefits" of providing renewable clean energy were recognised, they would have an "adverse impact" on the landscape.

The ban will be considered by the Council on November 6.

This move would have a "far-reaching" impact on climate change in the county. It is ridiculous. Climate change is a well-established fact and the council has got to do something about it. It is not wise to continually rely on getting energy from Russian oligarchs and oil sheiks.

The south is blessed with natural resources - huge amounts of sunlight and wind and tidal resources. Make your energy and create jobs and wealth.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,

362.

From:**Sent:** 30 October 2012 20:20**To:****Subject:** Proposed ban on all large wind turbines and wind farms on council owned land

Dear

I have just read on the BBC local web site of the proposed ban on all large wind turbines and wind farms on council owned land.

I have been involved in developing sensor systems for Air Traffic Management, Airport, Airline & Defence Systems for over forty years.

I have served on EU, US & UK working groups on measuring and processing weather data.

Even in the 1980s climate change was being observed and a correlation with the output of 'green house gases' established. The evidence now is indisputable.

Unfortunately due to the lack of action the rate of climate change is increasing at an unstoppable rate; all we can do now is mitigate the effects to protect future generations.

'One in 50 year' meteorological events from even 10 years ago are occurring every five to ten years now.

It is ironical that whilst one of the worst hurricanes for 108 years is raging (one of a whole series of similar events)

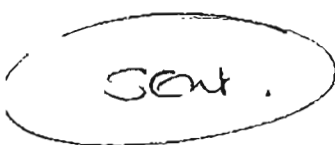
Hampshire County Council is considering banning all large wind turbines and wind farms on council owned land!

What message does this send out?

Hampshire County Council should be leading not acting as the luddites did.

What will the next generation think of such a cynical decision?

Yours truly

Sent.

From:
Sent: 30 October 2012 20:45
To:
Cc:
Subject: Proposed plan not to permit large wind turbines

Dear

I have seen on the BBC news website that the County Council proposes a blanket ban on large wind turbines and wind farms on Council-owned land. I am writing to urge the Council not to carry out this policy.

My main reason for being strongly in favour of the widespread development of wind farms is that I believe that the UK government at all levels underestimates the fragility of our present supplies of energy. I am deeply concerned that the present regime in Russia cannot be relied upon to provide a steady supply of gas and oil to its customers. While the UK is not a large customer, it seems to me that there will be serious competition for the gas and oil that we do buy from other countries (especially Norway) if Russian gas is cut off, and we will immediately face shortages and price rises that will almost certainly be catastrophic.

Come that day, which may be much closer than the day when ready gas and oil in the UK's vicinity runs out, Hampshire Council will be in a very bad light for not having done its bit to support our nation by having a fair share of alternative energy sources in place. This includes wind turbines, as well as tidal turbines, wave motion converters and geothermal sources, all of which are large-scale projects requiring Council planning. Variety is the key, so that when one is not working, the others will fill the gap. Ruling out a whole sector of alternative energy leaves us vulnerable.

Please reconsider this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

30TH October 2012

Dear Sirs,

We have just read the document "Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land". A copy is here. <http://bit.ly/VZvVBp>.

Its conclusion shocked us. Its recommendation concerned us.

We would like to see the evidence on which your conclusions and recommendations have been based.

Clearly to reach such a conclusive conclusion and to make such a major, and far reaching, decision you must have accumulated a great deal of evidence that supports the views made in the policy document.

Could you therefore please supply us a copy of;

1. The engineers, environmental, accounting and impact reports that you have commissioned that allowed you to draw your conclusions
2. The cost benefit analysis that you have carried out that supports your categorical view that "There is a clear conflict between the potential benefits of wind power in providing renewable clean energy and the adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes"

Clearly to be able to make such statements there must be a large and conclusive body of research and analysis on

1. The potential benefits and
2. The adverse impacts
3. The special qualities and character of our landscape

This evidence must be made available to the general public – if it exists.

Can you let us know by return where this evidence is and when it will be made publically available.

No doubt you will now be issuing policy statements on the adverse effects of motorways; airports; factories; office blocks; electricity pylons; solar farms and green field housing has on the special qualities of our landscape.

You are setting a very dangerous precedent.

Yours sincerely

From:
Sent: 31 October 2012 19:54
To:
Subject: Wind turbines
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red
Attachments: Histogram.pdf; SYNOPSIS CONTRA WIND FOR CIRCULATION.docx; GLOBAL WARMING NUMBERS SINGER 2.doc; BIOMASS, WOOD PELLETS.doc; cartoon 1.pdf

Dear Mr.

I viewed your comments on television this evening, and fully endorse your view that there should be no further installation of turbines on Council land.

These turbines are far from the useful animals described by another speaker, a Mr. Heath (?) from an eco group. He was, unhappily, quite ignorant of the electrical engineering characteristics of these machines, and volumes of sound evidence which exists for declaring that their value in reducing CO₂ emission is vastly overstated.

I am a retired research scientist, having spent the last 35 years of my professional career at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell in Oxfordshire. Since retirement I have continued to take a keen interest in all energy matters, and have a wide circle of very experienced contacts in all aspects of the industry. I have thus acquired a wide knowledge of the spectrum of energy matters from nuclear generation to renewables. I became, by examination, an Associate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry in 1954, and was elected a Fellow in 1971.

I hope that you will find the attached items to be relevant to the problem, including the one by Dr. Fred Singer, whose views are held by tens of thousands of scientists rather like myself, making scientific calculation. I certainly hope that the new Minister for Energy, John Hayes, is able to push his views in wind turbines.

If you would like any more relevant information, or would like to talk on this subject, please just give me a call. Nothing, is, I believe, more important than a secure electricity supply. (On a more personal note, do you have a generator for your house? I do, a 6KW unit in my garage, tested on the first of each month).

My best regards

From:

Sent: 31 October 2012 23:24

To:

Cc:

Subject: Policy for Large Wind Turbines and Wind Farms on County Council Land

Dear

I am a Hampshire resident living just around the corner from you in

I have just seen the BCC news item on the above, read the decision report (ref:4205) on the HCC website, and I am **INCENSED** with the pompous attitude of the Hampshire county council.

should not be solely responsible for decision making on an issue such as this. We do not live in a dictatorship. There should be a full, democratic debate on this subject.

sonally I believe there should be many, many, many more wind farms in Hampshire especially on County council land.

They and their associated engineering do not have a negative effect on the landscape.

There should be proper planning on a case-by-case basis but the default position should be in favour of building wind farms on county council and other land.

What is your view and activity on this subject?

What can/will you do to represent my view?

How can I escalate this issue and oppose this policy?

Best regards

01/11/2012

From:
Sent: 01 November 2012 10:16
To:
Cc:
Subject: HCC policy on wind turbines

Dear

I am writing to you with regard to Hampshire County Council's recent statement that it intends to prevent the construction of wind farms on its land. I was disturbed by this announcement which I think is utterly wrong. Please ensure that this policy is not recommended for approval.

I hope you will agree that the UK needs urgently to adopt low carbon technologies to generate electricity to mitigate the increasingly severe effects of global warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil-fuels. Onshore wind is among the cheapest forms of renewable energy (pence/kWh) but more importantly the lifetime emissions of onshore wind (g CO₂eq/kWh) are the lowest of any of the major forms of renewable energy today and much lower than gas turbine or coal-fired power stations. Therefore wind turbines offer a very attractive way of mitigating global warming which should be grasped at all suitable opportunities.

It appears that HCC's principal reasons for its decision are that 'large wind turbines and wind farms would have an adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes', they will 'have a significant visual impact in the countryside' and they will have 'very significant impacts in terms of visual intrusion, urbanisation, damage to historic character and to tranquillity'.

