

High Volts Turbine No.2 (100 metres to tip) and digger.

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## FOREWARD

### *An aaful story*

*Whisht! lads, haad yor gobs,  
An' aa'll tell ye aall an aaful story,  
Whisht! lads, haad yor gobs,  
An' Aa'll tel ye 'boot the wurm.*

*But the wurm got fat an' growed an' growed,  
An' growed an aaful suze;  
He'd greet big teeth, a greet big gob,  
An greet big goggle eyes.*

*This feorful worm would often feed  
On caalves an' lambs an' sheep,  
An' swally little bairns alive  
When they laid doon te sleep.  
An when he'd eaten aall he cud  
An' he had had he's fill,  
He craaled away an' lapped he's tail  
Ten times roond Pensher Hill*



C M Leumane originally wrote the Lambton Wurm in 1867 for a pantomime. Part of folklore in Co Durham, the above is an excerpt from this traditional song. The heir of Lambton went to the wars and returned seven years later to find the countryside terrorized by the huge reptile. A sibyl (witch) told him how he might slay it, but he must swear to kill the first living thing he met on his return. The vow was taken, the Wurm (worm) slain - alas! The first person he met was his own father. Kill him his son could not, and for nine generations the sibyl's curse lay upon the house. This book is about the emergence of what I term the New Lambton Wurm and the threat it brings to the special character and qualities of our county.

**The firm Ernst and Young has recently identified the UK as the best market for wind in the world due to its combination of wind resource, strong offshore regime and the extension of the Renewables Obligation to 15% by 2015 (BWEA UK Market Overview)**

This commercial exploitation of wind energy is proving a curse to the whole of the UK.

The public has been deluded and deceived

Figure compliments of [www.mysteriousbritain.co.uk/legends/dragons.html](http://www.mysteriousbritain.co.uk/legends/dragons.html)

## Introduction

*Whisht! lads, An' aa'll tell ye aall an aaful story.*

The gentle breeze has turned into a twister  
The story is convoluted, almost incestuous, so difficult to relate.

**It is undemocratic, unbelievable and unacceptable**

Wind is not the only renewable energy source\* yet our countryside is under serious threat from commercial exploitation of wind energy. Backed by Government and viable only due to support from that ingenious subsidy masquerading as a levy, namely the Renewables Obligation (RO) with its accompanying renewable obligation certificates (ROCs)

Extensive lobbying from the Wind Industry on the need for action to ensure greater investor confidence in the renewables sector resulted in increasing the RO from 10% by 2010 to 15% by 2015.

BWEA's chief executive said "It is the icing on the cake in a great year for wind energy" The cherry too, I believe! According to a Danish Newspaper, Stephen Timms, the Energy Minister was that day set to extend incentives for wind farm and other renewable energy developments, in an attempt to overcome sluggish investor support which was threatening government climate change targets.

The September 2004 Wind Power Monthly editorial (the global magazine on wind energy development) reads, "Why should the reactionary antics of a has-been Island off the north European coast be of concern to the international wind power industry?"

**We are neither a has-been island nor a has-been county!  
Nor are we Europe's 'we can do it Region'**

Force10 Companion Guide, (CG) The New-Lambton Worm, should be read in conjunction with Force10, which is available on [www.wind-farm.org](http://www.wind-farm.org) as a free download. The Companion Guide CG provides additional detailed information which supports my concerns. Please take time to read it.

**Hopefully it will be then be clear why I take issue on how PPS22 has evolved and why I challenge that which is in my opinion the scarlet pimpnel of all planning documents, PPS22 Companion Guide.**

We sought it here, we sought it there, we sought it everywhere. About 6 months after the 11 page document it was said to support, it emerged, all 185 pages! Many are still unaware of its existence as they are of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) prepared by the unelected Regional Assembly to provide a broad strategy for the region for 15-20 years! RSS will help to create a positive planning policy framework for renewable energy\*. However one of the leading experts on renewable energy, Professor Fells sees windfarms as a gold rush, created by a government struggling to meet its own renewable energy targets (p32)

\* From the Regional Economic Strategy for the North East (RES) submitted to the Minister in 1999  
**I make no comment on other policies in the RSS.**

## Green Alert for the PM

## Section 1

Was the letter and documents sent to Tony Blair in December 2002 a green or a red alert for the PM? He chose to ignore it. Hiding behind protocol he suggested I contact Alan Milburn, my constituency MP. My reply in answer to that suggestion is below. Throughout the Barningham campaign Alan had been the one person we felt we could trust. He understood the 'Wilderness Therapy' and its value to the nation's health. Alan always toed the party line, but then John Prescott and Government understood the need to protect our precious land and were not then obsessed with wind farms as an answer to global warming. Why the U turn and the threat I term the 'New Lambton Worm? I hope to discover the reason why. A can of worms has opened up as the undemocratic situation unveils.

It has been said a Democracy is as good as the Dictator who runs it

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01325/485107  
29<sup>th</sup> December 2002

Dear Mr Burton,

Thank you for the prompt reply giving the assurance that the documents I sent will be made available for the Prime Minister when the next visits his Sedgefield constituency.

I regret that protocol prevents me seeing him personally, as this an extremely serious political issue and he cannot possibly be aware of the events I wish to recount. If there is a way to overcome the constituency problem by speaking with him in London I would be willing to do so.

The related events have been recorded and I intend to publish them in a booklet. This is the only way I can preserve my sanity after the treatment I have received from The British Wind Energy Association (BWEA). I have been anti wind energy and have simply tried to protect our landscapes and their associated spiritual and physical attributes for the benefit of all.

I notice you are forwarding a copy of your reply to my own constituency MP, The Rt Hon Alan Milburn. May I point out that I have the greatest respect for him and the way he holds regular surgeries to assist his constituents with their problems. However the political connotations are an issue for the Prime Minister himself. The related health problem I have discussed with Alan and he is dealing with it, through tricky and time consuming for him. I have also found it necessary to send solicitor's letters to BWEA.

I will not see democracy, justice and quality of life upstaged by might, money and mendacity. Neither do I accept that renewables should be primarily a political issue rather than an environmental one, as portrayed in the documents I have already sent.

This letter is particularly pertinent Energy Review and the attempts to revise PPG22 to favour Wind energy developments at the expense of the landscape. I will be in Austria from January 4<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> but look forward to a reply.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Mann

cc: To the RT Hon Alan Milburn MP

*The related events since 2002 are recorded in the last paragraph, page 105*

## **Our countryside needs someone.**

**Extracts from two articles I sent to the Prime Minister are below:**

### **The first from Wind Power Monthly September 2002**

“The doors to potential new markets for wind plant could slam shut. That would consign the Industry’s long- term business plans to the shredder. The old markets - Denmark, Germany and Spain - are already stagnating. Denmark's onshore market peaked last year and Germany's is expected to peak this year. New markets are essential, but they will be limited if today's successes lull the industry into a false sense of security about its buoyant long - term future. The energy market particularly that for renewable energy **is a political beast, under political control.**

To secure its future, **the wind industry must play politics.”**

### **The second from the BWEA website “Hug a turbine, Tony. It’s a vote winner.”**

The above is an extract from a letter entitled “Me and Tony” written by Nic Goodall, (then Chief Executive of BWEA) when both had been in power for 1000 days. Nic I believe moved to Renewables East as Chief Executive and then to Energy Networks (ENA) again as Chief Executive. He wrote to our local paper during the Barningham Campaign. His high profile position at BWEA seemed to signal Barningham’s importance to the industry

Comment: Copies of these documents and a letter expressing my concerns I sent to The Prime Minister in December 2002. I foolishly thought he was unaware of the implications. His answer I have not printed, rather my reply to it. I believe it to be too sensitive an issue at an even more sensitive time, particularly with a maiden name of Howard! However the situation is now so convoluted that even incestuous and someone must address it. Therefore whichever party can convince me they are truthful, have the interest of the people and democracy at heart, will respect and value the British countryside and what it has to offer, will get my vote. This account I will release after the election since FORCE 10, with the subtitle Political Will v landscape Protection has led some people to ask if this is an electoral issue. NO, that is not my intention. Political Will is a term used by the pro wind lobby and said to be necessary to achieve targets. Landscape Protection should transcend all party politics. We need only the Truth!

## **GB should not be sacrificed for G8**

Force 10 Companion Guide needs to read in conjunction with Force 10 (available as a free download on [www.wind-farm.org](http://www.wind-farm.org) ) The summary of the long fight to save Barningham High Moor, where for me this battle began, is available on [www.wind-farm.co.uk](http://www.wind-farm.co.uk).

It was also the introduction to the world of delusion, deployment of misleading concepts, selective and oft cited statistics, and educationally unsound concepts. For me a new world, one without the truth, without compassion, full of deception and seemingly driven by Big Business. Sadly this is supported by Government who are riding roughshod over those who elected them

A new age and one on which we can only look back in anger.

*One sunday morning young Lambton went a fishing in the wear; an' caught a fish upon his  
heuk, he thout leuk't varry queer; but whatt'n a kind of fish it was young Lambton couldn't  
tell, he waddn't fash to carry it hyem, so he hoyed it in the well*

**But the wyrm got fat and so have some Big Cats!**

## Response to the Consultation Document PPS22 showing local concerns.

On behalf of Barningham High Moor / Teesdale Conservation Group, I responded to the Consultation Document PPS22 expressing our concerns at the content. An extract from the letter is below.

