



**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight**

Mr A Pegram
Planning services
Isle of Wight Council
Council offices
Seaclose
Fairlee Rd
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 2QS

20 July 2006

Your Ref: P/01400/06-TCP/27774

Our Ref: 13.38.3

Dear Mr Pegram

Proposed 6 wind turbines and associated development at land at Wellow

Thank you for sending the Trust details of the above proposals. The Trust objects to this proposals based on the lack of adequate environmental information required in order to fully assess the impacts that these proposals will have.

The Trust appreciates that the applicant has provided an updated environmental impact assessment scoping report but it is felt that this is still lacking in some important ecological information. These are:

- No information on the impact to Raptures particularly those using the New Forest
- Not enough information on the impacts to wind turbines to Bats
- Not enough information on the Golden Plovers found using the site.
- No information on the impact for migratory species
- Not enough information about mitigation

The Trust would be happy to go into further details concerning these should this be required.

The Trust also considers given the proximity of the Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Area (SPA) that this application should be subject to an appropriate assessment under the Nature Conservation (Habitats & c.) Regulations (regulation 48). PPS9 Biodiversity and Geological conservation and the accompanying government circular 06/2005 provides further guidance on this.

In addition the Trust also believe that landscape is an important issue to consider. It is viewed that in addition to the issues over the turbines being seen from the south coast, peoples enjoyment of a quite recreational visit to places such as Compton downs will be impacted upon

by the turbines. This should be an importance consideration for the council who want to encourage tourism as well as local enjoyment of these areas.

Whilst the Trust as a general principle, supports alternative energy sources it is our view that these need to be in appropriate locations and that these locations should be established at a strategic level rather than piecemeal throughout the Isle of Wight and the South East Region. However in assessing this application it is viewed that the above issues need to be addressed before determining this proposal.

If you wish to discuss any of these matters further then please do not hesitate to contact me. I also ask that you keep the Trust informed of the progress and outcome of this application.

Yours sincerely

P Holmes

Dr Pauline Holmes

Conservation Officer (Planning)

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Visit the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's website at www.hwt.org.uk