

Jonathan Edwards MP
By email

9 December 2011
EN010008

Dear Mr Edwards,

Application by RWE Npower Renewables Ltd for a Development Consent Order for the Brechfa Forest West Wind Farm project in Brechfa Forest in Carmarthenshire, South West Wales

I wrote on 16 February 2011 with advice on the 2008 Planning Act process which you had requested in relation to the above proposal.

On 30 November 2011 this application was accepted by the IPC as adequate to proceed for examination. This means that you and your constituents now have the opportunity to make a representation directly to us on the proposal.

The IPC is keen to assist those who are interested in the Brechfa Forest West Wind Farm proposal to understand the application process and in particular to explain the process of registering as an interested party and make a representation. This is a formal step in the application process and we understand the need to ensure that as far as possible, and with the resources available to us, local communities and others are able to be involved in an informed way.

For this reason we are holding drop-in style events with presentation opportunities at Carmarthen Library (12:30 to 16:30) and Brechfa Church Hall (16:30 to 20:00) on 16 December 2011 and 6 January 2012. The purpose of these non-statutory events is to meet with local people in an informal atmosphere to explain the process and provide advice about registering as an interested party to make a representation about the application.

The events are advertised on our website, in the local press and posters have been distributed within the local areas. I have attached a copy of the poster (English & Welsh version) for your information. Please feel free to forward this to anyone you think might be interested in attending and/or displaying copies in additional locations. Please let me know if you'd like us to send you any paper or laminated copies of the posters.

To make a representation about the application people must register with us as an interested party. The registration period opened on 7 December 2011 and it will close on 18 January 2012. All documents relating to this application as well as the online registration form are available on the project page at the IPC website:

<http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/projects/wales/brechfa-forest-west-wind-farm/>

Further advice can also be found on the advice and guidance pages:

<http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk>

The IPC encourages anyone who would like to register to do this online if possible. The online form is easy to complete as it will guide you through the questions and only ask those which are relevant to you. It will also prevent you from sending off an incorrect or incomplete form. Anyone who is unable to register online or would prefer to complete the form in Welsh may call our dedicated helpline on: 0303 444 5000 or email: ipcenquiries@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk and ask for a paper copy or Welsh version of the registration form to be sent to them.

I have enclosed with my covering email a sample registration form for your information. Please note that hard copies of the registration form can only be issued by the IPC as each registration is given a unique reference number and the name and address fields are pre-populated to enable the recipient to check that these are correct.

In addition I have also attached a leaflet which explains how to make a relevant representation and register as an interested party in relation to the application for the proposed Brechfa Forest West Wind Farm proposal. Please feel free to distribute this to anyone who may wish to register as an interested party for this application.

I hope the enclosed information will be useful to you, in responding to any enquiries from your constituents about the proposal and / or the role of the IPC.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information, additional copies of the flyer explaining the registration process or copies of the posters advertising the outreach events.

Yours sincerely,

Simone Wilding
Principal Case Leader

Tel: 0303 444 5000

Email: Brechfawest@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk

The IPC gives advice about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). The IPC takes care to ensure that the advice we provide is accurate. This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should note that IPC lawyers are not covered by the compulsory professional indemnity insurance scheme. You should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

We are required by law to publish on our website a record of the advice we provide and to record on our website the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. We will however protect the privacy of any other personal information which you choose to share with us and we will not hold the information any longer than is necessary.

Before sending information to the IPC, please consider our Openness Policy, which can be viewed on our website or a copy will be provided free of charge on request