**I wish to offer this documentation ‘Force 10 and flyer’ in response to the consultation document PPS22. It is the most concise way I can demonstrate my concerns at the content of draft for Planning Policy Statement 22 (PPS22) to replace Planning Policy Guidance 22 (PPG22).**

No longer termed guidance but a statement then of intent? I am amazed at the apparent disregard some elected members, both at local and central government level, appear to have for the countryside. Whether locally or nationally designated, or areas that missed out when the ‘honours’ were awarded, all are precious to someone somewhere. Countryside protection has been long fought and too hard to win to lose it for a political whim. In short the document appears to advocate building wind farms everywhere and not to stop even when targets are reached.

Wild areas are a declining resource in the UK and still it appears you have no respect for them nor understand what they have to offer. Their value in terms of peace and tranquillity is immeasurable. My submission, and there are many organisations and individuals who agree with my view, **really covers the methodology used to promote the technology rather than the technology itself.** The latter I leave to those most qualified to do so.

What the final outcome will be remains to be seen. Will political will triumph over landscape protection? Whatever may happen “Force 10” will provide a record of the many undemocratic events we endured as we fought to protect our heritage for future generations to enjoy. A piece of social history, documented in the interest of democracy.

On behalf of the people whose quality of life is already being affected and will be exacerbated if PPS22 in its present form is accepted, I ask you to consider that all wind farm applications have an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (90% of which are at present discretionary)

GO-NE has said this will not happen but without you fail the community on two scores.

1) Local councils are being asked to make decisions without understanding the full implication of the development. EIA could bring clarity and speed to the planning application, something you have advocated.

2) It is the only way the community can raise their concerns. It should avoid much of the misrepresentation given by the developers to the Local Planning Authority (LPA)

Elizabeth Mann Barningham High Moor / Teesdale Conservation Group

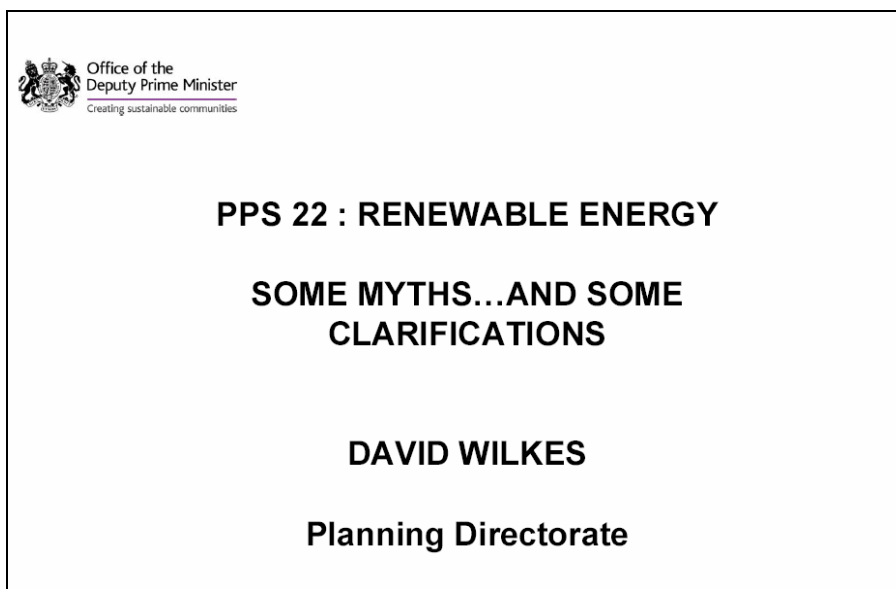
Comment: Why did Government changed its attitude? Was it threats made in 1998 by the Wind Industry? An official from One North East (The RDA) alerted me then to the fact that the wind industry were intending to attempt to weaken the planning system by lobbying the Government and through the then emerging Regional Planning Guidance (RPG). The resulting RPG, PPS22 and its Companion Guide along with the RSS are all bitter proof they did so and that someone listened! TNEI’ and their report ‘**Energy for a New Century**’ have been given a high profile throughout. (p37)

Since writing the above and the comment on page 32 The Sunday Times Insight Team have printed two letters (2/10/05): ‘**The conmen and the green professor**’ and ‘**Green adviser takes cash for access to ministers**’ The latter states the professor is a paid chairman of an energy quango subsidised by taxpayers and a paid adviser to parliamentary select committees. These letters contain serious allegations in respect of Professor Fells, adviser to cabinet and select committees and who is to engage with officials in rewriting the energy white paper. He was **Chair of NAREC** until a few days ago and has been, possibly is still, **Patron and Policy Advisor to TNEI and Vice-chair of their Energy Strategy Project Team.** This is worrying considering **TNEI’s involvement in PPS22 CG, Energy for a New Century** and the apparent high wind profile at the **NAREC** launch. It was the association with Professor Fells and his expertise that gave credibility to TNEI.

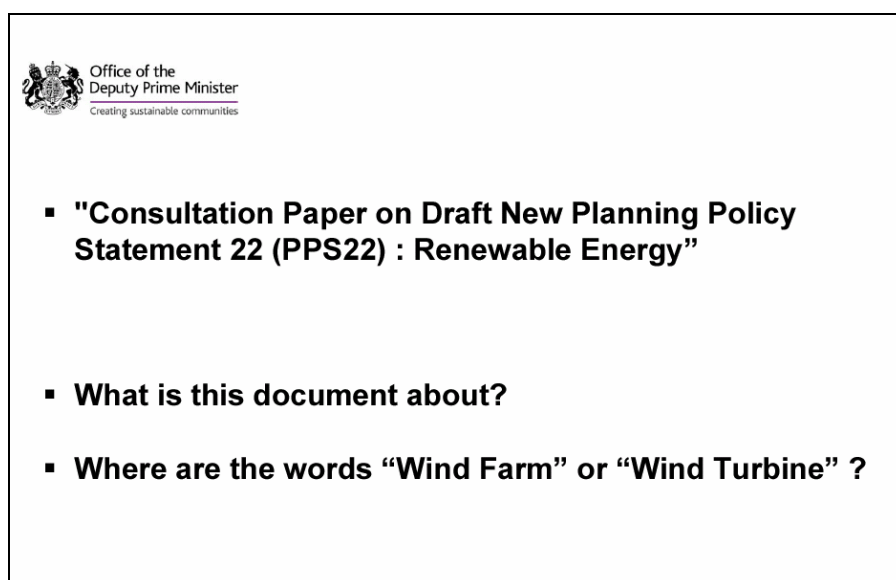


## PPS22 Myths and Clarifications July 2004

Comment: David Wilkes, the civil servant at ODPM, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and responsible for writing PPS22, outlines the new draft national planning policy statement at the BWEA, DTI funded event at Hartlepool.



Comment: David Wilkes knows the answer to point 2 below as he wrote the document to which he refers! A snip at £11 for the 11 pages! No need to even mention wind farms or wind turbines as the Companion Guide supplements supports and 'informs' on these issues. The CG costs £20 or is free to download. This assumes you are aware of the document, can source it and have access to a computer. A print off is actually easier to read, assuming you have a printer, but still costly.



Comment: The 185 page document, PPS22 CG with its preoccupation with targets and the role of wind power, seems an ideal 'cover up' for PPS22. "Regional target should be reviewed regularly and if met, revised upwards subject to the region's potential." Case studies are in my mind questionable, particularly AAT (Page 38) and GSK (Page 40)



**Extracts from a reply on behalf of Patricia Hewitt DTI Feb 2005**  
*(My comments are in italics)*

The letter (Appendix A) to Bob Gibson, Chair of the (**unelected!**) North East Assembly (NEA) regarding the NE Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) elicited the reply below.

1. It's in no one's interest to spoil the landscape.

*Agreed, so why are we building wind turbines?*

2. Turbines are rarely visible from more than 20 miles away even in good weather.

*Agree, but the problem of visual impact lies much closer to home!*

*Photomontages produced in the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) are increasingly misleading, with choice of viewpoint weather conditions and other relevant factors favouring the Developer. What you see is not what you get!*

3. Average load factors for onshore wind are around 30% and 35% + for offshore wind.

*Doubt was cast on this UK load factor of 30% by Hugh Sharman an independent energy consultant working in Denmark. He noted Danish turbines have operated at a load factor of only 21%. If this was to be the case in the UK not only would half as many turbines again be needed to deliver the same target output but potential investors would face dramatic reductions in the income derived from wind farms. HL Paper126 at 3.17*

4. The DTI has commissioned a study of low frequency noise from wind farms in Cumbria, North Wales and Cornwall. This will be completed in March 2005.

*Is this a truly independent study? When will the results be made public?*

*Planning decisions are being made whilst this study is ongoing. Is there justification for this? Surely if a problem has been identified the developers and Government should be honour bound to wait for the results.*

**See Appendix B**

5. The Renewables Obligation is our main support mechanism for renewable energy

However it is technologically blind. *Have you not ensured consumers are blind to the fact that it is an ingenious subsidy not a levy?*

6. We are spending almost £500M on emerging technologies. *Should it have been spent earlier?*

7. Surveys undertaken by DTI and other organisations show broad general support for the expansion of renewable energy.

*Renewable energy is not just wind. This I pointed out at the RPG Examination in Public.*

8. There is a small but vocal minority opposed to the development of future wind projects. People living near to a wind farm were found to be more in favour than those who had no experience.