Let me take these arguments in turn. First, visual impact. This is a subjective argument that depends on individual taste (some people like wind turbines!). Anyway, all forms of centralised electricity generation have some visual impact. However, if the lights start to go out in a few years time (cf. Ofgem's October 2012 report) such arguments may seem to have been selfish. In any case, at the end of its useful life (ca. 25 years) a wind turbine can easily be removed from its footings and the footings broken up without leaving any permanent 'scar' on the landscape. Second, urbanisation. This is poppycock. Admittedly access roads have to be built but anyone who has ever visited a wind farm will quickly realise that such roads are barely visible once vegetation has been restored. Third, damage to historic character. I remain to be convinced that this argument has any merit whatsoever. What historic character? Please name one. Finally, tranquillity. Objecting to turbine noise shows either sheer ignorance or mischievousness as anyone who has actually stood under a rotating turbine will tell you. Sheep happily graze under wind turbines. DECC says 'Windfarms do make noise with the level of a wind farm at a distance of 350m (1150ft). comparable to the sound of leaves rustling in a general breeze (approx 35-45 dB). A car travelling at 40mph at a distance of 100m (330ft) creates around 55 dB.' 55dB is 10 times louder than 45 dB.

The above arguments appear to me to be based on blatant nimbyism and I think they are unsustainable.

Lastly I would like to point out that climate scientists are telling us that mankind faces environmental disaster on a global scale if strenuous efforts are not made within the next few years to severely cut back our emissions of greenhouse gases. It is important therefore that all opportunities to install renewable sources of electricity are taken; Hampshire, which according to DECC has not one single wind farm, should play its part. There is no time to lose and to suggest that HCC could change its mind in 10-15 years time, as you said on television last night, misses the point.

Yours sincerely,



From: _____
Sent: 01 November 2012 12:46
To:
Cc:
Subject: Re: Wind Farms

Dear
Thank you for your email.
Your objection will be noted when the report recommendations appear before me on the Decision Day.
Kind regards

On 1 Nov 2012, at 11:45, "

> wrote:

Dear

With all due respect you have absolutely no idea what you are talking about.

Please provide me with the evidence that the public are in favour of this given that all the research I have seen show that 80% are in favour.

Please tell me how many letters of complaint you have had regarding the Facombe wind turbine (AONB) in 20 years?

Perhaps you could also tell me how many times Sizewell B has been shut down for non planned for events in the last 6 years.

This is simply an extreme Right Wing policy designed to please the over 60's who read the Daily Telegraph.

So you've now got a policy! Well that's taken 12 years and in 12 years you've achieved less than 1% of electricity generation from Renewable sources. But please correct me if I'm wrong and don't include energy from burning waste.

Sincerely

Thesis on how the South of England will meet the 5.4% target by 2010. Answer, you couldn't be bothered.

From:

Sent: 01 November 2012 18:53

To:

Cc:

Subject: Wind Farms on Hampshire County Council Land

Dear

I am appalled at the very attempt to forbid wind farms on County Council land! This initiative should be quashed as soon as possible.

In the preamble 3.(a) there is the statement that it does not have an impact on HCC's climate change policy. The person who put that in is clearly hoping that the initiative will be squashed, because the statement is so obviously wrong that people like me, including intelligent county councillors, will pounce on it!

Just in the very unlikely case that it does not seem obviously wrong, here are three reasons:

- (1) It marks HCC down as lukewarm in its views on, and knowledge of, the anthropogenic cause for global warming.
- (2) It implies that HCC, in its leadership capacity, has a desire to encourage denial on climate change and energy depletion.
- (3) It implies that HCC does not realise that a "do nothing" attitude actually encourages global warming.

I have just read a paragraph in Max Hastings wonderful book about WWII, "All Hell Let Loose", p. 78. Forgive me for quoting it: you probably don't need to read the paragraph if you are impossibly busy!

"RAF fighter pilot Paul Richey, wounded in France (1940), was flown home by mail plane in the first days of June: 'I looked down on the calm and peaceful English countryside, the smoke rising....lazily from cottage chimneys, and saw a game of cricket in progress on a village pitch. With my mind still filled with the blast and flame that had shattered France, I was seized with utter disgust at the smug contentedness England enjoyed behind her sea barrier. I thought that a few bombs would wake up those cricketers, and that they wouldn't be long in coming either'".

It was, of course, southern England he was flying over. I'm afraid that, though the circumstances are different, **smug contentedness** pretty well sums up the attitude behind this attempt at policy!

One other important point: Hampshire is protected against wind farms being sited everywhere. It is not for nothing that there are two National Parks: South Downs and New Forest. To try to protect more is just sheer greed, especially as there are many places where the wind will not blow enough anyway.

I attach a letter which I am sending to my MP tomorrow, which provides some context, though I am sure that most County Councillors will know it all.

Best regards,

From:
Sent: 07 November 2012 15:14
To:
Cc:
Subject: Re: Wind Farms on Hampshire County Council Land

Dear

I hear that your reply to my letter is exactly the same as your replies to one or two other letters objecting to this proposed policy. I cannot believe that my letter is the same as anyone else's! And since your letter does not begin to answer the points I have raised, I take exception to your indifference to the views of citizens of Hampshire. I shall be glad, however, if that indifference is because you are being run off your feet by objections!

Yours sincerely,

Dear

Thank you for your comments on the decision report entitled, 'Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land'. The decision on whether to adopt a policy to restrict the use of Hampshire County Council's own land for large wind turbine developments will be made by the Leader of the County Council as Executive Member for Policy and Resources.

The policy is being considered to provide clear guidance for scheme promoters, and in recognition of the often conflicting objectives between the benefits of wind power in providing clean renewable energy, when the wind blows, and the adverse visual and amenity impact on Hampshire's outstanding and high quality landscapes and countryside, which are an important economic asset in themselves, and a key aspect of the character of Hampshire.

This paper only addresses large wind turbines and wind farms on the County Council's own land and is not looking to restrict small scale or domestic installations. The County Council has no jurisdiction on the latter and it would therefore not be appropriate for it to comment.

We are completely signed up to the benefits of low carbon energy, but believe that at present large scale wind turbines on our land do not provide a sufficient benefit to justify the loss of some of Hampshire's most prized undeveloped countryside. We recognise however that wind turbine technology will develop, and the financial regimes that apply may also change, therefore we will keep the position under close scrutiny.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the County Council takes the energy and climate change agenda very seriously. The County Council recently approved an Energy Strategy and we agreed to explore a range of options to ensure that Hampshire has future access to sustainable and secure energy sources. On shore wind power is not the only source of low carbon energy.

I can assure you that the County Council will continue to assess future opportunities under this changing agenda.



373

From:
Sent: 01 November 2012 22:16
To:
Cc:
Subject: HCC proposal to blanket ban Wind turbines on council land

Dear

I have read the policy document proposing a ban on wind turbines on council owned land and I am shocked by the arrogance and NIMBY ism shown by HCC. Hampshire uses power so it is only fair it generates some of it as well.

Our government, HCC and WCC are legally committed to reducing our carbon emissions and ruling out the cheapest renewable source currently available is wrong. Once up, wind is free and any power it generates costs very little. Coal and gas where we get most of our energy is expensive to run and we have no control over the price. The way the electricity is traded means both renewable and non renewable energy are sold on the same market at the same price which is why we don't see the savings come through to our bills. Coal and Gas power stations have subsidies in the form of tax breaks. In fact the chancellor announced another one for shale gas just the other day. When taken into account wind is cheap in comparison.

Wind turbines are graceful and look fantastic and makes a statement to the country that we are trying to do something about our predicament. If we don't invest in all renewable energies we know our climate will change and it will change the landscape in other ways. I think you need to visit a turbine and see how they add to the landscape rather than detract from it.

1. I would like to know what facts have led you to this decision?
2. What is the cost benefit analysis that supports your categorical view that *"There is a clear conflict between the potential benefits of wind power in providing renewable clean energy and the adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes"*
3. What are the potential benefits?
4. What are the adverse impacts?
5. What are the special qualities and character of our landscape and how will they be ruined?

To even dream up such a proposal must have lots of good evidence which must be made available to the public. Please can you tell me where I can get hold of it because it will make very interesting reading?

ask in the meantime you withdraw this policy and think again.

