

From: Richard Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 December 2014 13:51
To: MYG
Subject: Mynydd y Gwynt representation

MYNYDD Y GWYNT WIND FARM – EN010020

My registration identification number is 10029789

I object to the proposed development on the following grounds:

1. Effects on visual amenity and landscape character

The development would have significant adverse impacts on the landscape character and visual amenity of the eastern flanks of Pumlumon and surrounding areas. The north-west-most turbine would be less than two kilometres from Pen Pumlumon Arwystli, one of the highest points on the summit ridge.

The great majority of the proposed turbine sites are on land classified in the Welsh Government's LANDMAP system for landscape evaluation as "Outstanding" for its visual and sensory qualities. The LANDMAP system was developed for the Welsh Government to assist it in making decisions about proposed developments. The "Outstanding" classification is applied only to landscapes assessed to be of national or international importance, and few such landscapes are to be found in Wales other than in designated areas such as National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

2. Effects on recreational amenity

The entire development would be within a kilometre of the popular Wye Valley Walk long distance route. The north-west-most turbine would be only 200m from the route, and walkers heading south and reaching this point would be confronted with this turbine and a vista of the entire power station, concentrating the attention of walkers on the development, rather than on the largely unspoilt distant views.

The nearest part of the development would be less than 2 kilometres from the Pumlumon summit ridge, which is popular with walkers; it would inevitably detract from their enjoyment of the panoramic views.

3. Cumulative effects

The development is only 4 kilometres from the existing Cefn Croes large wind power station. It would also be only 10 kilometres from the proposed Nant y Moch very large wind power station. If all were built, these three power stations would almost surround the Pumlumon range, most of which is classified in the LANDMAP system mentioned already, as being visually of national or international importance.

In addition to these major developments, there are a number of nearby smaller wind developments - at Bryn Titli, Mynydd Gorddu, and Trannon in particular - all of which contribute to the cumulative impact of wind power on the visual amenity of the area, and particularly affect visitors' enjoyment of the Pumlumon range.

4. Conflict with Welsh Government policy

In 2005, the Welsh Government's Technical Advice Note 8 (TAN 8) set out Strategic Search Areas (SSA) which are considered suitable for major wind power developments, and stated that developments larger than 5 megawatts would not be allowed in locations outside these areas, which 'should remain free of large wind power schemes'. The proposed development is outside any SSA, and therefore in direct conflict with Welsh Government policy.

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Richard Wilson

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