

MEMBERS SITE VISIT UPDATE

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE 15/0774/FULL

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Erect a single turbine up to a blade tip of 76.45m, 50m hub height, 52.9m rotor diameter and output of 800kW with associated track access, electric cabinet and crane pad.

LOCATION: Land at Tyle Crwth, South West of Ynysddu.

Members Present: Cllr D Carter, Cllr A Lewis, Cllr J Jones

The following points were raised by Members, and answers provided:

- Shadow flicker protocol
In addition to condition 13, which requires a control system that automatically shuts down the turbine during times that shadow flicker occurs, this may be reinforced by an additional condition requiring a shadow flicker protocol that could be implemented for the proposed development. Whilst not discussed in detail at the site visit, this could take the form of a computer model being created of the wind turbine together with the details of the nearest buildings window sizes, elevations, orientation, potential blocking points and room occupancy periods. A shadow flicker assessment is undertaken in the computer model which details the days and periods in each day that the turbine may cause shadow flicker to the buildings. The times of the potential shadow flicker are inputted into the turbine control system and the turbine is fitted with a sunlight detector. When the control system detects that it is both sunny and is in a time of potential shadow flicker then the turbine will shut down until there is no sun or the time passes for the potential shadow flicker.
- Content of shadow flicker assessment needs to be updated for certain receptors. The cumulative Shadow Flicker Assessment submitted on the 5/11/15 prepared by Fine Energy provides tables of predicted effects of shadow flicker on seven receptors as detailed in the report. The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) recommended distance to avoid shadow flicker of the proposed turbine is 10 times the rotor diameter, which in this case is 530m. Whilst the tables of predicted levels in respect of receptors 1 – 5 are presented in the report, those for receptors 6 (Wyth-erw) Receptor 7 (Cwmfelinfach) and Receptor 9 (Ty-Isaf) are not presented. This is because they are not within 530m of the proposed wind turbine. Wyth-erw is 862.4m away, Cwmfelinfach is 998.7m away and Ty-Isaf is 1365.9m away.