From:

Sent: 01 November 2012 17:59

To:

Subject: proposed Hampshire County Council policy to ban wind energy from Hampshire County Council land

Dear

I was appalled to discover that you are being asked to agree to ban the building large wind turbines and wind farm developments on HCC land.

Please do not support this policy.

As a research scientist of some standing I have taken a deep interest in Climate Change and have looked at a good deal of the recent literature in this area. I am concerned that it is not widely understood by our politicians and general public that it is necessary to urgently decarbonise the world economy and leave much of the world's fossil fuel resources in the ground to give a reasonable chance of avoiding absolutely disastrous warming.

One of the key ways of decarbonising the economy this is by switching electricity generation from fossil fuels (including natural gas) to renewables including on-shore wind. On-shore wind is the cheapest and lowest carbon source of renewable energy.

It is ludicrous to assert, as John Hayes, Minister of State for Energy does that "Enough is Enough" when it comes to wind turbines. He simply does not understand the urgency of the situation.

I note that the paper recommending the ban on County Council land states that 'large wind turbines and wind farms would have an adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes', 'a significant visual impact in the countryside' and 'very significant impacts in terms of visual intrusion, urbanisation, damage to historic character and to tranquillity'.

Wind farms create less noise than roads. According to a DECC that the sound of a windfarm at a distance of 350m is comparable to the sound of leaves rustling in a general breeze and many times quieter than that in an office or from traffic on a road 100m away. Windfarms do not upset wildlife or farm animals grazing directly under wind turbines. The peer reviewed literature does not generally support the contention that the noise from windfarms is bad for health.

While some people find wind turbines an eyesore others consider them to be beautiful. Access roads are barely visible once vegetation has been restored.

Even if they are considered to have an adverse visual impact this is far less than the impact we face from the consequences of climate change including loss of trees and wildlife and erosion and flooding of our coastline. In addition a NIMBY'ish curtailment of the wind turbine programme would mean that additional fossil fuel and or nuclear capacity would need to be installed with negative visual impact in others' back yards.

If there were reasons for not using a specific site on the grounds of damage to historic character, this could be dealt with in the due course of planning.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that you are not supporting the proposal to ban large wind turbines and windfarms from HCC land.

02/11/2012

379.



From: [Redacted]
 Sent: 02 November 2012 12:56
 To: [Redacted]
 Subject: Wind Farms on County Council Land

Dear Sirs

I am writing to express my disappointment that the County Council is planning to oppose the building of wind farms on its land, and would urge you to reconsider.

In order to meet our power requirements in the years to come, without exacerbating the present climate change trends, we need to make use of any means which do not increase our carbon footprint – is this opportunity for the Council to demonstrate its green credentials to be lost?!

Please do not give in to the climate change deniers, who have not a clue about what the world will be like for their descendants. Do not join those that allow short-termism to rule over the long-term needs of the majority.

Yours faithfully

2

From:
Sent: 02 November 2012 13:01
To:
Subject: HCC - Wind turbines on Council Land

Dear

I'm quite astonished at the new coming out of HCC this week!

Can you please provide clarification on what evidence you have based your plans on please?

Kind regards

<TURBINE WINDFARM GENERIC LETTER.doc>



From:

Sent: 02 November 2012 15:12

To:

Cc:

Subject: Policy for Large Wind Turbines and Wind Farms on County Council Land

Dear

I apologise that my first email ever to a county councillor is not on a happy matter.

However, I was little surprised to see this BBC report: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-20153988?ns_source=PublicRSS20-sa and the associated policy: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsItemsummary.htm?sta=0&tab=1&item_ID=4205¤tpage=1&cancel=nl.

As far as I can tell this policy purports to have assessed that any benefits that might come from having a wind farm on council land is outweighed by aesthetic considerations of the landscape. The effect of the policy is to impose this subjective assessment onto the county and the people who live here based on what appears to be almost no transparent analysis. Furthermore the policy might be construed as representing local opinion while ruling out the opportunity of this opinion being exercised.

Personally as someone who regularly cycles in the Hampshire countryside I would welcome some windfarms in the landscape. The appearance of these is very subjective and I don't see them as ugly. I would certainly like to feel clean energy was being generated on Hampshire land and, as you must know, the technical consensus is that onshore wind is currently one of the most efficient forms of renewable energy currently available to us.

I was also surprised that the assessment was that this policy would have no effect on climate change which, I'm sure you'll agree is an imminent and significant threat. Without significant reduction in carbon emissions we are currently on a path to rob future generations of the benign environment which you and I have been able to enjoy. So any mitigation we can achieve would surely be a benefit and of course wind power has already proved an effective way to replace some fossil-fuel emissions.

As I'm sure you know, once installed, wind turbines have very little impact on the environment other than a subjective visual effect. There is generally little noise and no significant demonstrable harm to creatures or plants (compared, for example, with road traffic). Furthermore they are easily removed, increase our energy security, create local jobs and by displacing fossil fuel use decrease many forms of air and soil pollution.

As climate change gains pace - and you can't have failed to be aware of the dramatic changes in Arctic sea ice recently in the news - this kind of decision is going to look increasingly short-sighted and politically motivated.

So, in summary, I'd really like to understand how you came to this conclusion and maybe ask you and your fellow members to consider whether this is really in our joint best interests.

Yours Sincerely



From:

Sent: 02 November 2012 18:12

To:

Subject: Wind Farms

Dear

I understand that you will bring a paper to the County Council in December recommending that it agrees a policy that "large wind turbine and wind farm developments are not supported at present by the County Council on Council owned land in the countryside."

The report says "that this will have no impact on climate change."

I deplore this proposal, both on economic and on scientific grounds.

On the economic grounds, we learnt in the last few days that the wind power sector has exceeded all expectations and has increased energy generation by 25% since 2010, despite noted and intensifying discouragement from government. Investment in offshore wind increased by 60% to 1.5bn in the past year. If it were allowed to continue on this present trajectory, by 2018 renewable energy will overtake nuclear and will power one in 10 British homes. Why should the County Council seek to stifle one of the few thriving areas in the economy? What the renewable technology businesses most require is a degree of consistency and predictability in the marketplace and they are being given quite the reverse treatment.

We should be competing vigorously in the renewables market, reaping the benefits in jobs and earnings.

On scientific grounds, it is of the greatest importance that we reduce our dependence on CO₂ generating fossil fuels as rapidly as possible. Even the Americans, whose economy is so heavily linked to oil, are beginning to accept this, as witness the shifting political allegiance of the mayor of N.Y. post hurricane Sandy. Though renewable energy generation requires substantial initial investment, there-after the energy generated is virtually free, entailing only maintenance costs.

Yours sincerely

From:
Sent: 03 November 2012 17:51
To:
Subject: Congrats for Onshore Windmill position

I Congratulations on speaking up for Hants on the issue.

The problems with the UK wind farm programme are deeper than we realise. The only thorough study of where such programmes are leading is by the US as outlined in the documents to be found at www.efn-uk.org. The US study clearly imply that the UL onshore programme is a totally unnecessary sacrifice of this green and pleasant land to a much larger EU requirement. My personal interpretation of the US study is that Renewables really do not stand up on their own as a sensible power source for any modern industrial economy.

I will be giving a talk on this at Bournemouth Natural Science Society, 7:30pm, Dec 4th. You and your colleagues are more than welcome to attend and comment. The text of our poster is given below along with other contact details.

Most .gov websites reject attachments, but I would be glad to send you pdf documents to expand on the story.

Regards

Bournemouth Natural Science Society

..... LECTURE – ALL WELCOME

THE RENEWABLE ENERGY DICTATORSHIP

, Fusion Scientist

December 4, 7:30 pm.

Doors open 7.00 pm Refreshments 8.30pm

Wind and solar energy have the well known problems of intermittency and low average performance. Only the US National Renewable Energy Laboratory has optimised a reliable, 80% renewables energy system for 2050. It is therefore a possible solution but carries heavy penalties.

