The Scottish Government
Energy Consents Unit
4th. Floor
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow, G2 8LU

STOP LOCH URR WIND FARM

Closing date for objections 12 January 2015

26 x 127.5 metres (418 feet) turbines at Loch Urr

5 km south of Moniaive

This iconic view of Loch Urr could be dominated by 26 x 127.5 metres (418 feet) turbines

This is the wrong development in the wrong place

Approval of this wind farm could open the area to more large scale turbines, making similar applications difficult to stop

For more details:

Save Loch Urr: savelochurr.com
Turbine Watch 312: tw312.org.uk
Scotland Against Spin: scotlandagainstspin.org
Based on wind farms already operational or consented, Scotland has exceeded its renewables target for 2015 and almost reached its 2020 target, therefore making this proposal unnecessary.

Loch Urr is a large, beautiful inland loch in a rare un-forested landscape forming a natural bowl - a quiet, secluded and sparsely populated area of important recreational and ecological value with few man-made structures.

Visual impact on the landscape would be severe, especially in the case of landmarks such as Castramon Hill. Turbines would dominate the skyline from the south for many miles harming vital tourist areas.

Loch Urr has archaeological importance. The Crannog is listed in the National Monuments Record. Its setting should be preserved.

Turbines would impact on the wilderness setting of Craigenputtock, a listed building and former home of Thomas Carlyle. The solitary atmosphere is relevant to the works he wrote there.

The site supports an abundance of wildlife including otters, bats, migrating geese, whooper swans, hen harriers, skylarks, meadow pipits, whinchats, red kites and other red and amber-listed species with goshawks nesting nearby. Raptors and large water birds are particularly susceptible to fatal collisions with turbine blades and wildlife habitat will be disturbed and impacted.

Disturbance of the peat land which acts as a carbon sink could cancel out potential CO\textsubscript{2} savings accredited to the wind farm, with possible adverse effects on water courses and aquatic life.

Significant amounts of construction traffic and abnormal loads would travel through the area to reach the site. Over 1000 tonnes of concrete and 60 tonnes of steel are required for each turbine base plus access roads, buildings, infrastructure, new pylons and tree clearing, all of which will increase the CO\textsubscript{2} released.

With more than 1,000 turbines over 260 feet high, operational, consented or in planning, within 20 miles of Loch Urr; your objection is needed to help stop the cumulative negative impacts on the region’s people, landscapes, natural and built heritage, tourism and recreational business.

Please write a letter individually (if there are two people in a household write two letters) or use the attached postcards to make your views known. There is a little space on the postcard (\textdagger) for any additional comments you wish to make.

If you prefer to submit an online objection, please log in to: http://scotlandagainstinpin.org/Objections/loch-urr

Or email objection direct to: representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

I OBJECT to the Loch Urr Wind Farm for reasons set out below:

1. The proposed windfarm is not within an area of search for large typologies. It is adjacent to areas requiring significant protection. There is no scope for the Large typology to be sited without incurring significant impacts on a number of key sensitivity criteria. (DGWLCS)

2. Landscape and visual impact could be severe with the wind farm dominating the skyline from the South for many miles, extending into key tourism areas. Recreational value of Loch Urr as a tranquil natural space could be lost. (LDP Policies: OP1, OP2, IN1, IN2, SPP)

3. Adverse cumulative impact with consented and proposed wind farms. The area could become one giant wind farm with significant landscape change. (LDP Policies IN1, IN2)

4. Adverse impact on the area’s rich and distinct biodiversity with predictable loss of important species of birds, mammals, etc. (LDP Policy OP1, NE4)

5. Loss of carbon sink through impact on peat land; adverse effects on watercourses. (LDP Policies OP1, ED16, NE11)

6. Adverse impact on the historic environment, including archaeological and cultural sites and the conservation village of Moniaive. (LDP Policies OP1, OP2, HE1, HE2, HE3)

Signature __________________________________________ Name (in capitals) __________________________________________ Date ___________

Address ____________________________________________________________________________

Please note it is vital to sign & complete your name, address and date to ensure your objection is valid.