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ALTAMOOSKIN WIND FARM PROPOSAL, SIXMILECROSS, COUNTY TYRONE

Introduction

Altamooskin Windfarm Ltd are proposing to develop a 6 turbine wind farm at Altamooskin townland in Co Tyrone. The Altamooskin Wind Farm will produce an average of 12 megawatts of energy by renewable means every year. This is enough renewable and pollution free energy to power approximately 6,700 homes every year. This renewable wind energy will be fed into the national electricity grid. Canavan Associates Ltd. are preparing the Planning Application and coordinating the Environmental Statement for this proposal.

The Proposed Location

The proposed site lies approximately 4 kilometres south of Sixmilecross and 8 kilometres north of Ballygawley in County Tyrone. It is on the northern slopes of Slieve Divena Mountain. The ▲ symbol on the map on the back of this page shows the approximate site location.

The Proposed Project

The proposed development will be composed of 6 wind turbines, access tracks and a new electrical substation. The type of turbine to be used has not yet been finalized; however, the turbines will have three blades and be coloured matt grey. They will reach a maximum overall base to blade tip height of 107m. The tower will be a steel tube construction with a height of 67 metres.

Site Selection Process

The site at Altamooskin has been chosen because of the wind resources available in this upland location, the capacity of the electrical power grid to accommodate the power generated and the principle of wind energy already established in this upland.

Environmental Assessment

The proposed development is undergoing a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), according to the Northern Ireland EIA legislation. The results of this assessment will be compiled in the Environmental Statement and submitted with the planning application. The Environmental Statement will contain site specific information on possible ecological, bird, archaeological, noise, hydrological, geotechnical, communications and visual and landscape impacts, among other topics.

Further Information

In parallel to research that has been continuing in relation to the preparation of the Environmental Statement and Planning Application, consultations with government bodies, the Planning Service and the local community have been ongoing.

Community members with questions are asked to contact Canavan Associates Ltd, at the details listed here. In order to keep the community informed advertisements and press releases will be printed in the local papers when the planning application and environmental statement have been received by the Planning Service. These notices will include details of where the environmental statement for the wind farm will be available for viewing.

Benefits

- This 6 turbine (12 MW) proposal will offer significant positive benefits to local and national air quality by reducing the production of 'Greenhouse gases.'
- The proposed wind farm will save at least 27,120 tonnes of Carbon dioxide,94 tonnes of Nitrous oxide and 315 tonnes of Sulfur Dioxide every year by producing energy by renewable means rather than by burning fossil fuels.
- The proposed wind farm will avoid the need to landfill 2,100 tonnes of slag and ash each year.
- The locally produced electricity will remove the need to import 77,400 barrels of Oil.
- The development will make significant progress towards achieving the commitments of the Kyoto Protocol.
- The construction of the wind farm will provide an employment opportunity for local labour and the use of local resources.
- The wind farm will provide land rental incomes for the landowners and rates for the local council for the 25 year lifespan of the project.

Contact Details

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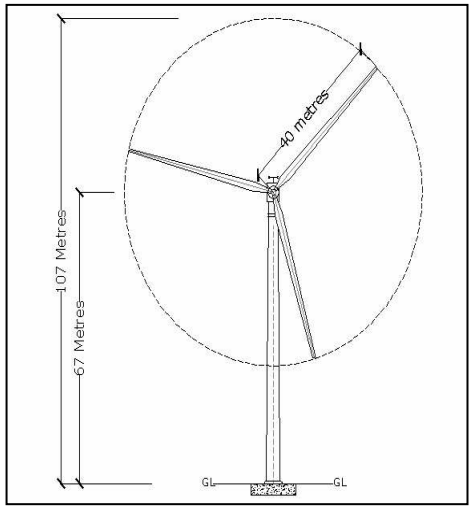
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The Proposed Development

Location of the Proposed Project



Sample Drawing of a Typical Turbine



Wind Energy in Northern Ireland and the UK

The Need For Wind Energy

The burning of fossil fuels for energy creates emissions, which are contributing to climate change. These emissions generate acid rain, visible air pollution, and could have other effects on humans, animals, plants and the earth as yet undetermined. Additionally, Northern Ireland currently imports 96% of the fuel to fill its energy demand. Fossil fuels are increasingly expensive, increasingly tied into international politics, and ultimately limited in amount. Any steps Northern Ireland can make to reduce its dependence on imported fuel will add to its financial autonomy and stability. New local sources of renewable energy, produced with minimal impact to the environment, are necessary to meet the challenges of the future.

Renewable energy sources in Northern Ireland currently generate just over 3% of the total electricity supply. Northern Ireland has set the target of producing 12% renewable energy by the year 2012. Wind energy is expected to make up the majority of this renewable energy; the UK is the windiest country in Europe with over 40% of the available European resource - enough to meet the country's electricity needs several times over. *

Existing Wind Farms in Northern Ireland



As of May 2005 there were three wind farms with planning approval in Northern Ireland in addition to the nine wind farms shown on the map above. These 12 wind farms total 142 turbines, with a yearly capacity of 135.4 MW. These wind farms already produce enough renewable and green energy to power over 75,00 homes every year.

* Source: The British Wind Energy Association. www.bwea.org