This has serious Implications for the current UK wind energy policies. The Onshore wind programme should be curtailed.

A full analysis of the projected US and EU renewables programmes can be found at www.efn-uk.org



26 Beach Road, Emsworth Hampshire PO10 7JS

**Hampshire County Council
The Castle
WINCHESTER
Hampshire**

Date

Dear

Reference Decision Report 4205 -large wind turbines on county council
owned land dated 6th November 2012

We are writing to you in response to the above report proposing that Hampshire County Council introduces a new policy to ban wind farm development on land it owns. We are both surprised and disappointed by this proposal given the many commitments the council has made regarding reducing energy use and increasing renewable energy in the county.

Whilst not a Planning Authority, Hampshire County Council has a major leadership role to play as an exemplar in bringing about lower emissions across the county in order to minimise Climate Change. The county has previously demonstrated this by signing the Nottingham Declaration in 2001, being a pilot in Councils for Climate Protection and the Carbon Management Programme, helping to establish the South East Climate Change Partnership and leading the ESPACE European project. More recently Hampshire Friends of the Earth worked closely with your officers on developing behaviour change and engagement programmes for promoting a more sustainable Hampshire. Our groups and their various allies throughout the county work with their local authorities on various environmental initiatives.

Banning wind farms sends out to landowners throughout the county a completely negative perception of renewable energy. It is also an unnecessary step because a) the county already has powers to decide on how it uses land it owns and b) the planning system already effectively governs the siting of wind farms.

National Planning Statement EN-1 provides overarching guidance to Planning Authorities on renewable energy schemes. We quote below some relevant

sections from the guidance as it sets out what individual Planning authorities have to consider when an application is made.

“3.3.10 As part of the UK’s need to diversify and decarbonise electricity generation, the Government is committed to increasing dramatically the amount of renewable generation capacity (see Section 3.4). In the short to medium term, much of this new capacity is likely to be onshore and offshore wind,

Onshore Wind – onshore wind is the most well-established and currently the most economically viable source of renewable electricity available for future large-scale deployment in the UK”

The UK has a target to achieve 15% of our energy needs from renewable sources by 2020 in the UK. Wind power should and could play a big role in delivering on this target.

It is important to note that we do need a mix of different types of renewable energy sources as no one technology can provide all the energy required by UK residents. However, as the government has stated (above), wind power is the most cost effective, market-ready technology which must be deployed soon if we are to get near to achieving our renewables targets and thus bring down greenhouse gas emissions.

Wind turbines save substantial amounts of carbon emissions. Onshore turbines are responsible for less carbon emissions per kWh over their lifetime than almost any other form of electricity generation. According to House of Commons Postnote 268, onshore wind is responsible for only 4.64g CO₂eq per kWh (mainly due to manufacture and construction), compared to around 500g CO₂eq per kWh for gas powered generation and double that for coal.ⁱ

Wind turbines over their 20 - 25 year lifetimes will produce far more energy than is consumed in manufacturing a turbine. Turbine manufacturers typically calculate 'energy payback' times in the range of 3 to 9 monthsⁱⁱ

Energy from renewable sources provides much greater energy security than from imported fossil fuels such as gas, oil and coal (or from imported uranium for nuclear power). The price of wind power is already similar to fossil fuels but the cost of electricity from wind is likely to fall over the next few years while the cost of fossil fuels is likely to rise.ⁱⁱⁱ

ⁱ <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/post/postpn268.pdf>

ⁱⁱ (Centre for Sustainable Energy report 'Common concerns about wind power', May 2011, section 1, p5 www.cse.org.uk/news/view/1535).

ⁱⁱⁱ CSE report, section 2, pp7-8

Friends of the Earth is aware that a key issue for some local residents is how intrusive the visual impact will be. We would be concerned if there were any major impacts on protected and designated sites from any project.

This is a highly subjective issue. Being visible is not necessarily the same as being intrusive. While some people express concern about the effect wind turbines have on the beauty of our landscape, others see them as symbols of a better, less polluted future.

The 21st Century landscape includes wind turbines in many countries. Large and small arrays of onshore turbines are becoming more common. Many people find these pleasing to the eye, restful and a symbol of caring for the environment. Hampshire County Council can play a role in ensuring that a balanced debate happens about this particular issue. Unfortunately, the proposal for a ban on wind power could reinforce negative attitudes to turbines on the basis of subjective views on aesthetics.

Wind turbines should be seen in a positive light as they are capturing a clean, free renewable resource, thus reducing our dependency on high cost and high polluting fossil fuels. We believe that the current planning system is the right place to determine individual applications for wind power and that making general statements against wind from the County Council can only harm Hampshire's prospects for reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the future. We urge you to withdraw this proposal at the earliest opportunity. Failing that we would at least expect a full council debate on such a controversial issue that would allow county councillors to speak up for their constituents.

Friends of the Earth believe the debate about wind power must be balanced and informed. We want to encourage wind farms which are appropriately sited, well designed and locally supported.

I look forward to hearing your views on this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Havant & East Hants Friends of the Earth
Havant Transition Network
Southampton Friends of the Earth
Winchester Friends of the Earth
Test Valley Friends of the Earth
Blackwater Valley Friends of the Earth
Portsmouth Friends of the Earth
Gosport & Fareham Friends of the Earth
New Forest Friends of the Earth
Winchester Action on Climate Change
Portsmouth Climate Action Network
South East Region Friends of the Earth

From:
Sent: 04 November 2012 12:47
To:
Cc:
Subject: Proposed ban on wind farms on HCC Land

Dear

I was very concerned to learn about the proposed policy not to support large wind turbines or wind farms on any Hampshire County Council land.

It is widely acknowledged in public and political circles that it is necessary for us to quickly and significantly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and to increase our renewable energy generation, in response to the twin challenges of climate change and finite fossil fuel resources. Indeed, this was acknowledged in the Council's own draft Energy Strategy which I understand was approved on Monday.

Whilst onshore wind is not the only low carbon renewable power source, it is currently one of the most cost-effective. Moreover, the scale of the energy and climate change challenges means that we are likely to need to employ diverse means of reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel reliance. Onshore wind therefore has an important role to play in building a resilient, affordable and low carbon electricity system. Whilst some people oppose wind turbines in their local areas, and the most visually attractive areas of the UK should be protected, wind turbines will need to be erected somewhere and so it should not be argued that large areas of the UK are unsuitable for such developments on aesthetic grounds.

I am therefore dismayed that the Council is proposing to rule out the possibility of large wind turbines or wind farms on its land. Not only do I consider such a policy inappropriate, I am surprised that it might be considered necessary. Given the existing regulatory framework, such as planning rules and protected status for designated sites of ecological and cultural importance, I do not understand why a blanket ban has been proposed.

On a more detailed point, the standard response that has been sent to other residents raising concerns about the proposed policy cites a desire "to provide clear guidance for scheme promoters", yet the draft policy does not explain which wind turbines would be classed as "large" and so fails to meet this objective.

I therefore urge you not to support this proposal and request that Councillor [redacted] does not commend it to the Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel or the Executive Member for Policy and Resources for approval on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely



581

From:
Sent: 04 November 2012 15:54
To:
Subject: Wind farms

I probably don't know enough about the subject other than various articles I have read over the past few years, but it seems to me that the point missing from Basingstoke Transition's recent emails is the opposing view i.e. that wind farms are simply money generators for the companies that manufacture, instal and run them, and that they contribute a negligible amount to the nation's power needs.

Sent from my iPad

127
385

From:
Sent: 04 November 2012 19:59
To:
Cc:
Subject: Proposed ban on wind energy on HCC land

Dear

Please do not recommend that the County Council agree a policy that large wind turbines and wind farm developments are not supported at present by the County Council on Council-owned land in the countryside.

This policy would undermine HCC's other work on mitigating the effects of climate change which will no longer be taken seriously by many people.