*a) It is NOT small b) Satley Tow Law have experience of Tow Law wind farms (page73)*

9. We are working to ensure that debates and planning decisions surrounding the expansion of wind farms are not based on misinformation but scientifically validated facts. To this end we have started the "**It's Only Natural**" campaign to ensure that key decision makers have the full spectrum of information so they can make decisions –either for or against projects.

This is exactly what we are requesting; scientifically validated facts, not misinformation, oft-cited selective statistics and misleading concepts. I will see whether as DTI states, the full spectrum of information does now exist. I will also look at a BWEA's Embrace Campaign and at the efforts of Porter Novelli, paid by DTI, to raise awareness of renewable energy sources amongst investors and planners. Their managing Director reports direct to David Still. There seems to be a distinct lack of public involvement. I will look closely at the way PPS22, its Companion Guide and the Regional Spatial Strategy have evolved.

First I will look at DTI's It's only Natural Campaign and then the North East Case Studies.

## DTI's 'It's Only Natural' Campaign (DTI website)

**You want to know more about renewable energy. IT'S ONLY NATURAL**

At present, less than 4% of the UK's electricity supply comes from renewable sources. Government targets require this level to be increased significantly in the coming years.

We believe it's only natural that you should want to know more about renewable energy. We have created this site to be a definitive and up-to-date resource, combining facts and figures with real-life examples and links to further information. We address the environmental and community issues affecting [planners and local councillors](#) and the economic and financial issues affecting potential [investors](#). We aim to inform and inspire you in equal measure.

**Comment: Planners, local councillors and investors but, yet again, not the public.**

The Wind Economics Section (DTI website) is said to be under Construction. This has been the case for many months. Economics would need to explain ROCs, that ingenious subsidy masquerading as a levy and paid for by the consumer. Once again is it 'Out of sight, out of mind?' The BWEA News Releases for 1998 have been missing now for years rather than months. Both omissions may be purely a run of the mill (windmill?) situation but the absence of such information does leave one to wonder.

1998 was the year of the Barningham Wind Farm planning refusal and the Industry's worst year according to Wind Power Monthly. I have read it was the windiest year! 31%. Omission of information re economics i.e. ROCs can only be termed deceit of the highest order. Such delusion and deception can only breed distrust of those who are being less than honest with us, the consumers who pay for this through higher electricity costs. Paul Golby, the chief executive of Eon UK said. "Without the renewable obligation certificates (Rocs) nobody would be building wind farms." (Page32) The answer to this at the Nuclear or Not conference hosted by (NATTA) the Network for Alternative Technology and Technology Assessment in March was 'E-ON hate wind and are just making money from it' **Really!**

Do emissions saved outweigh the impact on the landscape and people's quality of life? We are seeking a balance energy efficiency and conservation allows us all to do our as will reducing the need to travel. The PM said on a visit to Co Durham area some years ago he would tell his family not to leave the computer on standby and to use resources carefully to help save the planet. DETR published a booklet in May 1999 are you doing your bit? It was posted on the internet at [www.doingyourbit.org.uk](http://www.doingyourbit.org.uk)

**It encouraged everyone to save energy, water and to recycle, to buy energy efficient products.**

Wind turbines have increased in size dramatically both in height and installed capacity over the last decade. What about any effect on health? What about safety particularly the possible impact on degradation of primary radar returns? This has implications for safety of passengers and crew and even National Security after 9/11. There may be a solution but it is imperative it is tried and tested independently first. The risk is too great otherwise. However the technology and any related health problems I leave to the experts as I explain why in my opinion the methodology used needs to be investigated before it is too late.

**Combating Global Warming is about reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions not about building wind farms.**

**DTI Case Studies in the North East, namely the 3H's are below.**

**DTI Case Studies in the North East follow:  
It's Only Natural Campaign DTI - Case studies  
Onshore wind: The '3 H's' North East England. DTI website**

The sites collectively known as the 3 H's consist of a group of three turbines at 'High Volts' west of Hartlepool, two turbines at Hare Hill east of Durham City, and two turbines at Holmside south of Stanley in Co Durham. The 3 H's are the first sites on the UK mainland where multi-megawatt 100-metre tall turbines of the type more commonly associated with **offshore wind developments** have been installed. Each of the seven turbines has an installed capacity of 2.75 MW, giving the 3 H's a cumulative installed capacity of 19.25 MW. This is sufficient generation to supply at least 11,650 households, or 28,000 people; and to prevent the annual emission of 44,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

**Comment: Using information from the ROC Register it is possible to check the above figures.**

At Holmside Hall the local community already had direct experience of a modern operating wind farm in the area at Tow Law, which has been well received and has become a **popular location for picnics**. That the existing site reduced public uncertainty was reflected in the relatively low number of objections to the Holmside proposal, which was recommended for approval by planning officers and approved **with little debate** by the Council's Planning Committee. Concerns regarding potential noise from the Holmside Hall wind farm were addressed through the imposition of a planning condition limiting noise from the wind farm at nearby dwellings to 35dB. The wind farm will not be permitted to operate if this noise threshold breached

Hare Hill wind farm received little opposition and was granted planning permission by Durham City Council in 2001. The turbines were erected in late 2003.

High Volts wind farm consists of three 2.75 Megawatt turbines, situated to the west of Hartlepool and immediately to the east of the A19 road. Nearby Teesside International Airport expressed concern that the proposal could have an **adverse effect on its aeronautical radar, with associated safety implications**. The Civil Aviation Authority stated that there **was no available evidence** that this would have an adverse impact on the airport. The scheme was granted planning permission and is now operational. The award of planning consent was conditional on the operator contributing towards the reasonable costs, up to an agreed ceiling; of **any radar impact remediation** should such work be required by the Civil Aviation Authority. The wind farm was commissioned in early 2004 and to date has had no adverse effect on the airport's radar.

**Comment: Airports I understand can cope with an occasional turbine in an area but the effect on radar and safety is exacerbated with an increase in height or number of turbines I understand BWEA and Marconi have financed software for Durham Tees Valley Airport. Said to mitigate any problems it is not yet available though Wind Prospect say it will be by 2008 .It must be tried and tested throughout the UK, in the interest of public safety and National Security. Airports do have a duty of care to their passengers and crew and must not be pressurized into accepting government energy policy at the expense of safety.**

**Comment: Pictures of Tow Law so called 'picnic site 'are below. Tow Law's said popularity has been used to support other developments by National Wind Power (NWP)  
One at Loscar Farm (between Sheffield and Rotherham) and another in South Wales.**

RWE Innogy agreed in Jan 2004, a £400m deal with Englefield Capital and First Islamic Investment Bank to finance its wind farms, which will enable its National Wind Power subsidiary to continue developing new sites

## Tow Law Wind Farm

Ah, no guard dogs on patrol now, as earlier!



## High Hedley



**Hardly picnic sites!**

## Holmside Turbine Under Repair

Fault found 23/12/2004

Photograph taken in January 2005

Reports were received during January, February and March that the turbine(s) were not working. However once the blades are back in place we have to consider lack of wind on the site as well as mechanical problems.





## Wind Turbines Shut Down in Safety Alert

### GIANT wind turbines have stopped operating after a safety alert

Extract from Hartlepool Mail - 05 January 2005

The huge 330ft structures across Hartlepool and east Durham are out of action while bosses investigate a fault on another similar North East turbine. Bosses say they do not know yet when the **High Volts** site between Elwick and Hart and the **Harehill** site between Shotton Colliery and Thornley will be back in action.

Jonathan Smith, a spokesperson for E.ON UK, the company that runs Powergen, said: "We have had an equipment failure where a turbine failed and as **a safety precaution** we have basically shut them all down. So all those with the same design have been shut down. "We have launched an investigation to find out what the problem is and we will return them to service as soon as it is safe to do so"

