PETERBOROUGH
CITY COUNCIL

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Tuesday 3 March 2008 at 1.30pm

Page No:

1 Procedure for Speaking 1

2. List of Persons Wishing to Speak

4.1	David Turner – Applicant
5*	Representative of RES

* This item is NOT subject to the Public Speaking Scheme. The committee will be asked to determine whether to permit public speaking on the item.

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC SPEAKING SCHEME - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Procedural Notes

1. Planning Officer to introduce application.
2. Chairman to invite Ward Councillors to address the meeting and ask questions, if any, with Officers responding.
3. Chairman to invite Parish Council, Town Council or Neighbourhood representatives to present their case.
4. Members' questions to Parish Council, Town Council or Neighbourhood representatives.
5. Chairman to invite objector(s) to present their case.
6. Members' questions to objectors.
7. Chairman to invite applicants, agent or any supporters to present their case.
8. Members' questions to applicants, agent or any supporters.
9. Officers to comment, if necessary, on any matters raised during stages 2 to 8 above.
10. Members to debate application and seek advice from Officers where appropriate.
11. Members to reach decision.

The total time for speeches in respect of each of the following groups of speakers shall not exceed five minutes or such period as the Chairman may allow with the consent of the Committee.

1. Parish Council, Town Council or Neighbourhood representatives.
2. Objectors
3. Applicant or agent or supporters.

Item 5 – Email from Tim New – Fenland Against Rural Turbines

From:
Sent: 26 February 2009 21:13
To: Barker Dale
Subject: Wrydecroft turbine development

Good morning Dale

Further to our telephone conversation on Thursday regarding the above you were kind enough to allow us to submit a paragraph for inclusion into the members report regarding the meeting on Tuesday the 3rd of march.

As you are aware we are a group of residents that live next to this proposed development and enjoy, as your records will show, an excellent and open working relationship with Peterborough City Council.

Our paragraph reads as follows:

As always our group would like to entrust the planning committee with ensuring that the report and recommendation has covered the folowing areas:-

Whilst Mr Campion's report states that this site could take a Turbine development it does not take into account the effect it has on the people who live there. Over the last 5 years we have seen a relentless march over the fenlands with a succession of developments and more in the pipeline.

We are aware of the problems our fen landscape has with Wind Turbines, most recently affecting families at Whittlesey and Market Deeping. We would like to know what other lowland landscapes Mr Campion has considered in this report as Upland landscapes are very different.

The incremental effect of the existing wind turbines is quite disturbing, with current turbine sites easily seen by the naked eye on all four sides of this proposed turbine development. A drive around this proposed site would evidence this. In addition to this there are multiple proposals to increase the numbers of turbines to existing sites thus exacerbating this incremental effect.

As we have always shared our information is it possible to e-mail a copy of Mr Campions report so we can comment further.

I can be contacted on

Kind regards

Tim New
Fenland Against Rural Turbines

6 Old Hall Farm Cottages
French Drove
Thorney
Peterborough
PE6 0PF

27th February 2009

Mr Martin Whelan
Chief Executive's Department
Democratic Services
Town Hall
Peterborough
PE1 1HG.

Dear Mr Whelan

Planning Application (Full)
Construction of wind farm comprising six wind turbines, control building, compound, wind monitoring mast and associated works at Land South of French Drove and East of Scolding Drove at Wrydecroft Peterborough

I write as I have previously written to Head of Planning Services with our views on the above application.

You are to review the second reason for refusal (Cumulative effect on landscape) at the forthcoming meeting on 3rd March. I would therefore like to make the following points.

- From our house on French Drove we can see turbines to the North at Deeping St Nicholas, turbines to the South at McCains and Abbey Foods. These turbines will be to the east of our home giving us the feeling of being surrounded and our area turned into an industrial landscape. I presume you are aware also of an application for turbines at French Farm, French Drove. **Cumulative impact is definitely becoming an issue –** one which we are very worried about.

- Enclosed is an interesting article from the Daily Telegraph dated Sunday 14th September on effectivity of turbines. This questions the real CO2 reduction compared with the claims that are made by the developers in their applications.