The most important responsibility we all have is to ensure we leave a world in which our grandchildren and great grandchildren can survive. I notice that the HCC policy on Climate Change Resilience makes no mention of future generations.

Has HCC given any consideration to the intergenerational impacts of climate change?

The report you have been given says this proposed policy would have no impact on climate change. This is quite untrue. Using renewable energy to replace electricity produced from burning fossil fuels is one of the best ways to cut our carbon footprint rapidly. Electricity from onshore wind is among the cheapest forms of renewable energy, much less costly than gas turbine or coal-fire power stations.

The beauty or ugliness of wind turbines is a matter of taste, not fact. And they can be easily dismantled if required. There is significant UK public support for renewable energy projects, including support for wind turbines even from people living near to proposed sites. There are of course, even higher levels of support for renewable energy schemes if they are to be community owned and controlled - as is often the case in Germany. HCC could use its influence and power creatively to encourage such schemes, including wind farms.

Think about your grandchildren and their children, and please do not recommend this policy to your colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

,

From:
Sent: 04 November 2012 22:14
To:
Cc:
Subject: Proposed ban on wind turbines

Dear

I am very disappointed that you are proposing that Hampshire County Council bans the erection of wind turbines on county council land.

The scientific evidence for the effect of burning fossil fuels on climate change is overwhelming and most expert opinion considers that wind turbines are an essential element in the range of measures required to combat climate change. Time is running out. The effects of global warming are already evident across the world. Development agencies have documented the calamitous loss of livelihoods in Africa and elsewhere. This is the context in which you propose a blanket ban.

I accept that there is often a conflict between preserving the beauty of the landscape and the need to provide renewable energy. However it defies belief that there are not sites in one of the biggest counties in England which would not lend themselves to the siting of turbines without major impact on the landscape. For that reason it would seem perfectly sensible to allow for the normal planning processes to apply wherever turbines are proposed rather than admit no possibility of their development.

The county council may wish to reflect on the fact that the biggest threat to the landscape is likely to come not from turbines but from the loss of ash and other tree species. It may also wish to reflect on the growing evidence that climate change is significantly implicated in the threat to our native trees.

I would urge you to withdraw your proposal, not least because the county council should be seen as leading the drive for renewable energy.

Yours sincerely,

394

From:**Sent:** 08 November 2012 13:39**To:****Cc:****Subject:** FW: Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land ref 4205

From:**Sent:** 08 November 2012 12:28**To:****Cc:****Subject:** Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land ref 4205

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to object to the proposal in Appendix C of the paper entitled 'Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land', reference 4205, that council-owned land should not be used for these purposes.

The council owns land which would be suitable for large wind turbines and wind farms. It could lead the way in promoting more sustainable energy generation. The great thing about wind developments is that they are reversible. Unlike other forms of power generation, the permanent building infrastructure required is minimal and non-polluting, so if future advances in energy generation make large wind turbines and wind farms redundant, the land can be returned to its previous state. This is not the case with most other forms of energy generation.

Some of the council's sites would not doubt be unsuitable for wind farms and large wind turbines for various reasons. However, a policy of not having such developments on any council-owned land is a different matter, and is not justified.

Current methods of energy production do enormous damage in the countries where minerals are extracted, as well as contributing to climate change which is now reaching the point of being irreversible. For both these reasons - humanitarian and environmental - it behoves us to bear the cost of our current and future energy demands locally. Wind turbines and wind farms are a visual daily reminder of how our electricity consumption has to be met. Better that than polluted drinking water in Nigeria and rising sea levels and severe weather events.

If we had to live with the consequences of our energy use, there may be more of an incentive to reduce our consumption, which is currently rising with the growth in personal computing devices.

08/11/2012

It is misguided to rule out generating power on council-owned land: the consequences of generating the power elsewhere and by other means, the drawbacks of other methods of generation compared to large wind turbines and wind farms, the growing demand and the falling ability to meet it, and the consequences of failure to supply demand all mean that HCC has a duty to seize any opportunity that allows it to contribute to Hampshire's and national needs where it has the ability to do so without detriment to the environment here or abroad. As a coastal authority we are fortunate to have so much potential; we can benefit directly, and also lead the way so that other authorities follow our lead. It is short sighted to rule out these possibilities.

Please do not adopt this proposal.

Regards,

[REDACTED]



From:

Sent: 05 November 2012 10:53

To:

Subject: Wind Farms Ban

Dear

I was rather disappointed to read the proposed ban on wind farms on council owned land in Hampshire. I appreciate the sentiment and as a Hampshire resident love the beauty we have in our county, yet this blanket ban seems to be a little draconian. Surely it would make more sense to ensure any applications are considered on their individual merits and debated accordingly in true democratic process?

I note there is a point made that this will be kept under review - yet without a specified date for review this also seems rather vague.

I hope you reconsider this approach and discuss with your fellow councillors to ensure a happy medium is reached.

Regards

--

Friendly, helpful and results focussed Business Advice and Coaching



<!--[if !vml]-->

<!--[endif]-->

382

From:
Sent: 05 November 2012 17:44
To:
Cc:
Subject: wind energy, decarbonisation and adapting to a warmer world
Attachments: low-carbon-economy-index-nov12.pdf; prosperity_without_growth_report.pdf uGA printed

Dear

Please would you urge HCC to reconsider their policy to ban wind farms (and community wind turbines?) on HCC land in Hampshire, and instead take into account the local feasibility and other merits of individual schemes when considering future wind energy applications.

Although I'm sure you will agree that solar panels, anaerobic digesters, wood and other biomass burners, air and ground source heat pumps and hydro energy from river, wave and tidal sources can all be valuable ways to produce and supply affordable local renewable energy; it's likely there are places in Hampshire that have fairly reliable wind, and communities that would benefit from wind energy to complement their local energy mix, as energy from fossil fuel and nuclear sources becomes increasingly costly to produce and distribute, and grid power supplies and all resource and energy supply lines become more stretched.

As you're probably aware, any spare night time wind capacity can have a variety of uses - for example: they can contribute to generating energy for charging centres where battery swaps for electric scooters and electric cars can take place; and from where portable energy chargers can be hired out to charge a range of appliances including laptop computers, tablets, mobile phones, and also lighting, heating, cooling and dehumidifying units etc where it's not appropriate or possible to use grid power, and during emergencies and grid failures related to weather conditions, social unrest or other factors.

Please do not deny your residents the opportunity to consult and work together in investigating a whole range of affordable sustainable local energy solutions that are appropriate to local requirements and conditions in various individual areas in Hampshire, that could contribute to the county's resilience and prosperity in future.

I attach and include below information from a recent Price Waterhouse Cooper report entitled 'Too late for 2 Degrees' - and welcome your comments on Hampshire policies to encourage decarbonisation, in relation both to these findings, and to energy security issues facing New Yorkers in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy.

Best wishes,

From: Monday, November 05, 2012 11:11 AM
Subject: Re:

Dear colleagues

Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC) have published their report 'Too late for 2 Degrees?' (attached), taken from the economics perspective. You'll find the Foreword below. The focus of their analysis is 'carbon intensity' - the quantity of CO2 emissions required to produce a unit of GDP. They report that the current global rate of reduction in that intensity (or decarbonisation) is insufficient; it's 0.8% p.a at present and needs to be 5.1% p.a.

This analysis is about 'coupling', 'relative decoupling' or 'absolute decoupling' economic growth from emissions growth; even 'recoupling'. UK airport expansion can be regarded as recoupling our economic growth with emissions growth. See Prof Tim Jackson's 'Prosperity without Growth' for this concept; the 2009 SDC original PDF is attached (he also went on to write a book). As a particular

5 November 2012

Hampshire County Council

Dear

Proposed policy to ban wind energy from Hampshire County Council land

Please do not recommend that the County Council agree a policy that large wind turbines and wind farm developments are not supported at present by the County Council on Council-owned land in the countryside.

This policy would undermine Hampshire County Council's other work on climate change. There is no need for us to emphasize the urgency of cutting emissions of greenhouse gases.

