

Say No! The Wind Turbine near Ingleside Mount. Say No!

The proposed wind turbine is gigantic at THIRTEEN STOREYS high. It will dominate the villages of Warleggan and Mount, decimate wildlife, seriously harm local bed and breakfast and holiday home businesses, and will undoubtedly lead to a fall in house prices in the parish thus affecting everyone who plans to pass their homes to their children, or to use their homes to pay for their care in old age. Note there is no compensation if your house loses value! Note the application has not been submitted to the Ministry of Defence – danger of aircraft collision - and is in a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty thus contravening policy! All this heartache for electricity sufficient for one farm business!! Remember, if this application succeeds other farm businesses in the parish are likely to apply due to the massive subsidies currently on offer. Our beautiful quiet parish will be transformed!

The wind turbine does not meet the criteria set out in the Planning Policy Statement 1: 'Any development, including wind turbines, must prove sustainable economic development, with social cohesion and inclusion, the protection and enhancement of the environment and prudent use of natural resources'. **We therefore ask the applicant to kindly withdraw his application in the interests of not dividing the community and to help support all local businesses and those who love the beauty of the parish.**

The application number for the proposed turbine is PA12/05060 and the applicant is SJ Smeeth and Sons at Bofindle Farm. Write a protest letter to Cornwall County Council or send an email to planning@cornwall.gov.uk if the application is not withdrawn by 13th August LATEST – this is the last date for comments!

Think about this!

'Our' proposed wind turbine is to be 151 feet (46 metres) tall including the highly visible blades – this is the height of a 13 (THIRTEEN) storey building (10 storeys to hub). No house in Mount or Warleggan is more than 2 storeys high and many are one storey high. The tallest structures in Cornwall are almost all church towers. Probus Church



tower is 39 metres (123 feet tall) but nearly all other Cornish church towers, including Warleggan church tower, are far shorter. It is interesting to note that building in Washington DC is governed by a 'Height of Buildings Act' which limits heights to 130 feet and yet 'our' tower is to be 20 feet taller! 'Our' wind turbine will dwarf all trees and all buildings that this parish has ever known. It will destroy all the beauty and grace of our landscape by towering above it. The wind turbine planned (Endurance 3120) is pictured – see the mature trees at the back!

There are thirteen holiday businesses in the parish. There is no doubt at all that these businesses will be deeply, possibly irreparably harmed. Visitors do not come to remote parishes like ours to see and hear wind turbines taller than most buildings in Britain! People come for peace and beauty. It is wrong to wreck the businesses of many people in the parish in order to pay the electricity bills of one.

We are so lucky to live in an officially designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and an Area of Great Scientific Value! Building the turbine in these designated areas goes against Cornwall County Policies CL6 and CL18 which aim to protect these areas. Let us keep our parish beautiful for us and for the children of this parish. Say yes to beauty, say yes to renewable energy that does no harm to our lovely parish, our health, our homes, our quiet life. Say yes to a thriving rural economy in which we all have a chance, and in which our children have a chance to develop viable livelihoods in the future as well as enjoy one of the most lovely places in Britain.

It should be noted that the application has not been submitted to the Ministry of Defence due to the danger of low flying military aircraft flying into them: The Cornwall County Website says: Any wind turbine 11 metres to blade tip or taller, or has a rotor diameter of 2 metres or more. Consult: Ministry of Defence. Site: Cornwall.

Who will benefit from the wind turbine? According to the planning application the electricity generated will benefit the farm, with only a very limited amount, if any, feeding into the national grid. Wind turbines are heavily subsidized. The owner is paid for every kilowatt generated even if they use all the electricity themselves.

Direct Citations from Application (emphasis added): The proposed wind turbine is reasonably necessary to reduce farm operating costs ... Electricity is one of the greatest costs to the farming operation and the proposed turbine will be used to produce a clean, renewable and sustainable form of electricity for Bofindle Farm, helping the business to remain competitive. The turbine will be connected to the National Grid via the farm's electricity supply and while the intention is to utilise the generated electricity on-site, any excess power will be exported to the National Grid ... The turbine will serve the farm directly, providing it with a clean, sustainable, low carbon source of electricity.

A considerable body of research, not acknowledged in the application, shows that large numbers of bats and birds will be killed by the turbine and that nesting near the turbine will cease. A single pair of buzzards has worked the fields around Ingleside for generations. If they are mashed to pieces this is not acceptable collateral damage.

The human eye is irresistibly drawn to movement. This turbine will constantly capture the eye, and it will make it impossible to look across the wide sweep of our landscape with all its wonderful, seasonal nuances and change of colour. This is, after all, why almost all of us live here. We love the beauty and grace of our parish. Let us keep it beautiful.

Research shows that the noise will be constant with a strong regular beat. We hear the train five miles distant running to Bodmin Parkway in Warleggan, but 'our' wind turbine will be just a few hundred metres away from our homes - and much closer than the distances prescribed in most European countries at 1 to 2 kilometres. Lincolnshire has just prescribed a minimum of 2 km (1.2 miles) due to noise issues. The application says: 'It is likely that the turbine's noise will be completely masked by background noise in the area' (!!! what background noise?)

The application is very disingenuous in its language and offers opinions more than facts throughout. It is, however, clear that the application contravenes the policies below (in addition to the policies on AONB and Areas of Great Scientific Interest). An environmental impact assessment is also needed given the turbine is more than 15 metres high. It is clear that our AONB designation would be made worthless if this turbine is permitted (REN2)

POLICY REN1

- (i) the proposal must not have an unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the immediate and wider landscape, and of areas of natural, cultural, historical or architectural interest;
- (ii) the proposal must not overshadow or have an overbearing effect on nearby habitations;
- (iii) the proposal must be capable of being operated and serviced with no unacceptable impact to the amenity of nearby habitation with regard to noise(...)

POLICY REN2

In AONBs, HC, SSSIs, NNRs, SAM and best and most versatile agricultural land, wind turbines and wind farms will only be permitted if the proposal would not have an unacceptable impact on the specific features or qualities which justified such designation.

- (i) the development must not unacceptably detract from the visual amenity of landscapes that make an important contribution to the setting of towns or villages;
- (ii) the development will not unacceptably affect the amenities of neighbouring properties by reason of noise emission, visual dominance, shadow flicker or reflected light.

Note that the turbine will be highly visible: 'The 'off-white' colour of the turbine tower and blades and green colour of the kiosk will help the structure to blend in with the landscape ... The proposed location ensures that the turbine is approximately 400m from the nearest non-involved resident and will have trees and hills as a backdrop when viewed from within the village of Mount' (i.e. it will not blend in being off-white!).

It should be noted that while the applicant has agreed to decommission the turbine in 25 year's time, (a) this covers the remaining life time of many people who do not want the turbine and will thus ruin their remaining days, (b) the way young people relate to the landscape will be very different due to the turbine, and (c) there is no guarantee it will in fact be decommissioned – the applicant himself may not be alive then, may sell up - and it is likely to be very hard to enforce decommissioning in reality.