

Gabriel Alonso, Chief Executive of Horizon Wind Energy LLC, one of America's biggest wind farm developers, often reminds his employees their goal isn't to stage a renewable-energy revolution. "This is about making money" he tells his troops.

Wall Street Journal
5/4/11

Cameron McNeish — mountain walker and broadcaster - claimed that the creation of more wind farms would "erode the bonnie aspect of Bonnie Scotland" and could devastate the tourism industry, which is heavily reliant on visitors drawn to Scotland's remote mountains and lochs.

Dong Energy, Denmark's state-owned energy company, has abandoned plans for further onshore wind farms

Due to growing public criticism, Dong Energy announced in September 2010 that it was abandoning future onshore windfarms in Denmark and will focus on offshore developments.

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the second edition of the TW312 newsletter. Since we last circulated possibly the biggest event was the Mayfield application and the number of representations.

There were 168 objections (92%) and 14 support letters (8%).

Certain significant facts came to light in the letters, notably, in the response from Galloway Fisheries Trust which pointed out that the application data had been based on the River Dee in Aberdeenshire! It was also noted the final paragraph of the Non-Technical Summary contained the following:

"Mayfield Community Windfarm is an appropriate, sustainable, well-designed development which would be a significant boost to the local area and Lancaster District." (p 31). (our underlining)

There were other anomalies too.

The application will now be assessed by the Planning Officers but in view of the number of objections it will be passed to the D&G Planning Committee for decision.

Ultimately, all those who objected should receive an invitation to at-

tend the Planning Committee where this is decided and will have the chance to speak, however, I believe the recommendation is for one or two only to be elected to speak on behalf of the group of objectors.

The important point is that as many as possible of the objectors should turn up so that the strength of opposition is properly gauged. Please come if you can.

Many thanks to you all for taking the time and trouble to put together an objection.

Horizon's facility comprises 67 turbines, each 388 ft (118m) in total ht and requiring 300 cubic yards or 30-40 truckloads of concrete. Mayfield turbines would be 426.5 ft or 130m.

Photo from JFinchPhotography.com



Presentation to Community Councils

Over the past 6 months TW312 have given presentations to the community councils of Kelton, Gatehouse, Kirkcudbright, Twynholm and Castle Douglas, along with the Convention of Stewartry Community Councils, with varying success.

Our thanks to them for letting us speak and in particular to Kelton for their thorough research in the Mayfield wind farm application to which they decided to object after consultation with their community.

Twynholm voted to object to inappropriately sited wind farms within their community and we have appealed to them to consider objecting to inappropriate proposals in surrounding areas too.

The purpose of a community council is to ascertain and express the views of local residents. According to the Community Council Handbook, these views should be **actively** sought in a variety of ways, especially in regard to planning proposals which raises issues of genuine interest.

Planning applications for wind farms should be measured against the Dumfries and Galloway Structure Plan and the Local Development Plan. It is quite clear that the Mayfield proposal was contrary to these plans but how many commu-

nity councils within a 15km radius of the intended site even looked at the Environmental Statement before making a decision? How many actively sought the views of their community?

It is worrying that planning applications with huge potential to negatively impact on many locals (and tourists) over a wide area are not being openly and publicly discussed within communities. Residents deserve to be given complete and honest information before they can make a decision.

As Tongland (who refused us permission to address the community council) and Kirkcudbright stand to profit from the intended community benefits from the Mayfield proposal it is even more important that a public discussion/debate on wind farms be addressed.

Please write to or email your community council and ask where they stand on the wind farm issue – don't let them put their heads in the sand. Once here it will be too late to do anything and the floodgates will open.



Daniel and Carolyn d'Entremont of Nova Scotia set up at an information table at the mall. They and their children were forced to leave their home on Pubnico Point because of adverse health impacts from nearby wind turbines.

