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Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010020

Date: 17 February 2015

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended)**

### **Application by Mynydd y Gwynt Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Mynydd y Gwynt Wind Farm**

#### **Examining Authority's second written questions, request for further information, notification of further hearings<sup>1</sup> and accompanied site inspection<sup>2</sup>**

Further to the procedural decision and timetable enclosed with my letter of 27 November 2014<sup>3</sup> I am writing to inform you about my second written questions, together with the notification of the times, dates and locations for further hearings and the accompanied site inspection.

#### **1. Second Written Questions**

I would like to thank those parties who provided responses to my first written questions. In light of those responses, other written submissions and matters raised at hearings, I have decided to ask a number of second written questions.

The questions are directed, in the first instance, to the Applicant and/or another named Party. However, I invite Interested Parties to respond where they have relevant information to contribute. Where it is helpful to refer to documents already submitted please provide any document reference number together with the page and/or paragraph number. However, it should be assumed that my questions are being asked in order to seek additional information or clarification on the raised matter. I am seeking to ensure that there is sufficient evidence to support a soundly reasoned recommendation.

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<sup>1</sup> Rule 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2013 (the EP Rules)

<sup>2</sup> Rule 16 of the EP Rules

<sup>3</sup> <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010020/2.%20Post-Submission/Procedural%20Decisions/Rule%208%20Letter.pdf>

The questions are set out under subject headings relating to the Principal Issues, in the same format as the first written questions. It would be helpful if responses could follow this format and include the reference number of the questions being answered.

These questions can be seen on the Planning Inspectorate, National Infrastructure, Mynydd y Gwynt project page of the Planning Portal website:

<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/document/3011348>

Responses to the questions must be received on or before **Wednesday 4 March 2015**.

## 2. Notification of accompanied site inspection (ASI)

Further to my letter dated 2 February 2015<sup>4</sup>, within which I issued my decision to cancel the scheduled accompanied site inspection, I write to you now to confirm that I will be undertaking a site inspection in the company of interested parties on **Monday 16 March 2015**. I will consider any requests and nominations of locations to be inspected, which must be received by the deadline of **Wednesday 4 March 2015**. You must indicate the reason for the nomination and whether I can proceed with the inspection unaccompanied. I will issue an ASI itinerary a week in advance of the accompanied site inspection, following a review of requests and nominations received.

To assist with arrangements, groups are encouraged to send a single representative and to inform the Case Manager, Emré Williams, by **Wednesday 4 March**, with reasons for your wish to attend. The information provided will help us with travel arrangements on the day reserved for the site inspection.

I am aware of interested parties' concerns regarding a few locations within the application site boundaries and therefore I intend to inspect some of these locations. With that in mind, the site inspection will begin at **9.30am** promptly and attendees are requested to arrive by 9:15am and park in the hard-standing area on the southern side of the A44, opposite the entrance to the Sweet Lamb Rally Complex, for a compulsory safety briefing and issuing of high visibility protective clothing.

Transport will be provided. A final itinerary and routes will be published on or before **Monday 9 March 2015** for the sites to be visited on the ASI. Please note that the site inspection is not an opportunity to make any oral representations on the application although participants may be invited by me to indicate specific features or sites of interest.

## 3. Notification of the dates, times and location of hearings

Interested parties who wish to speak at one or more of the forthcoming hearings should notify Emré Williams at the postal or email address above by **Wednesday 4 March 2015**. Please inform us if you plan to attend the hearing even if you do not wish to speak. It would also assist us if you could notify us of any special needs you may have (e.g. disabled access, hearing loop etc). You must ensure that your interested party reference number is included in your correspondence.

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<sup>4</sup> [http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN010020/Events/Site%20Visit%20\(Accompanied\)%20-%2003-02-2015%20-%200900%20-%20Powys/Notification%20of%20cancellation%20of%20Accompanied%20Site%20Inspectio](http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN010020/Events/Site%20Visit%20(Accompanied)%20-%2003-02-2015%20-%200900%20-%20Powys/Notification%20of%20cancellation%20of%20Accompanied%20Site%20Inspectio)

As 4 March 2015 is also identified within the examination timetable as the deadline for various submissions, it would greatly assist in the organisation of the hearings if you could provide the above details separately to any other submission you might make.

Arrangements for the hearings, including dates, times and locations are set out below.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>HEARING</b>	<b>VENUE</b>
<b>Tuesday 17 March 2015</b>	Doors open at 9.30am each day, hearing starts at 10.00am	Issue-specific hearing relating to Policy matters, which may include the following: – National Policy Statements (EN1 and EN3) – Planning Policy Wales – Technical Advice Note 8 (TAN 8)	Llanidloes Community Centre, Mount Lane, Llanidloes, Powys, SY18 6EY
<b>Wednesday 18 March 2015</b>		Issue-specific hearing relating to the following possible topics:  – Landscape, Visual and Cultural Heritage Impacts – Noise, Vibration and Health Impacts – Biodiversity, Biological Environment and Ecology – Socio-Economic Impacts, Recreation and Tourism	
<b>Thursday 19 March 2015</b>		Issue-specific hearing relating to the Development Consent Order	

Agendas for the issue-specific hearings will be published on the Planning Portal website at least 7 days in advance and will set out detailed timings, arrangements for each day and the topic/s to be heard on that day. The Examining Authority will decide on the topics to be considered at the issue-specific hearings. Each interested party is entitled to make oral representations at the hearing (subject to the Examining authority's powers of control over the hearings).

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 provides that at hearings it is the Examining Authority that will probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations. Questioning at the hearings therefore will be led by me.

The time allocated for each of the issue-specific hearings will be estimated, based on the matters identified for consideration. Should a hearing take less time than anticipated, the Examining Authority may conclude the hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to. Equally, if there are additional matters to be dealt with, or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any hearing, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day, or adjourn the hearing and continue the following day.

#### 4. Comments on matters arising from hearings

All Parties are reminded that if they wish to make written comments on matters raised orally at hearings this should be done by the next submission deadline as set out in the timetable referred to above.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the case team.

Yours faithfully

*Philip Asquith*

Philip Asquith  
**Examining Authority**

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.