

Councillor X

03 October 2006

Dear Councillor

Maerdy Windfarm Proposal

I wrote to you earlier in the year regarding the results of the public consultation on the Maerdy Windfarm proposals. Since then there has been a flurry of various windfarm proposals in the area and I wished to keep you abreast of the Maerdy project.

Planning Application

The environmental impact assessment was completed in the Spring. A final project design was developed from the public consultation, environmental impact assessment, and engineering constraints. The proposal is for eight wind turbines (the public consultation provided information on 8 and 12 turbine options). Production of the supporting environmental documents has been exhaustive and a planning application was submitted to the Council in mid September and registered last week.

All planning documents (Environmental Statement, etc) are available to download and view on the project website: www.maerdywindfarm.co.uk. RCT Development Control advise that the planning documents will also be deposited at certain local libraries. We intend to publicise this through leafleting so as many people as possible have the opportunity to review the proposals. We are also trying to organise "drop in" surgeries where people can view documents, ask questions, etc. Any suggestions on public engagement are gratefully received.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Statement. We have also included a printed summary extract of the photomontages from the Environmental Statement for ease of reference.

Consultation on Community Benefit Programme

Any windfarm's purpose is national and international in tackling important climate change and energy security issues; however, significant local benefits, unfortunately, are sometimes not intrinsic. We want to tackle this problem and consulted on possible routes during the public consultation. Maerdy is unusual in having a number of opportunities specific to the location and we have developed a Community Benefit Programme that is issued for consultation over the next three months.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Consultation Document. The Consultation closes on 31 December 2006. Please could I invite your comments and views on the programme through whatever channels are appropriate: either directly, the Council, Community Groups, etc.; in order that we can get the proposals right.

If we can provide any further information or make changes to the manner in which the project is being taken forward, please do let us know.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

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