Powerful case against renewables stance

The pretence that our electricity can in future be supplied from renewables, mainly wind and marine, has gone on too long. These matters are not a question of opinion; they are answerable to the laws of physics and are readily analysed using normal engineering methods. All of these energy sources are of very low concentrations and intermittent; they are and will remain inherently expensive and no amount of development will have more than a marginal effect on this conclusion

From letter by the following published in The Scotsman, 27 April 2011

Colin Gibson C Eng FIEECCMI Network director National Grid 1993-97)

Prof Ken W D Ledingham FInstP

Prof Colin R McInnes FREng FRSE

Sir Donald Miller C Eng FREng FRSE, Chairman ScottishPower 1982-92

Prof Anthony Trewavas FRS FRSE

Prof Jack Ponton FREng FICChemE

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Editorial Comment

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Has everyone gone mad?

WE LAST asked that question at the time of railway privatisation when we hosted STORM's campaign to STOP this Railway Madness.

Sadly we didn't stop it – though we had a good try and there are now few sane people who would argue that the programme turned out to be anything but a disaster. Britain's railway system is the laughing stock of Europe, save for those avaricious companies who are managing to milk the system for easy, subsidised profits at the expense of the public.

Now just the same thing is happening with so-called green energy.

Thanks to technological illiteracy at government level, we are being landed with a crazy system that could well bankrupt the country and leave us with no reliable sources of power.

The message on wind is at last beginning to get through and people are getting organised to make their feelings known. March 16's protest march in Edinburgh is a good sign.

With bodies like the highly regarded John Muir Trust raising warning signals, the debate has at last got beyond the nimby level to ask some pertinent questions about the policy – if any – that lies behind the headlong rush into windpower.

Because it is ordinary punters who are being asked (or made) to pay for this madness on their electricity bills, governments are quite happy to ladle out subsidies like there was no tomorrow.

But as people are realising, when we actually need the power it simply isn't there. On December 7, 2010, when the UK recorded its 4th highest ever electricity load, the whole UK fleet of windmills was producing just 300MW of power. The much vaunted Whitelee windfarm outside Glasgow managed just 5MW (a load factor of 1.6 per cent).

Wind power advocates will tell you this is the time to turn to Europe. On that occasion Germany was recording 830MW (3 per cent) and Denmark 142MW (4 per cent).*

The scramble for subsidies is having other catastrophic effects like the criminal reduction taking place in hydro output to bring stations built by the old North of Scotland Hydro Board down below the magic 20MW so they qualify for subsidies so their owners (often largely foreign based like our airports), can grow still fatter still.

*Renewable Energy Foundation-
www.ref.org.uk

We must protect our most vital resource (The landscape)

Wind farm development has proceeded on the basis that environmental impact would be taken into account and that turbines would not spread to become a ubiquitous feature of Scotland's landscape. But there is increasing evidence that the scale and speed of wind farm development has paid scant regard to these concerns. The scale of intrusion is now considerable. According to the industry body Scottish Renewables, 117 onshore wind projects now operate in Scotland, using 1,367 turbines. Another 20 projects, totalling more than 450 turbines, are under construction. A further 281 are in the planning system.

From an original article in The Scotsman, 27 April 2011

For more information visit:
www.tw312.org.uk

Turbine applications

The following pages contain the current list of turbine and mast applications. In summary they are:

36 turbines approved
17 masts approved

50 turbine applications awaiting a decision

41 turbines awaiting submission

A total of 127 turbines

Stewartry Planning Applications (Turbines and Masts)
List of applications submitted but awaiting decision:

