

BLOT

Bozeat and Lavendon Oppose the Turbines

Contact us:

www.bozeatwindfarm.org.uk

or you can email us at:

enquiries@bozeatwindfarm.org.uk

or call Brian on:

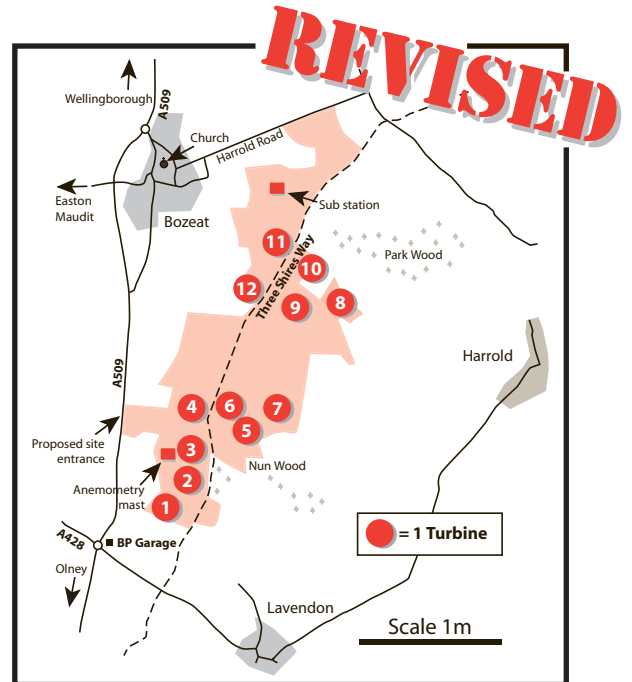
01933 663699

Protecting the Local Environment

Issue 5 February 2009



Express Lifts Tower Northampton 127m (418ft) Turbine 125m (410ft) Average house 8m (26ft) St Mary's Church Bozeat 41m (135ft)



They're BIG - they're BACK

We have 21 days to object (Again)

Old objections do NOT count... (It's a new application)

...and they are getting NEARER!

Yes that's right, npower have been consulting and 'sensitively responding' and have resubmitted this new planning application for 12 wind turbines, 410ft high in the fields between Bozeat, Harrold and Lavendon.

Basically what has changed is the seven turbines that spoil the view from Castle Ashby House have been removed from the middle of the site and others added nearer to our villages. (Please see *Villager's View Point* back page for more.)

As npower withdrew their last application this one has been classed as a new application. Therefore any letters of objection sent before now will be filed with the old

application and **will not count** towards this one. **We must all write again** stating the new planning application numbers - and to this end, we have delivered an objection card and a flyer further detailing the many valid reasons to object to this wind factory.

We at Blot are committed to fighting this wind farm but we are not anti-renewable energy. We believe that wind power probably has a place in the energy mix, but that wind farms should be placed where they will not have such a large impact on people's lives. (Placing them somewhere it's windy might be another good idea!)

The wind turbines at Burton Latimer average an electricity production of just

over 21% since their installation. Still enough to make them something like £275,000 a month.

When people talk about being 'green' they need to consider the cost to the wildlife and habitat of Nun Wood. The 34 acres of tracks, hard-landscaping and concrete bases used in these green fields will still be there long after the proposed 25 year life of the turbines.

We can make a difference and our views need to be heard - so please exercise your rights and object. Every single letter/email or postcard of objection counts in our favour - the only thing that will count against us is apathy.

Villager's View Point

An open letter from a resident:

"Please excuse the pun on view point but this is what will be ruined by this wind factory.

Quite how npower can actually say that 'we take consultation responses seriously' is beyond me as the only time I saw them was a flash of PR for two days in 2005 and clearly they had not been that well briefed as I asked one of the npower reps if these turbines were actually designed to be used off-shore - in the sea and they said 'yes'!

It is obvious that no one has listened to anyone living in a village that will be directly affected by these monster turbines - or read the hundreds of letters of objection that were received for the last application.

Yes, they will be visible for 25 miles but if you happen to live on the 'wrong' side of Bozeat, Lavendon or Harrold (and Wymington and Easton Maudit) your daily life will be blighted by the sight and sound of these turbines - very upclose and personal.

Npower say their wind farms are 'sensitively designed' and 'local residents provided a number of comments' but have the audacity to take the turbines furthest from the villages, remove them and place others nearer to our homes - even if you happen to be pro-wind farms I would be surprised if you would ask for a turbine to be moved nearer to your home or that of your friends and neighbours.