The report which you have been given includes the astonishing statement that this policy would have no impact on climate change. This is not true. Replacing electricity from burning fossil-fuels with renewable energy is one of the best ways to cut our carbon footprint quickly. Onshore wind is among the cheapest forms of renewable energy (pence/kWh)¹; and the lifetime emissions of onshore wind (gCO₂eq/kWh) are among the lowest of any of the major forms of renewable energy today, and much lower than gas turbine or coal-fired power stations².

Action to encourage wind turbines should be very high on the County Council's list of climate change actions. There is no time to lose. Indeed, the Council's draft Energy Strategy, discussed on 29 October 2012, includes the objectives "To invest in local energy projects ..." and "To facilitate community access to secure, affordable and/or low carbon/renewable energy and energy services". It would seem inconsistent, even bizarre, if one of the Council's next actions was to adopt a complete ban on large wind turbines and wind farm developments on Council-owned land.

¹ <http://www.ippr.org/publication/55/9564/beyond-the-bluster-why-wind-power-is-an-effective-technology>

² http://www.parliament.uk/documents/post/postpn_383-carbon-footprint-electricity-generation.pdf,

Wind farms create less noise than roads. A car travelling at 40mph at a distance of 100m (330ft) creates around 55 dB (DECC figures); 55dB is 10 times louder than 45 dB, which is the maximum DECC says is created by a wind farm ('Windfarms do make noise with the level of a wind farm at a distance of 350m (1150ft) comparable to the sound of leaves rustling in a general breeze (approx 35-45 dB)'. They do not upset wildlife or farm animals, which happily graze under wind turbines.

Some people find wind turbines beautiful – it is a matter of taste, not fact. Moreover, a wind turbine can easily be removed at the end of its useful life (approx. 25 years) without leaving a permanent scar on the landscape. Access roads are barely visible once vegetation has been restored. Contrary to the impression conveyed by some recent media reports, there is significant UK public support for renewable energy projects. A recent ICM poll³ found that people were much more likely than not to support plans to build a wind turbine within two miles of their home: among the respondents from the South East, 55% were likely to support such plans and only 21% unlikely to do so. The same survey revealed higher levels of support for renewable energy schemes if they were community owned and controlled.

Even if wind turbines are considered to have an adverse visual impact, this is considerably less than the impact we face from the consequences of climate change, including loss of habitat, wildlife, drought and flood.

Historic character, another concern listed in the paper, is irrelevant. If there were specific reasons for not using a specific site because of damage to its historic character or fragile nature, this could be dealt with at planning stage. Indeed, as you note, designated areas such as national parks already have an increased level of protection from development. A universal ban on large wind turbines and wind farm developments on Council-owned land is therefore unnecessary.

Please do not recommend this policy to your colleagues.

Yours sincerely

Date: 6 December 2012 12:05:53 GMT
To:
Cc:
Subject: Wind power generation and HCC

Dear

I'm astonished by reports that it's proposed within Hampshire County Council that the Council should adopt a policy of barring wind turbines on HCC-owned land in the countryside.

It seems to me that the Council's claim to favour "green" generation of electric power, and the policies of national government, require the opposite to what's proposed – that is, what's needed is a policy that siting wind turbines on HCC-owned land is in principle to be encouraged, and that any actions and decisions to the contrary must be justified on a case-by-case basis.

So, I urge you to use your authority and influence as Executive Member to ensure that the reported proposal is dismissed as silly and harmful, and I hope to hear from you accordingly.

13th November 2012

Hampshire County Council
The Castle
WINCHESTER
Hampshire SO23 8UJ



Dear

I am glad that, so far, the Hampshire County Council have put up a robust objection to wind farms on Council land.

I do not know whether you are aware (because many people are not) that the potential generation from wind turbines is quoted on the maximum which can be achieved, i.e. in a hurricane! In practice, various surveys have shown that the *actual* output of wind generators is only about 10% of that quoted. To my mind, this is a dishonest deception which should never have been published because it means that not only is the capital cost per kilowatt hour generated exaggerated by a factor of ten, but also this cost will have to be reflected by the amount to be paid by the consumer. As an experienced electrical engineer, I find all the time proposals for wind farms quite unacceptable.

Yours sincerely,

From:
Sent: 11 November 2012 21:46
To:
Subject: Objection to plans to ban wind farms on council land

Dear

I notice that you are being asked to recommend that Hampshire County Council agrees a policy that large wind turbine and wind farm developments are not supported at present by the County Council on Council owned land in the countryside to the Council's Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel, and then by the Executive Member for Policy and Resources at his decision day on 24 January 2013.

I find it strange that the report includes the statement that this policy would have no impact on climate change.

Please ensure that this policy is not recommended for approval.

Hampshire County Council can be proud of its work on climate change. I know you agree that the UK needs urgently to mitigate the increasingly severe effects of global warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions. Replacing electricity from burning fossil-fuels with renewable energy is one of the best ways to cut our carbon footprint quickly. Onshore wind is among the cheapest forms of renewable energy (pence/kWh); and the lifetime emissions of onshore wind (g CO₂eq/kWh) are the lowest of any of the major forms of renewable energy today, and much lower than gas turbine or coal-fired power stations.

Action to encourage wind turbines should be very high on the County Council's list of climate change actions. There is no rational explanation for the proposed ban. Apart from anything else, it will only shift proposals to land with other owners – land which may be less suitable. I see that the paper recommending the ban on County Council land says that 'large wind turbines and wind farms would have an adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes', 'a significant visual impact in the countryside' and 'very significant impacts in terms of visual intrusion, urbanisation, damage to historic character and to tranquillity'.

Wind farms create less noise than roads. A car travelling at 40mph at a distance of 100m (330ft) creates around 55 dB (DECC figures); 55dB is 10 times louder than 45 dB, which is the maximum DECC says is created by a wind farm ("Windfarms do make noise with the level of a wind farm at a distance of 350m (1150ft) comparable to the sound of leaves rustling in a general breeze (approx 35-45 dB)". They do not upset wildlife or farm animals, which happily graze under wind turbines. Some people find wind turbines beautiful – it is a matter of taste, not fact. Moreover, a wind turbine can easily be removed at the end of its useful life (approx. 25 years) without leaving a permanent scar on the landscape. Access roads are barely visible once vegetation has been restored.

But let us assume that they do have an adverse visual impact. This is considerably less than the impact we face from the consequences of climate change, including loss of habitat, wildlife, drought and flood. If there were specific reasons for not using a specific site damage to historic character, this could be dealt with at planning stage.

Please do not recommend this policy to your colleagues.

Yours sincerely

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RECEIVED

19 NOV 2012
16 Back Street
Winchester
SO23 9SB

16th November 2012

Hampshire County Council
The Castle,
Winchester
SO23 8UJ

Dear

Re – Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on Hampshire County Council land

We challenge this draft policy document which proposes to effectively ban wind turbines from being sited on Hampshire County Council land.

In the past large resources have been deployed on research and studies to provide policies that will help the council and Hampshire reduce its carbon footprint and also learn how to consume energy more efficiently; so how does this new proposal align with existing aspirations?

We consider it inappropriate to waste rate-payers money funding research into negative policies to justify banning wind turbines and feel this is being used only for political leverage rather than benefit the community unless other evidence can be provided.

This new policy appears to be based on the appearance of wind turbines. In fact successive opinion polls indicate that the majority of the UK population does not share the view that the visual impact is detrimental, and that there is strong public support for wind power. (e.g. Ipsos Mori April '12, YouGov December '11, EDF November '11.).

The council's fear of renewable wind and the need to introduce a specific blanket

policy seems unnecessary because protection is already well provided for under planning law. The council has a duty of care as custodians of the land on behalf of the people, which means not ruling out potential productive use.

We would also like to draw your attention to reported figures that Hampshire currently imports approximately 95% of its energy needs, most of which come from areas of the country with landscape beauty equal to Hampshire's. This new policy is NIMBY'ism on a grand scale.