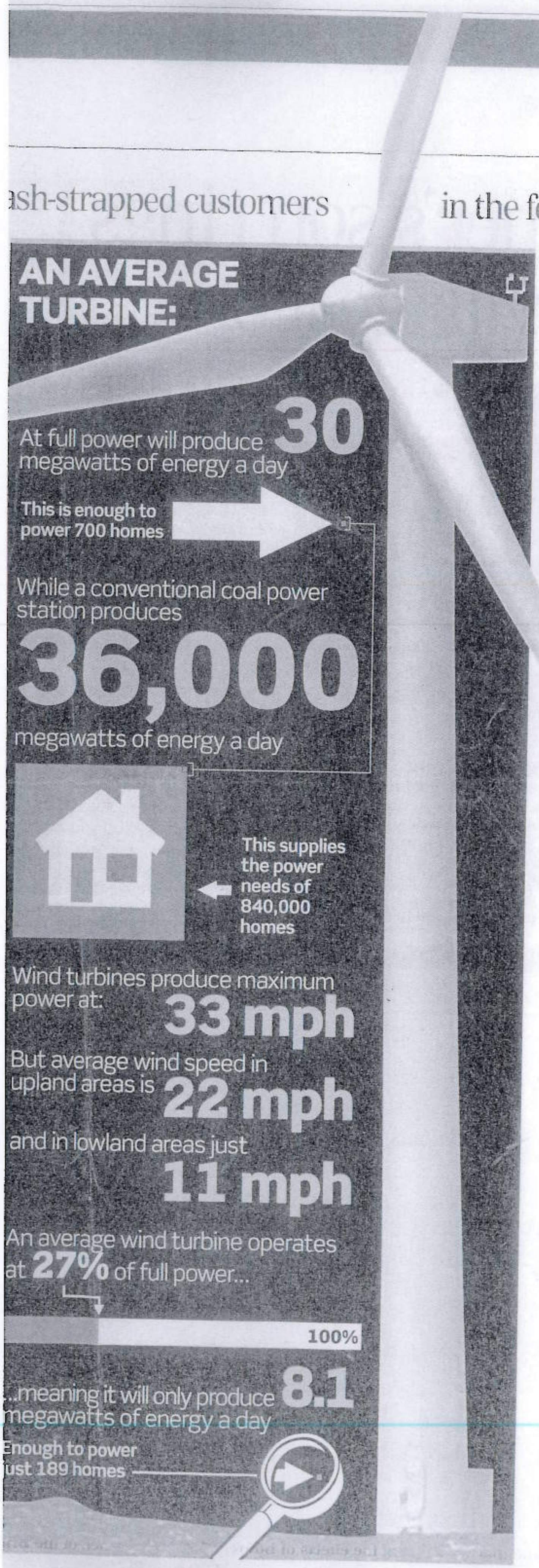
- In previous letters we have spoken about unsuitability of fenland roads for heavy traffic as they are edged by deep drains and are narrow and undulating. Wind turbines in fields close to these roads would cause a distraction to motorists. We both use the roads in the area for horse riding and running and are concerned for our safety. Enclosed is a picture of the latest accident which occurred on Crowland Road, Thorney on Wednesday 18th February 2009.

Yours sincerely

Helen Godber D Godber

Helen and Duncan Godber

ash-strapped customers in the form of rising bills, says report



There is great danger in this, one of the great deceptions of our time

COMMENTARY

CHRISTOPHER BOOKER

I LONG had no particular views on wind farms one way or the other. But six years ago, when I first seriously looked at what they actually contribute to our energy needs and our environment, I had a profound shock. It was clear that the craze for wind energy had become one of the greatest self-deceptions of our time.

Far from being "free", wind is one of the most expensive ways of generating electricity yet devised. Without an almost 100 per cent subsidy, unwittingly paid by all of us through our electricity bills, no one would dream of building giant wind turbines in Britain, because their cost is not remotely competitive.

Turbines are hopelessly ineffectual. The amount of electricity they deliver is derisory. The total power generated by all the 2,300 turbines so far built in Britain – covering hundreds of square miles of countryside and sea – averages just over 600 megawatts in a year, less than that contributed by a single medium-size conventional power station.

Most serious of all, however, is the fact that wind energy is hopelessly unreliable, for the simple reason that wind speeds are not only constantly changing but wholly unpredictable. One minute a turbine may be whizzing round, generating at full capacity; the next the wind drops and the turbine is contributing only a fraction of its capacity or nothing at all.

To keep electricity supplies going, the grid must have permanently available alternative conventional power sources equivalent to the maximum capacity of the wind turbines, ready to step in when the wind stops. This in itself is hugely inefficient, adding greatly to costs and, as they have discovered on the Continent, threatening to destabilise the grid or bring it to a halt when wind speeds change dramatically.

The best-kept secret of the wind industry, however, which continues to fool both politicians and the media, is its trick of referring only to the contribution of windmills in terms of their "installed capacity", as if that is what they will actually deliver. They talk about a "16 megawatt" wind farm "powering x thousand homes" as if that is the contribution it will make to our electricity needs. Yet in reality, thanks to the intermittency of the wind, a turbine will on average produce through the year only a quarter of its capacity.

A turbine will on average produce only a quarter of its capacity

The success of this deception means that politicians almost invariably exaggerate the potential benefits of wind power by a factor of four. And of course the other great trick is to conceal the fact that all this must be paid for by that huge hidden subsidy.

The real danger of the "great wind scam" is that it takes the eyes of politicians off the real energy crisis fast approaching us, so that we are not building the proper power stations we need to keep our lights on. That is why it will one day be looked back on as having been one o the most incomprehensible blunders of our age.

CHRISTOPHER BOOK

REGULAR COLUMN: PA