So what's the answer? A very boring one that will not make npower any money - energy efficiency. If we stopped using the ice-cream makers, hung the washing outside, turned down the thermostat and only boiled the water we needed (and swap the light bulbs to low energy ones) we would all save more energy than these wind turbines could generate."

Don't Mention the Carbon Savings

Did you notice that Npower did not mention the carbon savings of their new scheme in their newsletter? Could it be because the claims that they can now make are embarrassingly small - especially when compared to the claims that they made in their first application?

The truth is that the statistics that windfarm developers used in the past have been exposed as unrealistic. You would have thought that somebody would have researched the real contribution that wind power can make to reducing carbon emissions, but perhaps the wind industry are frightened that if we knew the real savings they would be put out of business.

Who are BLOT?

BLOT was formed by village residents from Bozeat, Lavendon and the surrounding areas to understand, inform and campaign against the proposed development by npower to install a motorized wind factory of industrial scale (410ft high) turbines in fields and ancient woodland behind Bozeat, Lavendon and Harrold.

We haven't been idle in the last three years but we have been honing our skills and our chairman Brian has been directly responsible for the refusal of the Asda wind turbine in Brackmills in November 08 as well as helping other wind farm action groups in the area.

We need YOUR help

We need you - Blot has a working committee of volunteer village residents to co-ordinate and drive our campaign. There is also a group of helpers who help us deliver leaflets, questionnaires and "behind the scenes" work. Please join us - we need your support.

To fight this proposal will cost between £5,000 and £10,000 for reports and representation. We are asking supporters to pledge donations (or donate online) so that we are able to know how far we can go in the fight to save our local environment.

To support us in any way, please drop us an email to: enquiries@bozeatwindfarm.org.uk or call our chairman - Brian on 01933 663699.

Fundraising activities

**Quiz Night - £7 including buffet supper
Lavendon Village Hall on
Saturday 28th March at 7.30pm**

please look out for posters or on our website for further info and other events!

Cumulative Impact

A big word for big turbines! What this means is the impact of having many wind factories all grouped in close proximity.

As there is such money to be made there is a rush of different power companies all in various stages of the planning process. We realise they will all impact on each other:

Podington - 3 turbines (410ft) - decision expected in the Spring.

Hanslope - application for 18 (410ft) turbines is under discussion.

Burton Latimer - expansion granted for an extra 7 (328ft) turbines.

Petsoe End (nr Olney) - 7 turbines (410ft) - still subject to legal review

Brixworth - application for 6 (410ft) turbines

Chelveston - 14 wind turbines proposed by Chelveston Renewable Energy

Objections please ...

Now is the time to object - your letter really counts. Please fill in the postcard delivered with this newsletter and post it off, use the objection form on our web site or better still, write your own letter. Bedford are the lead authority but please send copies to Wellingborough and Milton Keynes.

Mr W Campbell, Planning Applications Office, Town Hall, St. Paul's Square, Bedford MK40 1SJ
Email: WCampbell@bedford.gov.uk
Planning ref: 09/00137/MAF

Mr M Kilpin, Principal Development Control Officer, Council Offices, Swanspool House, Wellingborough, NN8 1BP
Email: MKilpin@wellingborough.gov.uk
Planning ref: WP/2008/0603/FEIA

Mr A Mills, Development Control Environment, PO Box No 125, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3ZJ
Email: alan.mills@milton-keynes.gov.uk
Planning ref: 08/02118/FULEIS/AM

The more effort you make, the more weight your views will be given. Remember, every individual can write (couple object separately) and be counted - up to when the planning committee meet and make a decision.

Please register with us - we are often asked how many people we represent. Please register your support with us so that you can be counted. You can register on our web site or by calling Brian on 01933 663699.

Write or visit your MP

You need to register your objections with your local MP (Peter Bone, Alistair Burt or Mark Lancaster) they need to be aware of the strength of opposition to this scheme, as does your local Parish Council.

Wind Factory Roadshow

Blot are giving a presentation on the following dates.

Come along to find out what a wind factory really means to your village.

**Thursday 26th February - 7.45pm
Lavendon Village Hall**

**Monday 2nd March - 7.45pm
Bozeat Village Hall**

**Thursday 5th March - 7.45pm
All Saints' Church Turvey**

**Monday 9th March - 7.45pm
The Harrold Centre, Harrold**