## **Planning Enquiries**

Debbie Non Com

From:

Windfarms ◀

Sent:

15 October 2012 09:03

To:

Planning Enquiries

Subject:

RE: S122606/F - Pentwyn Farm, Dorstone, Hereford, Herefordshire HR3 6AD

Dear Sir/Madam

## Request for Comment under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

There is currently a high demand for CAA comment on wind turbine applications which exceeds the capacity of the available resource to respond to requests within the timescales required by Local Planning Authorities. The CAA has no responsibilities for safeguarding sites other than its own property, and a consultation by a Council is taken as a request for clarification of procedural matters. Councils are reminded of their obligations to consult in accordance with ODPM/DfT Circular 1/2003 or Scottish Government Circular 2/2003, and in particular to consult with NATS and the Ministry of Defence as well as any aerodromes listed in Annex 3 of the above documents, taking note of appropriate guidance and policy documentation. Should the Council be minded to grant consent to an application despite an objection from one of the bodies listed in the circular, then the requisite notifications should be made.

Whilst the CAA recommends all aerodrome operators/license holders develop associated safeguarding maps and lodge such maps with local planning authorities, the CAA additionally encourages councils/planning authorities to undertake relevant consultation with known local aerodromes regardless of status or the existence of any aerodrome/council safeguarding agreement, including local emergency service Air Support Units (e.g. Police Helicopter or Air Ambulance).

There is an international civil aviation requirement for all structures of 300 feet (91.4 metres)\* or more to be charted on aeronautical charts. However, on behalf of other non-regulatory aviation stakeholders, in the interest of Aviation Safety, we request that any feature/structure 70 feet in height, or greater, above ground level is notified to the Defence Geographic Centre <a href="ICGDGC-ProdAISAFDb@mod.uk">ICGDGC-ProdAISAFDb@mod.uk</a>, including the location(s), height(s)\* and lighting status of the feature/structure, the estimated and actual dates of construction and the maximum height of any construction equipment to be used, at least 6 weeks prior to the start of construction, to allow for the appropriate notification to the relevant aviation communities.

Cumulative effects of turbines may lead to unacceptable impacts in certain geographic areas.

The Ministry of Defence will advise on all matters affecting military aviation.

Should the Council still have a specific query about a particular aspect of this application the CAA will help in the clarification of aviation matters and regulatory requirements. Site operators remain responsible for providing expert testimony as to any impact on their operations and the lack of a statement of objection or support from the CAA should not be taken to mean that there are no aviation issues, or that a comment from an operator lacks weight.

Guidance relating to the impact of wind turbines upon aviation can be found at <a href="http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/Cap764.pdf">http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/Cap764.pdf</a>. More generic comment relating to the CAA involvement in the planning process is described at <a href="http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/DAP\_GuidanceOnCAAPlanningConsultationRequirements.pdf">http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/DAP\_GuidanceOnCAAPlanningConsultationRequirements.pdf</a>.

Yours Faithfully

Neal Henley

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*The effective height of a wind turbine is the maximum height to blade tip.
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