

Planning and Regeneration
Redcar and Cleveland House
Kirkleatham Street
Redcar
TS10 1RT

25th February 2015

RE: Screening Request for Proposed 500kW Wind Turbine with a hub height of 55m and a maximum upright vertical tip height of up to 77m on Land at Eston, Sedgemoor Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS6 0UA.

Dear Sir/Madam,

As per the requirements of the planning authority, I hereby request a screening opinion for 1 no. 500kW wind turbine with tip height of 77m at the above named address. This screening request will demonstrate that an EIA is not required as part of a forthcoming planning application.

Planning Context

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, Schedule 2, Part 3 (i) in relation to wind energy projects which are to be screened for EIA if (i) the development consists of more than two turbines, or (ii) the hub height of any turbine exceeds 15 metres. In this instance the hub height exceeds 15m.

Site Location & Description

The proposed turbine is located on agricultural land, approximately 1.3km south-east of the centre of Eston and 325m south-east of the A174 road. The proposed turbine will be within an area surrounded by woodlands to the east, south and south-west which will create a natural screening between the proposed development and nearby residential properties. The landscape consists of agricultural fields separated by hedgerows and mature trees breaking the skyline. There is a network of large National Grid Pylons traversing the site approximately 136m to the north of the proposed turbine along the applicant's land. The site location can be identified on the attached OS Map. The turbine is proposed to be located at **E: 455578 N: 517364**.

There are a limited number of residential dwellings in the surrounding area. The nearest non-financially involved property is situated approximately 400m from the proposed development site on the opposite side of the A174 road and Pylons. Due to natural screening from hedgerows and mature trees the visibility of the proposed turbine will be limited. The presence of other residential properties has been given serious consideration in choosing the site.

It is believed that no property will be affected by noise or shadow flicker output from the proposed turbine. The average ambient noise levels from the A174 road immediately north of the proposed site are 60.0-64.9 dB(A) according to Defra's noise maps and charts and therefore no unacceptable noise impacts are predicted from the proposed turbine. No unacceptable shadow flicker impact is predicted either due to the separation distances between the proposed turbine and the nearest dwellings.

Included in the forthcoming planning application submission will be a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) that will prove the insignificance of the proposal on the surrounding area by using a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) and a

number of photomontages taken from different key viewpoints to be agreed in advance with the Council's landscape officer.

There is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) approximately 4km from the proposed turbine, which is known as Lovell Hill Pools, however due to the separation distance the turbine will have no impact on the SSSI.

There are no Grade I or Grade II* listed buildings or conservation areas within 2km of the proposed development site. Ormesby conservation area lies approximately 2.2km to the west however due to significant screening available from mature trees, no significant impacts are predicted on the heritage assets within the conservation area. The nearest Grade II listed building to the proposed wind turbine is known as Powder Magazine and Adjoining Blast Walls which is approximately 800m to the north-east.

There is a scheduled monument approximately 600m from the proposed development site to the south-east which is known as the Ring Cairn on Eston Moor. Due the separation distance and extensive amounts of vegetation the development will have a minimal impact on Heritage Assets. A full heritage impact assessment will accompany the forthcoming application in order to demonstrate the all potential impacts from the proposed development have been taken into account.

Characteristics of the Development

We have attached a Site Location Map detailing the proposed turbine location. The proposal is for 1 no. 500kW wind turbine with a hub height of 55m. Please see attached technical details.

Characteristics of the Potential impacts

Landscape Impact

The proposed turbine will benefit from screening from landscape elements such as mature trees and National Grid Pylon lines. The proposed development will be within a large scale agricultural holding that is capable of absorbing this type of development. Therefore the proposed development will not break the skyline and will be partly screened by mature trees and set against the backdrop of Eston Moor and hills to south and south-east. These elements combined will ensure that any potentially significant impacts on the landscape are mitigated.

Visual Impact

The ZTV report which will be accompanying the planning application will demonstrate the extent to which the turbine would or would not be visible. Intervening vegetation and man-made structures substantially reduce the visual impact of the proposed turbine. The landscape is already extremely scarred by the existing National Grid Pylon network and therefore no significant or substantial visual impacts are predicted. A full landscape and visual impact assessment will accompany the forthcoming application and as previously stated all key viewpoints and receptors will be agreed in advance with the Council's landscape officer prior to completion of study.

Noise Impact

As previously stated the average ambient noise levels from the A174 road immediately north of the proposed site are 60.0-64.9 dB(A) according to Defra's noise maps and charts and therefore no unacceptable noise impacts are predicted from the proposed turbine.

The nearest dwelling is approximately 400m from the proposed development and as a result no unacceptable noise impact is likely to occur. A desktop site specific noise impact assessment for the turbine will be included with the full planning application.

Ecological Impact

The proposed turbine is not located within or immediately adjacent to any ecological designations. The nearest designations are as follows:

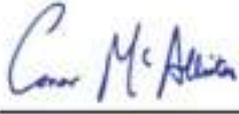
- SSSI - Lovell Hill Pools - 4.2km ENE
- Important Bird Area - North Yorkshire Moors - 3.6km SE
- Local Nature Reserve - Flatts Lane Woodland Country Park - 625m SW
- Ancient Woodland - Park Wood - 3.5km E

Due to the separation distances involved and nature of the proposed single wind turbine development no significant impacts are predicted on ecological designations. There are no SACs, SPAs, RAMSARS or National Nature Reserves within 5km of the proposed site. Additionally the proposed turbine is not within 50m of any potentially suitable bat habitats such as trees or thick hedgerows.

In order to fully demonstrate that no significant impacts on ecology will occur as a result of the proposed turbine a suitably qualified ecologist will be employed to carry out an extended phase 1 habitat survey. The resulting report will accompany any forthcoming planning application to the Council.

I hope that the information provided is sufficient to enable a prompt response for this screening application so that we may proceed with the submission of the full planning application without the need for an EIA as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Conor McAllister, MRTPI

Planning Manager

Entrust

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ENTRUST PLANNING RENEWABLES
DARESBURY INNOVATION CENTRE
KECKWICK LANE
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CHESHIRE
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Our Ref: R/2015/0139/SC
Your Ref:
Contact: Mrs C Griffiths
Date: 12 March 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

PROPOSAL: SCREENING OPINION FOR PROPOSED WIND TURBINE HEIGHT TO 77M
LOCATION: LAND AT SEDGEMOOR ROAD ESTON
APPLICANT: ENTRUST PLANNING RENEWABLES

I have reviewed the information submitted for the screening request received by the Local Planning Authority on 05.03.2015.

I wish to inform you that I consider insufficient information has been submitted for the Authority to be able to issue an opinion on whether an environmental impact assessment would be required to accompany an application for a wind turbine.

Please refer to the link below and the discussion about the amount of the information supplied (in particular paragraphs 16 and 17):

<http://www.bailii.org/cgi-bin/markup.cgi?doc=/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2010/373.html&query=cooperative&method=boolean>

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Griffiths
Planning Officer