Whatever one's aesthetic views are about the appearance of wind turbines in the landscape, it is imperative that we recognise the importance of meeting objectives to reduce carbon.

There are targets to be met and decisions have to be made on how to meet them. Few of the choices are easy, but if Hampshire County Council chooses not to encourage wind power in the county it would need to take equivalent action elsewhere. One wind farm is equivalent to the removal of 11,000 cars from Hampshire's roads. Is HCC prepared to adopt policies to bring about such a result?

As a further example a single wind farm would provide 10% carbon free electricity to all households in an area the size of Winchester District which would equate to 70% of the housing stock being fitted with solar panels.

We would be very pleased to receive any questions you may have on this matter but in the meantime could you please direct us to published evidence upon which your case is based for effectively banning wind turbines from council land, and how it is justified in relation to the council's policies for reduction of the county's carbon footprint.

Yours sincerely

on behalf of Winchester Green Party

5th November 1012

Hampshire County Council
The Castle
Winchester
Hampshire
SO23 8UJ

Re: Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land

Dear

I write to strongly object to the proposed ban of wind turbines on Hampshire County Council land. While wind turbines are undoubtedly controversial, such a policy, especially if decided solely by yourself, would be undemocratic and not in the County's best interests.

It is important to remember that the majority of the population, as evidenced by numerous independent surveys, are concerned about climate change and support on-shore wind turbines. By passing such a ban Hampshire County Council would be acting against popular opinion and its own electorate.

Furthermore, the economics and public acceptance of wind turbines are well established by decades of commercial operation. As such, the policy statement that the benefits of wind turbines do not outweigh the adverse impacts is the opinion of members of the council only and not the wider population.

Instead I urge you to follow the lead of other councils such as Cornwall County Council, which is not only supportive of wind turbines but actively seeking to build them on council owned farms to generate revenue to support services. When councils are faced with budget cuts this seems a very pragmatic way to reduce the County's carbon emissions and increase revenue.

I hope you will reconsider the proposed ban.

Yours Sincerely,

5

From:

Sent: 11 December 2012 19:31

To:

Cc:

Subject: RE: Wind Farms on Hampshire County Council Land (our ref 2626560)

Dear

Thank you for your response and for pointing me towards the HCC Energy Strategy.

Maybe you didn't see my second letter to asking for a simple yes or no answer (published [here](#)). To restate even more precisely:-

"Will HCC be *proactive* with working with the proposer towards finding an alternative solution (with similar or better cost benefits) if HCC decides to reject the installation of wind turbines on HCC land?"

Yes or No?

Whilst the forward to the Hampshire Energy Strategy states :-

"As a local authority we have a responsibility to lead by example and empower behaviours to act on energy issues."

the implication of the first response from is that installation of wind turbines might be rejected on the basis of "... *adverse visual and amenity impact*". Simply saying no for whatever reason *without pursuing an alternative solution with the proposer of the renewable installation* encourages NIMBYism – it sets a very poor example of leadership.

However, your first objective 1(c) *"Leading the development of and supporting initiatives which help improve the way Hampshire uses energy."* would seem to indicate that HCC *would* be proactive with finding alternative solutions . Again, can you reassure us on this point.

HCC Energy Strategy Feedback

Page 7 (4.7) *"There are currently no legally binding obligations on local authorities to meet national carbon reduction targets, however this could change in the future."*

In November's DECC review, [Energy & Climate change Secretary] states that there are "... legally binding carbon reduction and renewable obligations." It doesn't make sense to only have this at the national level, if Local Authorities and County Councils decide to impose restrictions that impede those obligations.

Page 12 Objective 4 - community initiatives on energy. You might be interested to know that a recent ICM poll published in Oct 2012 *"Of the 2027 GB adults interviewed 68% said they would be likely to support local renewable energy projects, including wind turbines, if they were 100% owned*

and controlled by the community with all the profits benefiting the community. Only 7% of respondents said they would be unlikely to support a project such as this."

(see [here](#)).

Finally, an example of how attitudes change, as a result of my solar panel installation the neighbour who attempted to obtain £50,000 compensation (for a perceived drop in the value of his property) now has solar panels on his roof.

Yours sincerely

From:

Sent: 08 December 2012 11:35

To:

Subject: wind energy

Dear

As homeowners, we have invested in both types of solar panels. We feel that renewables are the only way to plan for the future (after reducing energy use greatly first of all). I see that you are being asked to recommend that the County Council agree a policy that large wind turbine and wind farm developments are not supported at present by the County Council on Council owned land in the countryside to the HCC Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel at its meeting on 18 December, and then by the Executive Member for Policy and Resources at his decision day on 24 January 2013. The report which you have been given includes the astonishing statement that this policy would have no impact on climate change.

I urge you not to recommend this policy for approval.

The UK needs urgently to mitigate the increasingly severe effects of global warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions. Humanity faces environmental disaster on a global scale if strenuous efforts are not made within the next few years to severely cut back our emissions of greenhouse gases. Replacing electricity from burning fossil-fuels with renewable energy is one of the best ways to cut our carbon footprint quickly. Onshore wind is among the cheapest forms of renewable energy (pence/kWh); and the lifetime emissions of onshore wind (g CO₂eq/kWh) are the lowest of any of the major forms of renewable energy today, and much lower than gas turbine or coal-fired power stations.

Action to encourage wind turbines should be very high on the County Council's list of climate change actions. There is no time to lose; it is no good if HCC changes its mind in 10-15 years' time. If the lights start to go out in a few years' time (cf. Ofgem's October 2012 report) Hampshire County Council will look foolish and selfish. Is this a cynical ploy to look good to NIMBYs and climate change deniers? There is no rational explanation for the proposed ban. Apart from anything else, it will only shift proposals to land with other owners – land which may be less suitable.

Our family of 4 does not own a car. We do like the look of power stations. We are very careful about every "bit" of energy we use.

The paper recommending the ban on County Council land says that 'large wind turbines and wind farms would have an adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes', 'a significant visual impact in the countryside' and 'very significant impacts in terms of visual intrusion, urbanisation, damage to historic character and to tranquillity'. Wind farms create less noise than roads. A car travelling at 40mph at a distance of 100m (330ft) creates around 55 dB (DECC figures); 55dB is 10 times louder than 45 dB, which is the maximum DECC says is created by a wind farm ('Windfarms do make noise with the level of a wind farm at a distance of 350m

(1150ft) comparable to the sound of leaves rustling in a general breeze (approx 35-45 dB)". They do not upset wildlife or farm animals, which happily graze under wind turbines.

Some people find wind turbines beautiful – it is a matter of taste, not fact. Moreover, a wind turbine can easily be removed at the end of its useful life (approx. 25 years) without leaving a permanent scar on the landscape. Access roads are barely visible once vegetation has been restored. But let us assume that they do have an adverse visual impact. This is considerably less than the impact we face from the consequences of climate change, including loss of habitat, wildlife, drought and flood.

Historic character is irrelevant. If there were specific reasons for not using a specific site damage to historic character, this could be dealt with at planning stage.

Please do not recommend this policy to your colleagues.

Yours sincerely

From:]

Sent: 29 October 2012 21:59

To:

Cc:

Subject: Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land

Dear Sirs

I have just read the document "Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land". A copy is here. <http://bit.ly/VZvVBp>. Its conclusion shock me. Its recommendation concerned me.

I would like to see the evidence on which your conclusions and recommendations have been made.

Clearly to reach such a conclusive conclusions and to make such a major and far reaching decision you must have accumulated a great deal of evidence that supports the views made in the policy document.

Could you please supply me a copy of;

1. The engineers, environmental, accounting and impact reports that you have commissioned that allowed you to draw your conclusions
2. The cost benefit analysis that you have carried out that supports your categorical view that "There is a clear conflict between the potential benefits of wind power in providing renewable clean energy and the adverse impact on the special qualities and character of Hampshire's landscapes"

Clearly to be able to make such statements there must be a large and conclusive body of research and analysis on

1. The potential benefits and
2. The adverse impacts
3. The special qualities and character of our landscape

This evidence must be made available to the general public – if it exists.