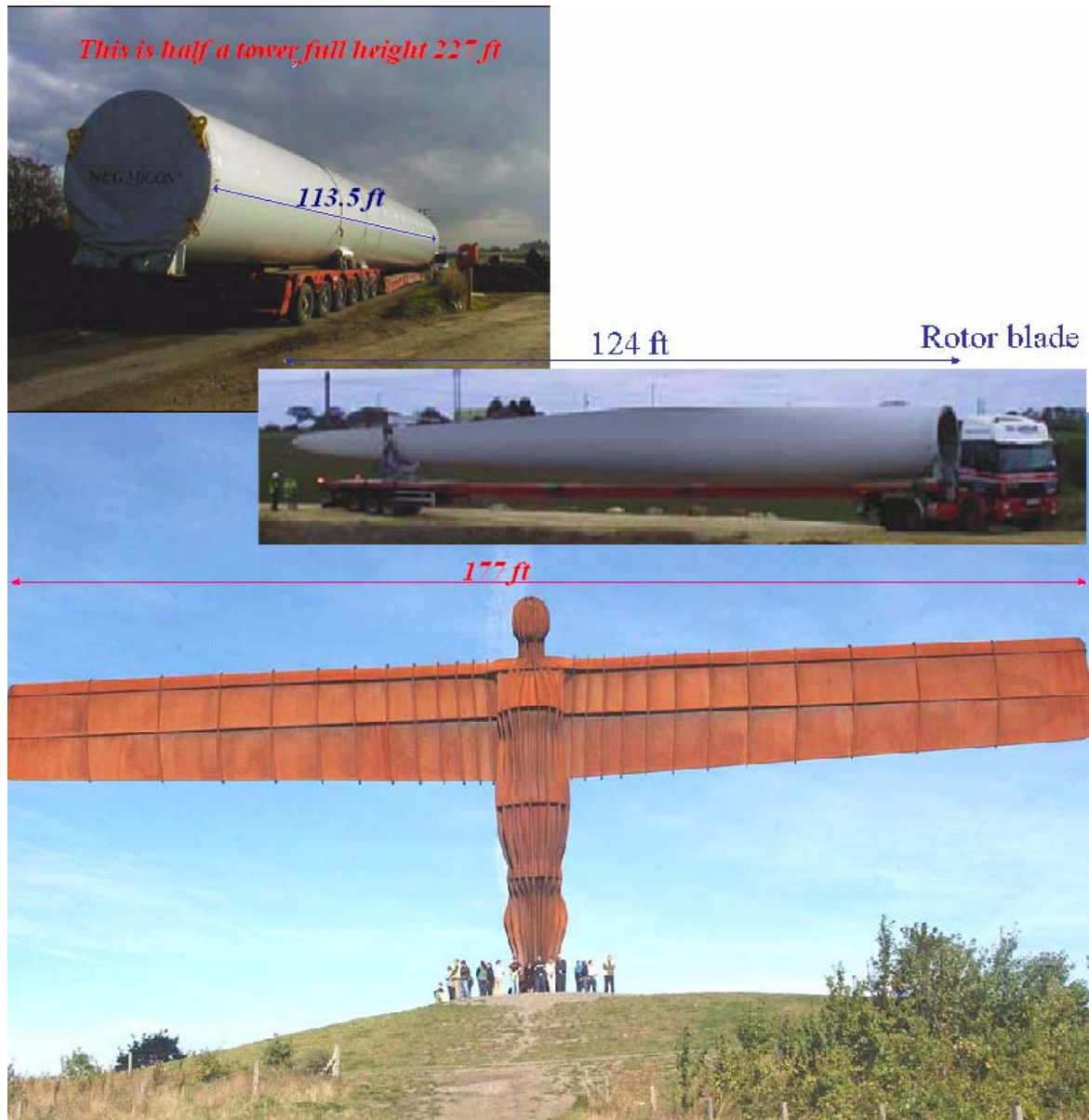
"The problem arose Wednesday, December 23, last year after a fault was found with a turbine at the **Holmside** site near Chester-le-Street. Though **Powergen Renewables stand to lose thousands of pounds**, the energy providers are adamant that the region's power supply will not be affected. Mr Smith said: "The power for everybody is put into the National Grid pot where there is more than enough to go round" It is a fairly impressive piece of machinery and things do go wrong with pieces of machinery, so it is inevitable at some point. It's probably going to cost us thousands of pounds, but it's very difficult to put a figure on it," he said It is not unusual to shut the machines down. It would be unusual to shut them down for a long time." Safety fears are the latest in a series of problems since the turbines were built in 07/03

#### Abstract from Press report March 15 2004

More than 40 people have complained that the three turbines have affected their TV pictures. The 340ft structures have caused controversy in the area since they were built near 1000 homes in November. Some people said they were unsightly and noisy. Hartlepool Borough Councillor who objected to the turbines said, "They should be sited offshore. Powergen renewables agreed the turbines were causing problems and that the company would do whatever was needed to sort out the problem. (Initially described as dwarfing the countryside)

Comment: **Holmside, High Volts and Hare Hill all seem to have had regular problems.** Whether due to lack of wind or mechanical problems I do not know, perhaps both .If we are to balance the adverse impacts and wider environmental benefits of reducing carbon emissions then we must check the load factor of the machines and see if they are producing the electricity and making the emission savings stated by the developer. Both the anticipated saving of CO<sub>2</sub> and electricity generation should be stated as accurately as possible, Now the wind turbines are operational, the load factors can be checked using information from the ROC Register. If low and the obsession with regional target for onshore wind persist then my real concern is this could imply **even more** turbines. PPS22 planning proposals allow Government to override local objections to renewable planning applications.

*An' grewed an' grewed an' grewed an aaful suze!*



Comment: They certainly have grown! The above picture attempts to give some idea of scale of the tower 227ft in height and a blade 124ft, compared to the Angel of the North. The low loader is transporting only half a tower. A picture during construction of a Neg Micon turbine follows, courtesy of the Powergen website - 100m (about 325ft to tip) and each 2.75 MW installed capacity.

### **These turbines certainly are gobbling up the countryside!**

Antony Gormley's Angel is 20m (65 ft) high, more than the height of four double decker buses. When I first chose the Angel for comparison I did not think the developers or planners would claim that the Angel is **not** 20m in height. Their feisty reasoning is that it stands on a hill! This was the reason given by the Chief Planning Officer in response to the local objectors as to why 45m turbines were not twice the height of the Angel. The Application for two second hand turbines at GSK is used as Case Study 6E in PPS22 Companion Guide. (More detail on pages 40/41 Force10CG).



## Holmside Turbine

I have read that 432 tonnes of concrete will be poured into the ground for this one turbine.

What is involved in the construction of the 2.75 MW NEG micon wind turbines?

Photos taken during commissioning of generators at Holmside Hall



PB Power in November 2003 regarding the Royal Oak Darlington, application for 4 turbines (one of seven EDF applications put forward by PB Power, responsible for the grid study in the RSS) is due to go to committee in Oct/Nov. MOD concerns have not yet been resolved.

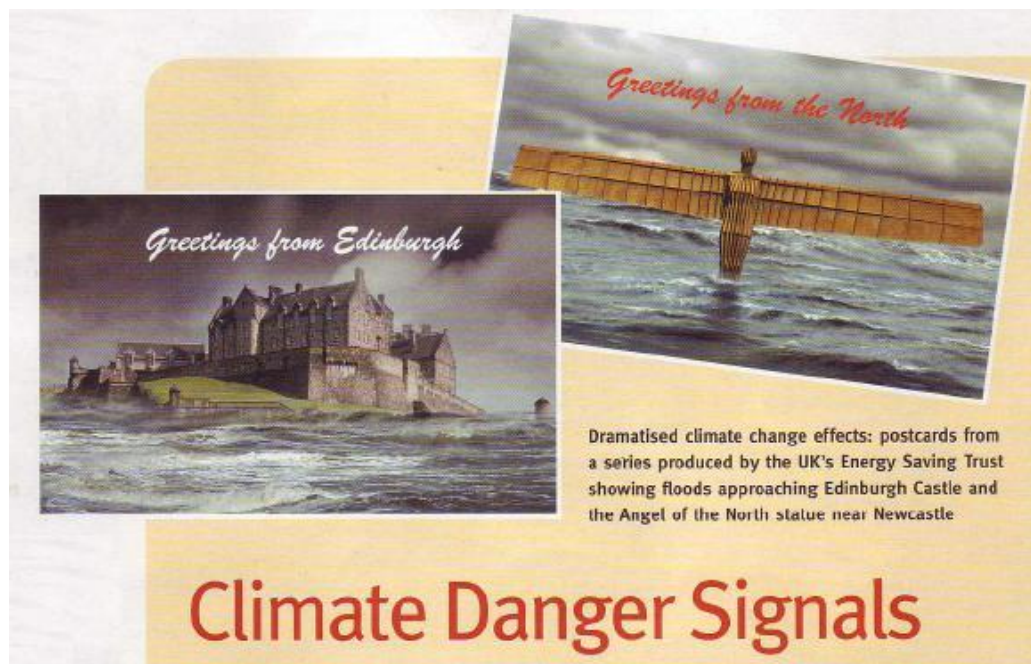
At a Community Involvement in Planning RTPI June 8, 2005 Seminar, Chris Myers, Forward Planning Manager for Sedgfield Borough Council (SBC), delivered a Statement of Community Involvement \* (SCI) in action. SCIs are part of the new planning system (p 66)

Walkway windfarm, Sedgfield decision meeting did not address the public concerns put forward so was it a fair hearing? (see My Case Study p 53) £21000 annually to the community is not the answer. The annual hidden subsidy alone from ROCs paid for by consumers for this development will be about £3million.

**The Environment Council, held a Regional conference** in The North East March 18, 2005 with Ian Todd (ex DTI), NEA, Renewable Energy Systems ((RES). The thrust was very worrying, **namely there are no disbenefits from wind energy** and we must find a way to move forward.

**These training workshops are to take place throughout the UK (see page 104)**

**Chair of Sustaine then a member of One North East and a Teesdale District Councillor** wrote the foreword to the TREC brochure supporting the GSK wind turbines and the wind farm proposed at Hamsterley. Such support I have heard questioned. TNEI managing TREC reneged on their promise of all renewables small scale/Force 10 Chapter 11 /Appendix B



Source: January 2003 Wind Directions

**Case Study 3E PPS22 CG Member Training.** Extract from **NEREG** CD Rom “Guidance for Local Planning Authorities and taking forward renewable Energy Development” 06/04 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) concluded in its Third Assessment Report on Climate Change that temperatures are expected to rise by between 1.4 and 5.8°C by 2100; sea levels could rise by between 0.09 and 0.88 metres compared to 1990 levels. Comment: It is not misleading to show The Angel of The North which stands on a hill, up to its knees i

**From Sustaine website 30-10-02**

**Phil Hughes Chair**

Organisations GO-NE, NEA, RSPB, Penn Associates, Northumbrian Water, Electrolux, Environment Agency, Durham County Council, ANEC, Sustainable Cities Research Institution, University of Northumbria, Health Development Agency, Voluntary Organisation Network for the North East (VONNE)

The North East regional round table for Sustainable Development (SD) was established to provide a regional focus for the sustainable development agenda in North East England, under the name **Sustaine**.