Date	Location	Application No	No of turbines/ mast & height	Date	Location	Application No	No of turbines/ mast & height
15/04/2011	Shenrick Farm Crocketford	11/P/2/0154	2 x 21m	20/10/2009	Plascow Farm Nr Dalbeattie	09/P/2/0359	3 x 84m
05/04/2011	Larghill Farm Crocketford	11/P/2/0136	1 x 20.9m	05/08/2009	Galtway Hill Milton Farm Kbt	09/P/2/0267	2 x 100m
05/04/2011	Shenrick Crocketford	11/P/2/0135	2 x 20.9m	08/01/2007	Barnbackle Fm Lochfoot	07/P/2/0006	2 x 100m
05/04/2011	Crocketford Hs Crocketford	11/P/2/0134	2 x 27.1m	Awaiting submission			
04/04/2011	Auchengibbert Fm Crocketford	11/P/2/0133	3 x 27.1m	Date	Location	Application No	No of turbines/ mast & height
04/04/2011	Croft Hd Farm Crocketford	11/P/2/0132	2 x 39.6m	21/04/2011	Margrie Farm Borgue	11/E/2/0027	2 x 46.5m
04/04/2011	Chapel Farm Kirkcudbright	11/P/2/0131	1 x 39.6m	13/04/2011	Auchenlosh Fm Dalbeattie	11/E/2/0028	2 x 45m
25/03/2011	East Kirkcarsell Dundrennan	11/P/2/0117	3 x 19.6m	06/04/2011	Cullinaw Farm Dalbeattie	11/E/2/0026	1 x 20m
04/03/2011	Furmiston Criag Carsphairn	11/P/2/0088	80m mast	-1/04/2011	Lochdougan Dairies, Kelton	11/E/20023	1 x 27.13m
04/03/2011	Quantans Hill Carsphairn	11/P/2/0087	80m mast	18/03/2011	West Barnoffity Kirkpatrick Dur	11/E/2/0021	2 x 21m
04/03/2011	Kirkmabreck Carsluith	11/P/2/0084	1 x 45.9m	11/03/2011	Muirhead Farm Twynholm	11/E/2/0020	1 x 27m
03/03/2011	Blaiket Mains Haugh of Urr	11/P/2/0083	2 x 39m	11/03/2011	Balmangan Fm Dundrennan	11/E/2/0019	3 x 39.6m
15/02/2011	Littleton Farm Gatehouse of Ft	11/P/2/0065	3 x 40m	21/02/2011	Ernespie Dairy Castle Douglas	11/E/2/0018	1 x 39.6m
27/01/2011	Portmary House Dundrennan	11/P/2/0041	1 x 22.4m	21/02/2011	Blairshinnock Fm Kirkgunzeon	11/E/2/0017	1 x 27m
15/01/2011	Mayfield Farm Rhonehouse	11/P/2/0001	7 x 130m 80m mast	22/02/2011	Cambret Hill Creetown	11/E/2/0016	1 x 45m
22/12/2010	Ingleston Farm Twynholm	10/P/2/0491	2 x 45.5m	21/02/2011	Trostrie Farm Twynholm	11/E/2/0015	1 x 66.6m
21/12/2010	Culraven Farm Borgue	10/P/2/0490	2 x 45.5m	10/02/2011	E Kirkcarswell Dundrennan	11/E/2/0011	6 x 19.5m
20/12/2010	Kirkmabreck Carsluith	10/P/2/0488	1 x 45.5m	19/01/2011	Rattra Farm Borgue	11/P/2/0024	1 x 39m invalid
20/12/2010	Craigmore Hill Lochfoot	10/P/2/0487	2 x 45.5m Rejected	17/01/2011	Culnaightrie Auchencairn	11/E/2/0005	1 x 70m
04/11/2010	Loch Hill Nth of Dalry	10/P/2/0427	76m mast	12/01/2011	Ingleston of Borgue Farm	11/E/2/0004	2 x 39.6m
13/04/2010	Bank Hill Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0144	1 x 45m	22/10/2010	Standingstone Fm, Borgue	10/E/2/0033	1 x 62m
13/04/2010	Grange Hill Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0143	1 x 45m	22/10/2010	Irelandton Farm Twynholm	10/E/2/0032	4 x 100m
13/04/2010	Bank Farm Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0142	1 x 45m	01/07/2010	Glenquicken Moor, Creetown	10/E/2/0023	1 x 67m
22/01/2010	Milnmark Fm Dalry	10/P/2/0021	5 x 81m 55m mast	24/06/2010	Rutherford's Wit Gatehouse of Ft	10/E/2/0021	2 x 45.5m

