canavan associates

ALTGOLAN WIND FARM PROPOSAL, COUNTY TYRONE

Introduction

DW Consultancy Ltd are proposing to develop a 10 turbine wind farm at Altgolan Hill in Co Tyrone. Canavan Associates Ltd. are preparing the Planning Application and coordinating the Environmental Statement for this proposal.

The Proposed Location

The wind farm site is on high lands at Altgolan Hill, approximately 8 kilometres south of Castlederg an 10 km north of Ederney of the B72 road. The area under investigation for wind farm development is indicated on the map overleaf.

The Proposed Project

The proposed development will be composed of 10 wind turbines, access tracks and an electrical control building. The turbines will have three blades and be coloured matt grey. They will reach a maximum overall base to blade tip height of 125m.

Site Selection Process

The site at Altgolan has been chosen because of the wind resources available in this upland location, the suitability of the site for the development size and the capacity of the electrical grid network to accommodate the power generated. The selected site has no planning or conservation designations.

Environmental Assessment

The proposed development is undergoing a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), according to the Northern Ireland EIA legislation. This process will identify and assess potential impacts from the proposed development. The results of this assessment will be compiled in the Environmental Statement and will be submitted with the planning application to the Planning Service. The Environmental Statement will contain site specific information on ecology, birds, archaeology, noise, hydrology, geotechnical issues, visual and landscape assessment, among other topics.

Information Timetable

Research has been ongoing in relation to the preparation of the Environmental Statement and Planning Application for this development. A programme of consultations have commenced with the Planning Service, government bodies, agencies, local residents and community groups. This information sheet for the local community and the accompanying letter are part of this programme of information provision. In addition, a Public Information event will be held to answer questions and provide additional information about the proposed wind farm. This event will present an opportunity for members of the public to see detailed plans of the proposed development before it is submitted. Community members with questions are asked to contact Canavan Associates Ltd, at the details listed overleaf.

Benefits

- This proposal will offer significant positive benefits to local and national air quality by reducing the production of 'Greenhouse gases' which contribute to the process of climate change.
- The proposal could be capable of producing enough clean and renewable electricity to power 16,740 homes every year.
- The proposed wind farm would save a significant amount of Carbon dioxide, Nitrous oxide and Sulfur Dioxide every year by producing energy by renewable means rather than by burning fossil fuels.
- The proposed wind farm would avoid the need to landfill a large number of tones of slag and ash each year.
- Harnessing this indigenous source of electricity would remove the need to import a significant number of barrels of Oil every year.
- The proposal will stabilize the energy supply by reducing the importation of fossil fuels and by producing indigenous electricity.

Location of the Proposed Wind Farm





This map is not to scale.

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This map is intended for information purposes only and the site boundary as shown is in DRAFT.

Contact Details

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The Need for Wind Energy

Production of energy is a major source of the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Climate change will have many impacts, including changed weather patterns and a rise in sea levels. Energy demand continues to grow, even as the signs of climate change are un-doubtable. We must therefore find safe and reliable ways to generate energy without harmful emissions and making the most of local renewable resources. Wind energy is one of these solutions.

The Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation (NIRO) was published in April 2005 by the Northern Ireland Department of Enterprise Trade and Industry. The NIRO is aimed at increasing the proportion of electricity that is generated from renewable sources in Northern Ireland by legally requiring all electricity suppliers to source a specified quantity of renewable electricity to final consumers. Renewable energy sources in Northern Ireland currently generate just over 3% of the total electricity supply. The NIRO has set the target of producing 12% renewable energy by the year 2012. This target is in line with the indicative 2010 target of 10% for the UK as a whole provided for in Directive 2001/77/EC.Wind energy is expected to make up the majority of this renewable energy. Projects, such as this proposed wind farm, will be fundamental in meeting the Renewables Obligation.

Helpful Contacts

The British Wind Energy Association	www.bwea.com 020 7689 1960
Action Renewables (information on renewables for the public)	www.actionrenewables.org 0808 141 2020
Carbon Trust	www.carbontrust.org.uk 0800 085 2005
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	www.ipcc.ch +41-22-730-8208