Extracts from **Sustaine** website. **“Its work will be complete when:**  
Principles of (SD) are embedded in the culture of the NE  
Economic social and environmental agendas in the NE are fully integrated  
**Sustaine** will achieve this by overseeing development and implementation of the RSDF, Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) and integrating these principles into **the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)”**

**It seems all roads lead to the unelected North East Assembly! NEA**

## High time to strike back by Lyn Harrison Editor Wind Power Monthly Sept/04

Why should the reactionary antics of a “**has-been island**” off the north European coast be of concern to the international wind power industry? Because if Britain's current energy policies give way under the pressure, the wind market will collapse, taking with it the reputation of this entire industry.

Michael Howard has well and truly shot himself in that foot. Ask the people of Britain to make a choice about electricity generation and most will vote for wind power. His action has boosted what is already an exercise in the power of propaganda; it should go down in the history books. The campaign's most recent tack is to disguise itself as the “genuine” renewables movement. For a clue to the source of much of the most creative reporting of recent weeks, take a look at the Renewable Energy Foundation at <http://www.ref.org.uk/>.

Choosing the weapons - If the wind industry is to stop the anti-wind power rot in Britain it needs to take serious action on two fronts. First, it must put huge sums of money into an aggressive counter campaign, nothing less than a painstakingly informed, beautifully articulate, highly professional, well orchestrated, wide reaching and proactive public relations crusade. A first aim should be to mend the British public's disconnect between the problem of global warming - and one of its best solutions. **Arming a top celebrity or two to lead the charge would be good.** The message has to be **clear, confident and unapologetic.** The best campaign tactic of all might be to get Britain's nuclear program reinstated. That would force a seriously thorough examination of all the alternatives for prevention of global warming and avoiding an energy crisis. Wind would emerge a clear winner.

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**Letter to Carol Vorderman from BWEA CEO Marcus Rand, Source Spytel**

“Dear Carol, we are writing to ask if you will back a groundbreaking national campaign in support of wind energy...

Comment: I have no idea why Carol did not back the campaign or if she received the letter. Of one thing I am certain. She would have ensured that figures and statistical surveys quoted were not misleading. Several reports are currently contradicting the oft cited numbers said to support wind farms. I refer you to the Satley Poll, page75.They already have wind farms.

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**In my opinion, the following information as it stands is educationally unsound.**

**1) The number of houses supplied:** Although calculated on an average 4.7MW pa per household, an accepted figure; electricity, for hospitals, shops, factories, schools, street and lighting, essential to the needs of everyone is **not** mentioned.

**2) The number of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> saved:** This does not give figures relating to UK or global emissions as I see it a serious omission. UK emits 550 million tonnes pa .Global emissions by comparison are about 44 times as much at 24000 million tonnes pa.

Inconsistencies give cause for concern. **0.86** tonnes per MWh as quoted by **BWEA**, and replacing output from coal fired power stations **.DTI fact sheet 14** and North East Regional Renewable Energy Strategy **NERRES 2005** quote **0.43** tonnes per MWh.

The factor 0.43 is calculated on the basis of the current UK mix of plant and fuels used in power generation (**NERRES 2005 p12**) Developers using the **,86** factor would need twice as many turbines to save emissions claimed. They would need even more if the load factor were to be less than 30%

The [Air Travel Calculator](http://www.climatecare.org/exploreworldwide) on [www.climatecare.org/exploreworldwide](http://www.climatecare.org/exploreworldwide) calculates emissions for any destination. Comparisons can then be made with savings relative to wind energy.

## The Embrace Campaign seems to be in line with Wind Power Monthly ideas.



British Wind Energy Association launches its first advertising campaign. The British Wind Energy Association (BWEA) is launching a £100,000 billboard campaign to promote wind power this autumn. From 1 November, over 350 posters will go on display at 120 locations throughout the UK as part of Embrace the Revolution, a national

campaign to give a voice to the silent majority of people - 74% - who support wind energy (BWEA figures) The campaign concentrates on locations where there is either an existing wind farm or an application to build one.

Comment: The Satley poll p73 differs! They have 2 existing wind farms and a third has been granted permission. Sustained opposition has resulted in the number of turbines for the fourth proposal being reduced from 22 to 12. CPRE have objected at District, Branch and Regional level on the cumulative impact (CEWT) Now NEREG are looking at the effects of CEWT The Developer took their promotional caravan to a supermarket car park several miles away recently to gain support. A complaint to the Manager resulted in the Developer moving.

BWEA's Chief Executive, Marcus Rand, says, "This campaign is intended to challenge people's perceptions of wind turbines. It's saying not only do they benefit the environment and help tackle climate change, they are also stunning. As campaign champion Chris Tarrant says they are modern day guardian angels. A common myth is that wind turbines are ugly, a blot on the landscape. We know the public doesn't agree."

**Reality.** The following abstract is from a letter I received from Chris Tarrant after sending him a copy of Force 10. The complete letter is on page 20.

"I do agree that to erect them in some of our most beautiful countryside would be tragic ... I do believe that wind power will have an important role to play in all our futures but I certainly agree it should be done sympathetically with a genuine ear listening to local grievance."

Comment: I am pleased Chris Tarrant agrees there is a need to listen to local grievance An **EIA for all wind farms would be a start** - a real EIA, not the developers' interpretation, which appear to rely heavily on BWEA guidelines. Should not written representations at Public Inquiry be allowed **only** when 'both sides' agree to this. A Third Party Right of Appeal would help to avoid the undemocratic 'Heads They Win, Tails We Lose' situation.

'Oyster' Awards in London Nov 2002. Cherie Blair's comment.

I had been selected as the North East Regional nominee for the National Oyster Award for Environment. (The successful landscape protection fight to protect Barningham High Moor and the nearby National Park from inappropriate wind energy development) Talking to the nominees, Cherie Blair commented on the turbines, "We don't want those on the hills,"

Extract from letter written by Tony Blair's agent on behalf of the Prime Minister 2004

"They should **not** be put near houses or in the case of Trimdon where there is subsidence." The Appeal (Written representations) has been won by the developers (July 05)

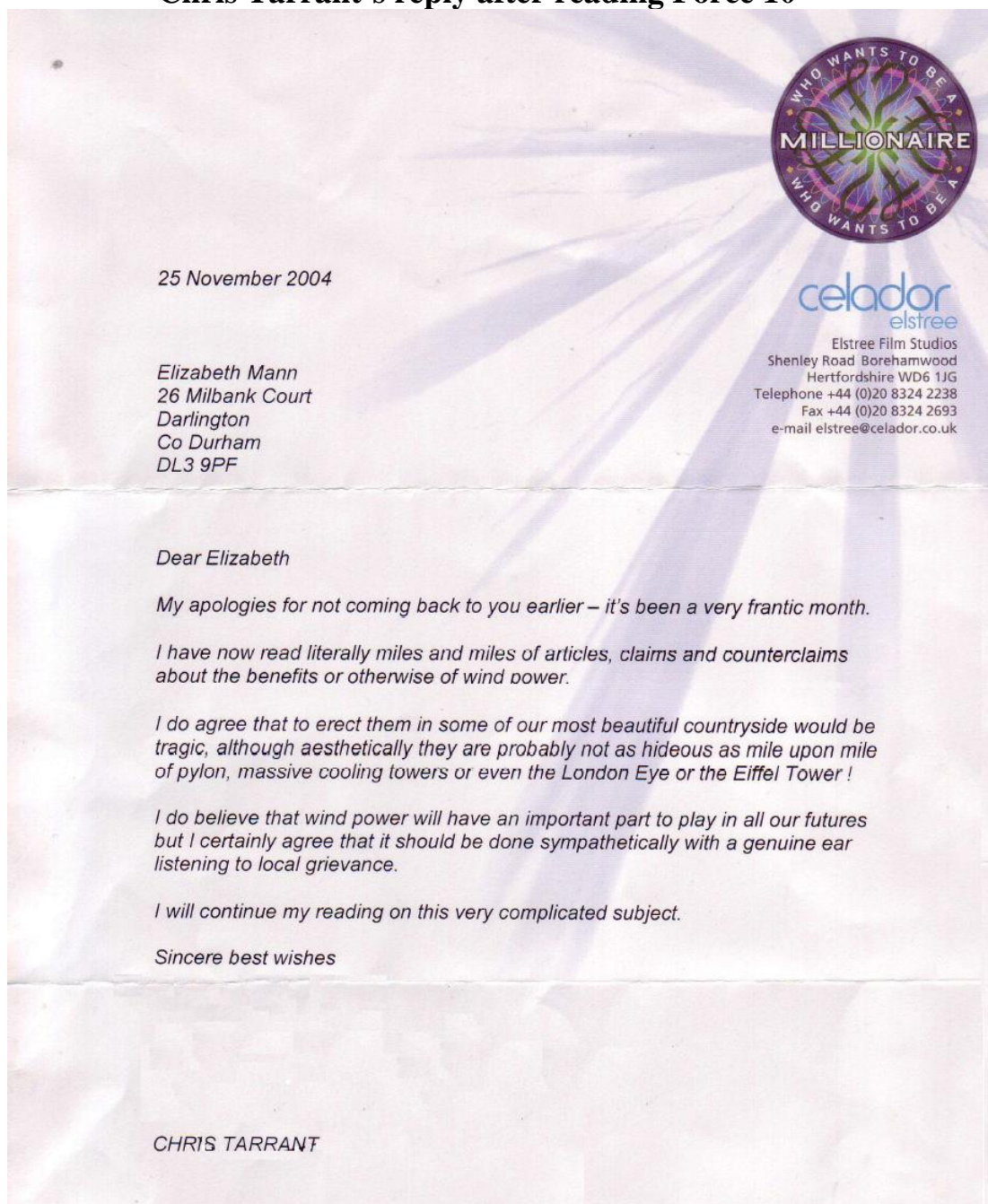
With no chance to cross-examine and elicit some answers could this not constitute bias?

