

# FACTSHEET ON ALASKA WINDFARM

## Planning Application

- 4 industrial wind turbines, 410 feet (125 metres) high. Taller than Salisbury Cathedral.
- Planned for high ridge at East Stoke, near Wool. Visible from most of Dorset.

## Council Evaluation

- Planning Officer made strong Objection, recommended rejection, 2 main reasons :
  1. Noise :
    - Turbine Noise too loud for Dorset Scout Campsite in next field, only 250 metres away.
    - Campsite used year round, for more than 10,000 campnights per year.
    - Medical Study by Dr. Chris Hanning, Noise expert, said noise could damage human health.
    - Campsite used by autistic youngsters, autism affected by noise and shadow flicker.
    - Scotland and Continental policy that no turbine closer to houses than 1.5 kilometres.
    - Yet there are houses only 550 metres from proposed site, and Rights of Way to North.
    - Purbeck Care Home for autistic patients nearby, clinical objection ignored.
  2. Environmental Impact of Turbine Size:
    - Turbines on ridgeway would be visually intrusive appearance in landscape setting.
    - Height and layout would detrimentally affect Purbeck Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
    - Size would visually impact the residential amenity of nearby dwellings and Campsite.

## Other Objections

- Campsite, Care Home and dwellings impacted by blade flicker, danger to autistics.
- Blade tips revolving at 150MPH could kill birds and bats, nightjars and honey buzzards.
- Serious examples of blades breaking off, safety fear for Puddletown Road alongside.
- Scout Campsite within safety margin of tall Turbines, blades do break off.
- Turbines would be in Low Flying Area for planes, inadequate lighting warning.
- Would only produce about 23% of stated electricity capacity.
- Winds intermittent, always need fossil or nuclear powerstation backup.
- Developer refused to give average windspeeds from mast, when legally obliged.
- Last Winter had many days high pressure, no wind, when electricity most needed.
- Turbines only financially viable because of massive subsidy paid to developer.
- Subsidies come from electricity bills of ALL households – over £1 BILLION this year.

## Planning Meeting

- Planning Meeting before Christmas was minded to approve Planning Application, but only if the Objections from the Planning Officer could be overcome.

## Viability of Mitigating Objections

- No way that planting trees can overcome visual obtrusion of Turbines on the ridgeway.
- No method of operation and control agreed to overcome noise problems.
- Tent walls no protection from noise. Noise Consultant rejected draft Planning Conditions.
- Consultant states Planning Conditions wording is inadequate and imprecise.

## Planning Meeting March 31

- Meeting will be held to decide whether the Objections can be overcome.
- DART/CPRE flying blimp to show Turbine height : March 17, 18 and 19.
- Great Demonstration Saturday March 19 at Primrose Farm BH20 6AN – ALL come.

See DART website [www.dartdorset.org](http://www.dartdorset.org). Dorset CPRE : [www.dorset-cpre.org.uk](http://www.dorset-cpre.org.uk)