Awaiting submission cont'd				Date	Location	Application No	No of turbines/ mast & height
				21/04/2010	Arvie, Castle Douglas	10/P/2/0158	1 x 20m
24/06/2010	Knockenbren Moss Carrick	10/E/2/0019	2 x 45.5m	14/04/2010	Glensone Fm Southwick	10/P/2/0146	1 x 20m
14/06/2010	Barclay Hill	10/E/2/0018	6 x 125m	30/03/2010	Low Barend Fm Dundrenan	10?P/2/0122	1 x 20m
Approved				19/03/2010	Torrs Farm Castle Douglas	10/P/2/0102	1 x 20m
				19/01/2010	Plasgow Farm Dalbeattie	10/P/2/0018	50m mast
15/02/2011	Larg Farm Creetown	11/P/2/0063	1 x 27m	19/01/2010	Balmangan Fm Borgue	10/P/2/0017	1 x 20m
14/02/2011	Merklandwell Lochfoot	11/P/2/0060	1 x 27m	24/12/2009	Blairshinnock Fm Kirkgunzeon	09/P/2/0434	1 x 15m
14/02/2011	Crochmore Fm Crocketford	11/P/2/0059	1 x 27m	21/12/2009	Corse Hill Dunchrae Dalry	09/P/2/0429	Mast
23/12/2010	High Barcaple Fm Ringford	10/P/2/0498	1 x 21m	05/11/2009	Ardendee, Kirkcudbright	09/P/2/0373	Mast
22/12/2010	Auchenlock Fm Auchencairn	10/P/2/0496	1 x 27m	08/09/2009	Portmary Cott Dundrennan	09/P/2/0311	1 x 15m
22/12/2010	Barstilby Farm Tongland	10/P/2/0495	2 x 21m	28/08/2009	Durham Hill Kirkpatrick Dm	09/P/2/0300	1 x no height given
22/12/2010	Slagnaw Farm Kelton	10/P/2/0494	2 x 41m	12/06/2009	Little Farm Gatehouse	09/P/2/0208	1 x no height given
08/12/2010	Sypland Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0474	2 x 20m	15/05/2009	Galtway Hill Milton Farm Kbt	09/P/2/0164	60m mast
25/11/2010	Drumhumphry Corsock	10/P/2/0455	2 x 15m hub	16/02/2009	Glenquicken Fm Creetown	09/P/2/0049	2 x 15m
09/11/2010	Ladies Walk Farm Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0433	85m mast	07/07/2008	Magree Dalry	08/P/2/0289 08/P/2/0290	Mast x No ht Mast x Nt ht
01/11/2010	Greenburn Creetown	10/P/2/0421	30m mast	17/01/2008	High Barley Fm Gatehouse	08/P/2/0011	Mast x no ht
11/08/2010	Larg Farm Creetown	10/P/2/0316	1 x 23.4m	18/12/2007	Mackilston Dalry	07/P/2/0518	1 x no height given
26/07/2010	Boreland of Colvend Farm	10/P/2/0296	1 x 20m	22/05/2007	Forest Estate Dalry	07/P/2/0223	1 x 15m
22/07/2010	Milnmark Farm Dalry	10/P/2/0291	1 x 20m	26/02/2007	Adj 93 Cottan St, Castle Doug	07/P/2/0084	1 x no height given
15/06/2010	Mark Farm Creetown	10/P/2/0247	60m mast	13/12/2005	Rainton Farm Gatehouse	05/P/2/0510	1 x 25m
02/06/2010	Culnaightrie Fm Auchencairn	10/P/2/0238	1 x 20m	23/08/2005	Windy Standard	05?P/2/0357	2 x 50m masts
25/05/2010	Milnthird Hill Kelton	10/P/2/0228	50m mast	17/06/2003	Edgerton Cothse Laurieston	03?P/2/0262	1 x no height given
07/05/2010	Barclay Hill Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0202	80m mast	10/06/2003	Torrs Hill Forest Estate Dalry	03/P/2/0252	2 x 100m 1 x mast no ht
28/04/2010	Boreland o Borg Kirkcudbright	10/P/2/0186	1 x 20m	28/01/2003	Windy Standard	03/P/2/0022 03/P/2/0018	1 x 60m mast 1 x 60m mast