Aug 28/29 2005 Wind farms across the UK will be opening their 'gates' to the public in support of Embrace the Revolution, the national campaign for wind energy. Windy activities on offer will include the opportunity to touch a turbine

*Comment: As a responsible member of the community I could not condone the opportunity to touch a turbine, as it must involve an element of risk however small this may be.*



## Chris Tarrant's reply after reading Force 10



Comment: The letter from Chris Tarrant mentioned on page 19 in connection with the BWEA Embrace Campaign appears in full above. I have removed his signature for security reasons. The statement “Sympathetically and with a genuine ear listening to local grievance” is not in my experience the methods generally used by the wind energy developers. FOE stated on their website. “A new campaign has been launched called "Embrace The Revolution", which will demonstrate public support for wind power, and challenge the various myths about wind farms.” The Embrace Campaign did not appear to succeed in challenging the ‘myths’ about wind farms. Surely the problem with the Ardrossan wind farm supports the request to GO-NE that all wind farms have an EIA. (Page42)

**“I cannot afford to live here but walking on those moors I feel like a millionaire”  
Spontaneous comment from a witness at the Barningham Public Inquiry 1998**

Lyn Harrison, WPM editor writes also of an extraordinarily persistent, anti-wind campaign, relentlessly feeding the press and media with a diet of well-turned lies and misinformation. She suggests taking a look at the Renewable Energy Foundation. <http://www.ref.org.uk>. This she says disguises itself as the “genuine” renewables movement.

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**The following is from REF website [www.ref.org.uk](http://www.ref.org.uk) and explains their aims.**

REF is a not-for-profit foundation formed of individuals concerned by the uncontrolled growth in proposals and planning applications for power stations in inappropriate rural areas. We are part of a growing national consensus that the United Kingdom’s energy policy is unbalanced, and that the drive for renewable energy generation has been inadequately planned, a fact that has resulted in a developer-led industrial feeding-frenzy that is neither green nor sustainable. It is improbable that this current broad-scale industrialisation of the countryside will bring about any significant reductions in the emissions of greenhouse gases or meet the long-term energy needs of the UK (as laid out in the **Feb 2003 Energy White Paper**). We aim to raise public awareness of the issues and encourage the creation of a structured energy policy for the UK, which is both more ecologically sensitive and effective.

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**The Following email is from REF chairman Noel Edmonds**

Dear Elizabeth,

As reported in the Sunday Times - through one of my companies, VMC, I have offered free video conferencing equipment to the two major UK political parties. After many years of trying to open the politicians’ eyes, I am seeking to make sure that they “practice what they preach” by reducing unnecessary travel which in turn will make a significant contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

At the present time transportation equates to over 30% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and so even a small reduction in unnecessary travel will have a positive impact upon this very serious issue.

**Indeed reducing just 5% of existing UK travel will totally negate the emissions argument associated with wind turbines!** As you will see from my work with the Meeting Without Moving Foundation, ([meetingwithoutmoving.com](http://meetingwithoutmoving.com)), and the Renewable Energy Foundation ([ref.org.uk](http://ref.org.uk)) I believe we have to have a totally fresh approach to the way in which we work, the way in which we travel, and our relationship with our environment and our use of natural resources. Harnessing modern technology and **encouraging** behavioural change is vital if we are to address many of the serious issues which we now all face. I hope this is sufficient clarification for you.

Best wishes,  
Noel

Comment: What could be more genuine than a structured energy policy and the acceptance of a change in lifestyle with everyone doing their bit. Being less wasteful could help to save the planet and save us all money. This could be part of the answer

**Some interesting facts**

- 1) [www.dartdorset.org](http://www.dartdorset.org) gives a detailed calculation showing the comparison in CO<sub>2</sub> savings by buying low energy light bulbs as compared with a 2 M W wind turbine.
- 2) Darlington Council are replacing older inefficient mercury type lighting with new energy efficient white lights, so saving the Authority around **£28,000 a year**,
- 3) New measures to make buildings more energy efficient will save one million tonnes of carbon per year by 2010, equivalent to emissions from more than one million semi-detached homes, **ODPM** and **DEFRA** announced today **15 Sept /05**

## BWEA Press Release



Monday, September 20, 2004

Cllr. Margaret Munn, Ardrossan, Scotland:

“The Ardrossan wind farm has been overwhelmingly accepted by local people - instead of spoiling the landscape we believe it has been enhanced. “The turbines are impressive looking, bring a calming effect to the town and contrary to the belief that they would be noisy, we have found them to be silent workhorses.”

## Times on Line

May 15, 2005 Ciaran Hancock

Airtricity makes 7.8 million euros from disposal of wind farm stakes 49% of its Ardrossan wind farm in Scotland to Viridis Capital, an Australian-based investment fund

*Comment the wind farm is sold less than 8 months after it was built.*

## Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald, Friday September 24, 2004 by Billy Bain.

Ardrossan’s much-discussed new windfarm is causing severe interference to television reception on Arran and all parties involved are now discussing who will foot the bill for new TV aerials for the islanders! And MP Brian Wilson, who was contacted by concerned residents on the mainland-facing side of the island, is looking into the situation. Now talks are being held between North Ayrshire Council, telecoms regulator Ofcom and windfarm owners Airtricity to determine who is responsible for rectifying the problem. Denying they simply forgot about Arran while commissioning a technical assessment of the windfarm. Ofcom claim that that interference is occurring much further away than normally expected. Arran lies around 20km to the west of the Ardrossan site, and is therefore well outside the area where visible effects usually occur.

On the question of who should pay for the work, Mr. Madry (Ofcom) stated that it depends on whether North Ayrshire Council **placed any relevant conditions on the developer**. He added: “If the planning authority has not done so, the windfarm developer will be under no obligation to rectify degraded reception although they may be willing to do so voluntarily.” NAC’s assistant chief executive, Brian MacDonald, said: “We are currently in discussion with the owners, Airtricity. “There is a requirement under the planning agreement for any problems such as these to be rectified.” An Airtricity spokesman said: “We are currently examining the claims and we will also be talking to NTL and NAC about the situation “We must admit that we are surprised by the claims of residents and will be looking into the case to clarify what the root of the problem may be.”

**Concerned MP Brian Wilson told The Herald: “Arran should obviously have been included in the technical assessment and, if it had been, these problems would have been pre-empted.** “I hope we can now get everyone around the table to discuss a way forward. I also hope lessons will be learned from this experience.”

Comment: Surely this highlights the need for a thorough Environmental Impact Assessment **EIA**. As CPRE, and with National Office backing, I wrote to GONE requesting an EIA for the GSK proposal since it was both unusual and out of scale in the area. The council had said at a **rare and not well-attended public meeting**, an EIA would give people a chance to voice concerns.

**Yet they had with TNEI agreed months earlier one was not needed.**

Hardly democratic or fair. This is a further reason for taking issue with case study 6E Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK) in PPS22 Companion Guide.



## The 3 M's - Might, Money and Mendacity

**WPM Editor, gave her idea of a campaign to stop the “wind power rot in Britain,”** A wide reaching public relations crusade painstakingly informed beautifully articulate (p18)  
Comment: These conferences appear painstakingly ill informed and beautifully biased  
They lack the Heineken element, reaching the areas other consultations don't, **the people**

Lyn Harrison editor of Wind Power Monthly (September 2004) said “To prevent the collapse of the wind industry, it must put huge sums of money into an aggressive counter campaign” DTI had already begun to pursue such an idea in February. Porter Novelli has been appointed by Department for Trade and Industry to increase awareness of renewable energy sources amongst investors and planners. Porter Novelli's managing director, Fiona Joyce, heads up the team and reports to DTI's renewables adviser, D. Still

### **Once again aimed at councillors and planners, not the people!**

As usual there appears to be no balance. It seems that there are two sides to all arguments except windpower. A colourful presentation, any colour as long as it's green, any renewable source as long as it is wind energy. Yet renewables are not just wind, something I pointed out during the RPG where the lobbying to weaken the planning system began (Force10 page 82.)  
So concerned about the growing opposition to wind farms the DTI awarded (Feb 2004) an international public relations company a contract, said to be worth £2 million to promote wind farms through workshops and conferences.(Resulting venues and dates listed below)

### **Regional Planning for Wind Energy Conferences. Information from BWEA website**

Northern Ireland (Limavady, June 2005)

Wales (Aberystwyth, May 2005)

East Midlands (Skegness, May 2005)

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South East (CEME Centre, Rainham October 2004)

South West (Hustyns Hotel, St Breocks Downs, October 2004)

West Midlands (Hafoty Utcha Windfarm, October 2004)

East of England (Swaffham, October 2004)

**North East (Hartlepool July 2004)**

North West (Kendal June 2004)

I applied to go to the Hartlepool Conference. The responses from BWEA are below.

