

August '24 Newsletter

What has been happening

Progress by the developers has been minimal this quarter, with no dates set for the required consultation sessions. The developer's hydrologist has begun assessing and mapping private water sources from the hill. Letters have been sent to about 20 landowners affected by "oversail", more on this and water supplies below.

Force 9 Energy and Cavendish held a "closed door" liaison meeting inviting all three community councils. The CCs were informed of a reduction in the number of turbines, a new layout was presented and talked through a proposed route for the turbines.

CaSHWIG have now held three village hall sessions: one each at Tullynessle; Clatt and Kennethmont. An event at Rhynie was cancelled to respect the funeral of a much loved and respected local.

The sessions were well-attended and considered very useful. Each event featured insightful questions and comments following the presentation. Comment boards were actively used, and we're currently compiling the contributions to post on the website soon. The key messages we want to convey are:

- Tell your friends and neighbours make sure they know about the proposed wind farm
- Attend the developer's "consultation" sessions
- Listen to them and be vocal about any concerns you might have
- Let your elected representatives know your views (Community councillors, Aberdeenshire councillors, MSP and MP).



Ever ready

Our work in preparing to review the developer's application submission continues. We engaged and started prework with a landscape architect and have a planner and legal counsel in reserve so that we can comment on the proposal once published.

We have had discussions with Hill of Fare Windfarm Information Group (HoFWIG), Deeside against Pylons and the Cabrach Trust to keep updated on their progress and to see if we can learn from their experience.

Water Supplies

If you, your neighbour, or animals rely on hill water, you should have received a note from the developer's



hydrologist to make contact. It's crucial for both you and the project design to respond. Turbines have placement restrictions near water sources, which may be causing delays in the developer's consultation sessions.

The hydrologist is Katy Rainford and can be contacted on +44 3300 886631; 07934 298819; and krainford@slrconsulting.com

What's 'Oversail'?

Oversail was discussed at the townhalls, defined as when a large wind turbine blade must pass over land or properties due to its size during transportation.

The route to transport blades to the Coreen Hills site is along the A97 past Gartly, then via Kennethmont, bypassing Clatt. The developer identified 20 properties affected by oversail along this route. A contract has been offered, paying landowners £1,000 per year for up to 35 years. The contract allows the developer to cut trees and hedges to 1 meter high, and move fences, bus shelters, and telegraph poles.

Affected landowners should consider the impact on their property's value and amenity. The £1,000 annual payment is taxable and should be viewed as the developer's starting offer. Allowing oversail is a personal decision, as the developer cannot compel landowners to agree.

Accentuate the positive!

Engagement with the community councils continues and is positive. At a recent meeting of the Marr Area Planning Committee they discussed the Hill of Fare proposal and we learned that Aberdeenshire Council Planners intend to object to the proposal. We consider that the Council planners comments on objections 1 and 2 could equally apply to the Coreen Hills Development. You can view the meeting on YouTube on the following link:

https://aberdeenshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=157&Mld=7737&Ver=4

The planner's presentation starts 10 minutes into the 'Recording of Items 1-5' and last for 22 minutes.

To stay informed about the Wind Farm proposal, please subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on facebook.

info@cashwig.org Facebook

Please Donate

CaSHWIG if organised by a small team of volunteers who are working to keep our communities informed with FACTUAL information about the proposed WINDFARM. We meet the cost of this website, banners, images, leaflets and other resources from public and supporter donations and your help, big or small, will make a huge difference. Please send whatever you can to:

Bank of Scotland: Account Name: Correen and Suie Hills Windfarm Information Group (CASWIG), Sort Code: 80-22-60 Account Number: 26164160