Can you let me know by return where this evidence is and when it will be made publically available.

No doubt you will now be issuing policy statements on the adverse effects of motorways; airports; factories; office blocks; electricity pylons; solar farms and green field housing has on the special qualities of our landscape.

You are setting a very dangerous precedent.

Yours

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Wed 10/31/2012 11:15 AM

To:

Subject: Comment for Item: Policy for Large Wind Turbines and Wind Farms on County Council Land (4205)

Comment for Item: Policy for Large Wind Turbines and Wind Farms on County Council Land

Name:

Email:

Message:

I live in Hampshire and do not agree with this policy statement. I think it is fundamentally wrong that HCC are not supporting the construction of wind farm.

From:
Sent: Wed 10/31/2012 2:53 PM
To:
Subject: Wind turbines on Hampshire land

Dear

I write with regard to the document "Policy on large wind turbines and wind farms on County Council Land". As a resident of Hampshire for over 30 years, I would like to express my dismay at the recommendation that no wind turbines are to be built on County Council land. The conclusion seems to be based on very little evidence and analysis, and is extremely short-sighted, given the UK policies on reducing CO2 emissions and alleviating climate change. Wind farms are used extensively in continental Europe and many people, myself included, believe them to enhance rather than detract from the landscape. Please would you forward me details of the research that has been carried out that has led to the publication of this report.

Yours sincerely

Name:

Email:

Message:

This policy is EXTREMELY short sighted view and undoubtedly being made by individuals that have absolutely no idea about climate change. We must employ all renewable energy sources available to us if we are to continue to have a landscape at all. The hurricane across the eastern sea board is just the beginning. Wind turbines are a beautiful site when you consider the future, or lack of it, if they are not utilized. Please, please, please do not consider such a short sighted policy - simply because they spoil the view of a landscape that will not be there in 50 years if they are not used.

From:
Sent: 2012-10-31 13:46:45.0
To:
Subject: Proposed ban on any more wind turbines in Hampshire.

I wish to lodge my strong objections to this proposed policy.

We need to move increasingly towards the use of renewable energy sources, not continue to rely on fossil fuels. It is bad enough that the Government has employed Japanese companies to build two new nuclear powerstations at a time when Japan, itself, is moving away from its own reliance on nuclear power. Now my own county council is proposing to put its head in the sand and ignore the necessity to move over to renewable energy sources.

Instead of focusing on the next election and pandering to the nimbys, HCC should be focusing on the longterm problems that we will inevitably face.

Name:

Email:

Message:

May I congratulate Hampshire County Council for their policy of banning all wind farms on council land in Hampshire. I am from Southampton, now living in Wales and the Welsh landscape is being completely trashed by wind turbines in the mistaken belief they will reverse climate change. I admire your intelligence in recognising the utter folly of the government policy on renewable energy and sincerely hope other councils will follow your example. WELL DONE!

From:
Sent: 2012-10-31 13:52:45.0
To:
Subject: Wind Farms

31 October 2012

From:

What wonderful news that HCC has halted the curse of further wind farms in Hampshire! This absurd enormously expensive (and useless) technology only survives by extreme subsidy. As these dreadful things age, we will suffer the curse of their maintenance costs as well as their exorbitant running costs. The Reading giant wind generator experiment has shown that they do not live up to their promise. As for plonking the ugly things offshore, can you imagine having to support the additional costs of their installation and maintenance out in the channel?

These things are a financial disaster that chiefly earn massive taxpayer-funded subsidies to a limited number of rich individuals benefitting from this ridiculous scam. They are a visual curse and bad for local wildlife as well as the peace and quiet of the gorgeous countryside here. As a yachtsman, we don't need these things littering our beautiful waters! Please kill off this curse of modern times that we are all paying through the nose for!

Regards

From:

Sent: 12 January 2013 13:17

To:

Cc:

Subject: Proposed ban on wind turbines on HCC-owned land

Dear

My wife, , has already written to you on this subject, and we are grateful for your considered replies.

I would like to echo the points that she made in her email:

- A blanket ban is unnecessary as each application should always be considered on its own merits. It is only when the cumulative effects become significant that issues outside of the specific proposal in question should be considered – this is in line with the National Planning Policy Framework recently issued by the Government;
- Onshore wind-energy generation is economically and environmentally sound and superior to any form of fossil fuel-based generation;
- Provision of local generation facilities increases our energy security by reducing dependence on imported fossil fuel. The frequent political problems in Eastern Europe and Russia have had major impact on the cost and volatility of gas supplies over the past years.

In addition, I am sure that there is no need to draw your attention to Hampshire County Council's Energy Strategy of November 2012, in which the second objective is to:

To invest in local energy projects which collectively support the key principles behind the Energy Strategy, including initiatives which:

- (a) Safeguard the health and wellbeing of Hampshire residents;
- (b) Foster economic development through sustainable local energy generation;
- (c) Increase energy security, improve local resilience, reduce Hampshire's reliance on imported fossil fuels;
- (d) Reduce the County Council's exposure to carbon tax liabilities;
- (e) Maximise business opportunities for the County Council and increase Revenue.

Any overall ban on wind-based energy generation will run counter to this objective, particularly points (b), (c) and (d), and will hinder the Council's ability to deliver its targets. Managed correctly, there is also ample opportunity in renewable energy generation for the Council to benefit significantly under point (e).

I would make one further observation. I have accessed the agenda for the Council Meeting of the Executive Member for Policy and Resources for the 24th January. Under the *Documents* tab, it says that "No documents have been added". In the interest of democracy and open government, should the evidence on which the decision is to be taken not be made available, so that members of the public are able to utilise the *Have Your Say* tab to make comments based on sound information rather than hearsay, rumour and sound-bite headlines.

Kind regards

From:

Sent: 11 January 2013 21:47

To:

Subject: Comment for Item: Policy for Large Wind Turbines and Wind Farms on County Council Land (4407)

**Comment for Item: Policy for Large Wind Turbines and Wind Farms
on County Council Land**

Name:

Email:

Message:

I completley agree with this proposed policy. I also think there should be a policy for turbines not on Council land that requires a minimum separation distance beteen a turbine and someone's home - say a 2 to 3 kilometre separation distance for turbines in the 100m to 150m range.

From:

Sent: Fri 04/01/2013 14:01

To:

Subject: Hampshire County Council proposed wind turbine ban

Dear

I am very disappointed to hear that Hampshire County Council is proposing a ban on wind turbines on council owned land. I feel that a blanket ban is unnecessary as any proposal should be looked at in detail and the advantages and disadvantages of the location considered.

Onshore wind is one of the cheapest forms of renewable energy and the lifetime emissions of onshore wind are extremely low, especially when compared to gas turbine or coal-fired power stations. Therefore, it is an extremely good way of cutting our carbon footprint quickly. This is obviously important given that climate change will cause environmental disaster, including loss of habitat and wildlife and an increasing risk of drought and floods.

I understand that the paper recommending the ban on County Council land states that "large wind turbines and wind farms would have an adverse impact on the special qualities and characters of Hampshire's landscapes", "a significant visual impact in the countryside" and "very significant impacts in terms of visual intrusion, urbanisation, damage to historic character and to tranquility".

However, the evidence refutes many of these statements. The beauty, or otherwise, of a wind turbine is in the eye of the beholder. Wind farms create less noise than roads so will not damage the tranquility of an area. There is no reason why they should increase urbanisation as animals will happily graze under wind turbines. At the end of their life wind turbines can be removed and any access roads revegetated. If a proposed site is of special historic character then this could be dealt with at the planning stage.

In my opinion this proposed ban is designed to appeal to NIMBY's and climate sceptics. Given the views of UKIP on climate change are many Conservative councillors trying to beat UKIP at their own game rather than looking at the issue in a considered and rational way?

Yours sincerely,