#### **Emails from Helen Barnes at BWEA**

- 1) Thank you for your interest in the Planning for Wind Energy event on 28 July in Hartlepool. **BWEA has been given DTI funding on the basis that we run a series of free events for Councillors and local authority planners.**

As a result we regret that we are unable to accept your registration for the event. However, if we find there is space available nearer the time I will of course get in touch and will be pleased to give you a seat!

- 2) “Further to my previous e-mail I'm afraid we DO NOT have room for you at the Hartlepool conference next Wednesday.”

Comment: I was pleased to be told the presentations would be available on BWEA website soon after the event. I have read them all but they are not to my mind balanced. **They are more indoctrination than informing on how to make a balanced decision.** Councillors have a duty to those they represent and are not just puppets with Government pulling the strings.



**Hartlepool Conference details follow.**

**Planning for Wind Energy  
A Workshop for the North East Region  
28th July 2004, Hartlepool.  
Supported by Government and Industry**

*My comments are in italics*

Following on from the success of the national event in Hull and the first regional event in Cumbria, BWEA held the second in a series of regional one-day conferences for Councillors and local planners in Hartlepool on 28 July 2004, supported by the DTI.

Government policy and commitment to renewable energy has grown significantly over the last few years. The Energy White Paper has been published, renewable energy targets have been set and the Renewables Obligation has been put in place to kick start the market required to foster renewable technologies for future development and growth. As a result, there are now greater demands for renewable energy development, and particularly wind energy development, being the leader in renewable technology and deployment. **BWEA have therefore set up this series of events, supported by the DTI, to inform assessors and decision makers of the considerations to be made in plan making policy, case assessment and decision making for wind farm development.** The conference introduced new Government policy on energy and on planning for renewable energy, both of which reflect the increased Government commitment to renewable energy.

### **Session I: Government Policy for Renewable Energy and Planning**

#### **Welcome and introduction from conference chair**

Chris Tomlinson, Head of Onshore Wind, BWEA

#### **A New Industry for Britain: Government Policy and Commitment to Renewable Energy**

Dr Cameron Stewart, Deputy Director, DTI Energy Group  
**Dr Stewart** presented the Energy White Paper, published in February last year, **the most positive statement on renewable energy by a UK Government.** The Government has also set targets for renewable energy, **which the regions have an obligation to meet.**



*Comment: Did not the Energy White Paper EWP stress reducing consumption through efficiency and conservation measures, also development of primarily marine renewables, offshore wind wave and tidal power?(Extract from E Mann's response to PPS22 consultation).*

## **PPS22 - Some myths and clarifications**

### **David Wilkes, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister**

David Wilkes, the civil servant at ODPM responsible for writing PPS22, outlined the new draft national planning policy statement. His presentation set out some of the misunderstandings about the document that arose during consultation and clarification as to what the policies mean for planning authorities.



## **A Regional Perspective for the North East**

Dan Grierson & Caroline Oldridge, Planning Consultants, TNEI (The Northern Energy Initiative)

Dan and Caroline provided an insight into the Regional Spatial Strategy and renewable energy targets for the North East. They also highlighted, using case examples, some of the proactive work being undertaken by their organisation and outline how they can help and advise planning authorities in understanding the need for wind energy at a regional level



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*Comment: I reiterate my concern that Caroline Oldridge, formerly Policy Officer for the NEA to whom consultations for the Renewable Energy Strategy for the NE were sent has joined TNEI. Adrian Smith and colleagues from TNEI prepared the draft NE Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the NEA. There is still a preoccupation with wind energy at regional level*

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## **Session II: Technical Planning and Development Issues**

### **Landscape & Noise Constraints and Considerations**

Lynda Thomson, Associate Director, EDAW & Andrew Bullmore, Hoare-Lea Acoustic Consultants

Lynda and Andrew, expert consultants on technical issues, described and explained the landscape and noise considerations for site design and location. They also highlighted the models and methods available for measuring landscape effects and noise, which form a key part of all Environmental Impact Assessments.



### **Birds & Wildlife Considerations**

Tim Norman, Technical Director, RPS plc

Tim covered the considerations which are taken into account to avoid adverse impacts on birds and wildlife and introduced mitigation options that can be employed.



## **Session III: A Range of Perspectives**

### **Climate Change and the Need for Renewables**

Elanor Gordon, Greenpeace UK

Elanor reminded us all why we are investing in renewable energy in the UK and throughout the world. She looked at the scientific reality of global warming and its predicted effects on the environment from a global down to a local perspective.



### **The Industry Perspective: EIA and Consultation Processes**

Richard Barker, Wind Prospect

**Richard Barker, from BWEA Member developer Wind Prospect,** presented an in depth analysis tailored to the planning and Councillor audience, highlighting the range of considerations that are made during the detailed Environmental Impact Assessment. He used case examples to demonstrate best practice in consultation during various stages in the development process to ensure effective working with local communities.



### **Local Perspective: Local Planning and Decision Making**

Rod Hepplewhite, Senior Planning Consultant, Blackett Hart & Pratt Solicitors

Rod Hepplewhite has experience in a wide range of planning issues based on his work in local government for the councils of Hartlepool and Sunderland. He specialises in major projects for the firm and is currently advising on a major leisure development in the Teesside area.



### **High Volts Wind Farm: prelude to site visit**

Neil Riley, Senior Project Developer, E.ON UK Renewables

Neil outlined the process which led to the site selection, planning approval and construction of High Volts wind farm.



## **Debate and Discussion**

### **Visit to High Volts Wind Farm**

Hosted by E.ON UK Renewables, project developers and operators Commissioned only in December last year, High Volts displays some of the most advanced technology across its three majestic turbines. **As one of the most modern working wind farms in the UK, the development is typical of many proposals for the North East.** It also provides enough electricity to supply the needs of nearly 4,500 homes and saves nearly 15,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases each year

Comment: High Volts. **One of the most modern working wind farms in the UK** and typical of many proposals for the NE, We must ensure it is doing what the developers claim in CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions and the electricity produced. Above all is the technology really working? Having been sold down the Tees Wear and Tyne we deserve to know. A report published on May 19 2005) by the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC), to tackle the problems of climate change and energy security stated ‘ **wind power must be made to work**’ (see p33/4 Load Factors) Does this not indicate necessity for on site anemometry to check wind speeds prior to a planning application? I am not aware that GSK or Walkway had any on site measurements of wind speed taken. This could account for the poor performance of the GSK turbines, based on information from the Ofgem ROC Register but does not explain the phenomena of the turbines reported turning on apparently windless days.

## **Presentations from the Hartlepool Regional one day Conference July 04** **Supported by DTI.** *My comments are in italics*

*The Pdfs will I am sure still be available on the BWEA website and I recommend accessing them Obviously as power point presentations one does not have the privilege of hearing the 'asides' but the slides are certainly awareness raising! Unfortunately for me it simply confirms my concerns that any consultation after this is solely a con, a sop. It is all too clear regions have been given targets which they are told it is obligatory to meet.*

### **David Wilkes ODPM responsible for writing PPS22**

*I have pointed out on page 8, that PPS22 had no need to dwell on Wind Turbines or Wind Farms as its Companion Guide, has done just that!*

*I would like clarification on PPS22 at 14 as I believe it could be misinterpreted It states that Regional Planning Bodies and LPAs should not create 'buffer zones' around international and nationally designated areas and apply policies to these zones that prevent the development of renewable energy projects. It further states that the potential impact from renewable energy projects close to their boundaries will be **a material consideration** to be taken into account when determining planning applications*

**Tim Norman- Birds & Wildlife Considerations.** *I would have preferred more detail*

### **Andrew Bullmore Hoare - Lee Acoustic Consultants**

Turbines increasing in size to > 2MW. All other things being equal original .350m separation distances should now be > 700m *An interesting fact*

<b>Neil Riley - EON UK Renewables.</b>
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High Volts Wind Farm
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<i>Praise from the developer seems to conflict with reality (see p 33-35)</i>
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### **Caroline Oldridge and Dan Grierson - Planning Consultants TNEI**

Slide13

Present Installed capacity 35.55 MW from 33 turbines. Enough electricity for 21,500 households or 51,000 people. **Prevents the emissions of 80,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>pa**  
*This slide, the most contentious from TNEI is one of 8 copied on page 28*

Slide17 RENEW Tees Valley Commissioned Wind Capacity Study undertaken by TNEI, based on constraint mapping .identified 100 -150 MW potential wind energy Resource Areas in the sub region  
*Are the people who will be affected aware?*

Slide18,21 Local Authority Awareness Raising CD. A useful Tool
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<b>Prepared by North East Renewable Energy Group NEREG.</b>
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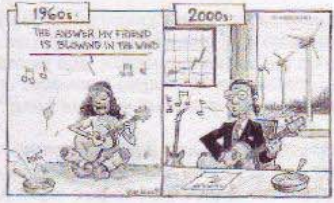








