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Cc: Subject: Deadline 6 submission. Ref. EA1N 20023073 & EA2 20023074
Dear Examining Authority,
Re. Use of Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) Non-Disclosure agreements (NDA's)
I wish to support SEAS in bringing to your attention the use by SPR of certain conditions in NDA's they have imposed on landowners and others who have been offered option to purchase agreements by SPR.
The unfair conditions within the NDA's require the other party to withdraw any previous opposition to the SPR DCO application and to actively support the Applicant going forward. This is completely unacceptable, undemocratic and dissipates the true extent of the opposition. Many of those pressurised to sign option agreements still strongly object to the Application and must be allowed to put their views to the Enquiry.
Such clauses within an NDA would also appear to breach the Solicitors Regulation Authority's (SRA) warning notice and guidelines on the wording of NDAs. The SRA Standards and Regulation advice to the legal profession state "you do not abuse your position by taking unfair advantage of clients or others".
Further it says under the heading of "Duty not to take unfair advantage" by "applying undue pressure in your dealings with the opposing party". It appears that SPR's legal team have completely ignored the SRA standard for NDAs in these cases.
I wholly support SEAS in bringing this matter to your attention and request action to stipulate that all NDAs be removed in any documentation as they impede the planning process.
Yours faithfully,
Tony Morley
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