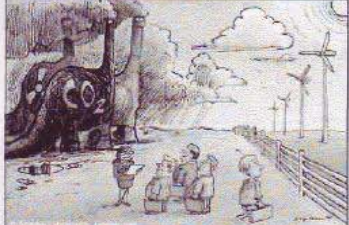




Aimed at Local Authority members and officers.
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<b>Piloted in Sedgfield and Wear Valley Councils Launched on 29 June 2004</b>
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<i>These are frightening in their assumptions and intentions (Walkway page52/3)</i>
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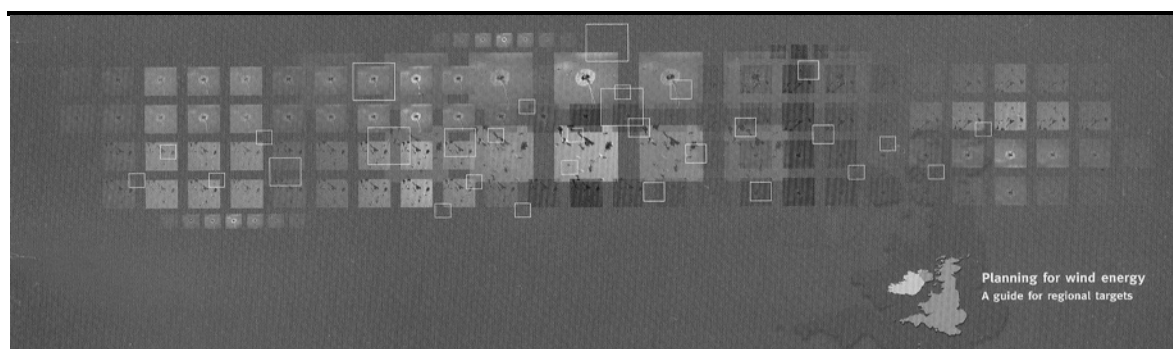


**TNEI PRESENTATION at HARTLEPOOL** Caroline Oldridge and Dan Grierson  
*Comment; Holmside, Hare Hill and High Volts have over half the installed capacity of the turbines currently operating. Therefore any problems with these turbines are crucial – see page 14 wind turbines in safety alert. Note Kirkheaton has only 3 X 600 kW turbines.*

 <p><b>A Regional Perspective for the North East</b></p>  <p>Caroline Oldridge &amp; Dan Grierson</p>  <p>Planning for Wind Energy 28th July 2004</p>  	 <p>Local Authority Awareness Raising CD</p>  <p><b>Provides Guidance to Local Authorities in taking forward renewable energy developments</b></p>   																														
 <p><b>Today's Presentation</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Planning Guidance</li> <li>• Renewable Energy Strategy</li> <li>• Regional Spatial Strategy</li> <li>• Meeting The Targets</li> <li>• RENEW Tees Valley Study</li> <li>• NEREG Awareness Raising</li> </ul>  	 <p>Prepared by North East Renewable Energy Group</p>  <p>Aimed at Local Authority members and officers</p>  <p>Piloted in Sedgefield and Wear Valley Councils</p>  <p>Launched on 29 June 2004</p> 																														
     	 <p><b>What have we got now?</b></p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Windfarm</th> <th>Turbines</th> <th>MW</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Kirkheaton</td> <td>9</td> <td>2.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Blyth Offshore</td> <td>2</td> <td>3.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Blyth Onshore</td> <td>9</td> <td>2.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Great Eppleton</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Holmside</td> <td>2</td> <td>5.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Hare Hill</td> <td>2</td> <td>5.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• High Volts</td> <td>3</td> <td>8.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Tow Law/High Hed.</td> <td>6</td> <td>4.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Glaxo</td> <td>2</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 	Windfarm	Turbines	MW	• Kirkheaton	9	2.7	• Blyth Offshore	2	3.8	• Blyth Onshore	9	2.7	• Great Eppleton	4	3	• Holmside	2	5.5	• Hare Hill	2	5.5	• High Volts	3	8.25	• Tow Law/High Hed.	6	4.5	• Glaxo	2	0.5
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     	 <p><b>Installed capacity</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35.55 Megawatts from 33 turbines</li> <li>• Enough electricity for 21,500 households, or</li> <li>• 51,000 people</li> <li>• Prevents the emission of 80,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum</li> </ul> 																														

Is the guitarist in 2000 singing that old song “Money is The Root of All Evil” or perhaps a lullaby, “ROC a bye baby,” who knows?

## Regional Targets for Wind Energy (Produced By BWEA)



Cover of document\* recommended by A Moore

Alan Moore (NWP) PRASEG conference July 6: “I would ask DTI, DETR to promote renewables more actively than they do. We need some sort of **independent** authority promoting renewables in general – **wind in particular**. We welcome the proposals for **regional targets** which were announced in February.

I am able to announce today that the **BWEA** have been working the last few months to **produce their own targets for wind energy in each of the regions of England and Wales and Scotland**. This is the document I would recommend to you\*.

**They are available from the BWEA.”**

Abstract from the document “**To assist UK regions in implementing national targets for renewable energy**”

Comment: Whom did they consult to produce these targets? Notice the land take is given as a % of region’s total land and I believe covers only the area of the turbine bases! That is misleading. Percentages are used when it suits their purpose yet not when it seems appropriate i.e. national or global emissions (p18)

REGION	Regional share of onshore wind power target (%)	No. of wind turbines for region (using 1.5MW machines) projected for 2010	Total land area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area suitable for wind generation (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area required for regional wind target (km <sup>2</sup> )	Land area required as % of region's total land (km <sup>2</sup> )
North East	5%	137	8,542	2,970	22.8	0.27
North West	7%	178	14,158	2,362	29.6	0.21
Yorkshire & The Humber	5%	131	15,482	1,590	21.8	0.14
East Midlands	3%	81	15,595	516	13.5	0.09
West Midlands	4%	95	12,994	895	15.9	0.12
East of England	4%	99	19,142	54	16.5	0.09
South West	10%	251	23,877	4,976	41.9	0.18
South East	6%	151	20,659	954	25.2	0.12
London – see p19	n/a	-	-	-	-	-
England	44%	1,123	130,449	14,317	187.2	-
Wales	8%	193	20,857	4,028	32.1	0.15
Scotland	39%	973	79,002	40,798	162.1	0.21
Northern Ireland	9%	227	14,184	6,109	37.8	0.27
UK	100%	2,515	244,492	65,252	419.2	-

**Martin Marais (NWP) South East.** Head of On-shore Developments, npower renewables. Invited panel member at NAREC launch Feb 2005.

Comment: Plans for the then largest windfarm in Europe at Rookhope c1998 were shelved after **much local opposition** and the dismissal of NWP’s Barningham High Court challenge.

Martin Marais was in charge of the Rookhope proposal.



**John Ainslie NWP North East-**

*Comment: In 1998 NWP’s appeal to the High Court following their loss of the High Moor Wind Farm Public Inquiry, was **dismissed on all four counts**. John Ainslie was in charge of the Barningham proposal, the largest wind farm then proposed in England.*

	Regional share of onshore wind power target (%)	No. of wind turbines for region (using 1.5MW machines) projected for 2010	Total land area (km²)	Land area suitable for wind generation (km²)	Land area required for regional wind target (km²)	Land area required as % of region's total land (km²)
<b>North East</b>	5%	137	8,542	2,970	22.8	0.27

*Regional representative*  
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Wind Prospect is the developer at the Walkway wind farm at Sedgfield (My case study) Dr Eaun Cameron, Managing Director Wind Prospect *needs* to be mentioned for his words of wisdom in Australia (c 2004) a verbatim transcript from ‘It’s not easy being green’ Do green technologies offer a future for Southern Australia?

The mysterious thing called NFFO which was referred to earlier, was the Non Fossil Fuel Obligation that was **a very clever wangle by the Government**. They managed to get some State aid support past the European Commission by piggy-backing on the State aid that was actually available to the nuclear industry which is also a non fossil fuel, of course.

Comment: How do you follow that? The Renewable Obligation Certificates ROCs, nothing less. The Wind Industry claims it is not a subsidy. Is it a subsidy or a levy? It is in fact a ‘hidden subsidy’ coming from the consumer not the treasury

**Surely a level of deception that I believe no one but government could get away with.**

The Renewables Obligation has been put in place to kick- start the market. As a result there are now greater demands for renewable energy development and particularly wind energy. (Source BWEA/DTI Conference for councillors and planners Hartlepool July2004) p24

Comment: This complex system of the Renewables Obligation (RO), the climate Change Levy exemption (CCLe) and the marketing of RO Certificates (ROCs) must be one of the most ingenious arrangements ever set up. Founded by an Einstein of the financial world it would seem, concealing the fact that the RO and CCLe are effectively a hidden tax on all electricity consumers and a huge hidden subsidy to renewable energy providers.

**BWEA Market Overview March 2004 UK** identified as the best market for wind in the world due to its favourable combination of wind resource, strong offshore regime and the recent extension of the relevant legislation **the Renewables Obligation** to 15% by 2015 (see page3) Last March, at a presentation to investors, LM Glasfiber boasted that the British market was one of its most important and was set for “substantial growth in 2005. Sunday Times May 22<sup>nd</sup> reported a donation of £250,000 for Labour from Doughty of Glasfiber.