

From: JENNY HARE [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 April 2016 16:31
To: Brechfa Connection
Subject: Attn. Steffan Jones: Brechfa Windfarm Infrastructure Planning

Your ref. EN020016

Dear Mr Jones

Further to our telephone conversation last week when I received Martin Broderick's letter, as requested I would like to submit my concern about the risk of interference to the local water sources and supply, as shared by all my neighbours in this particular valley (SA32 7JD) .

As I wrote and stated in person too at an enquiry in Brechfa in 2013 my concerns are as follows:

The potential effect on the water table of the surrounding area

There is an underground aquifer on the plateau where the site is proposed. It feeds the springs and streams that run down the dingles and valleys all around the contour of the area. If punctured, it may result in the lowering or complete draining of the existing natural water table on which the supply of water to local residents (away from the main A485 all the homes in the area of the proposed wind farm source their water supply privately). Not only might local households lose their water supply, but so would farms.

RWE npower renewables' response to this was that they and their surveyors think the wind farm wouldn't affect the water table. They may think that but in fact they can have no idea. I understand the hydrology report they referred to was just a desk top survey based on old geological surveys with no local relevance. I understand that no hydrology survey has been done in my area or indeed anywhere on the proposed site.

Despite my protestation and my referral of an RWENPR employee who telephoned me about it to a neighbour with specialist knowledge of this area and the aquifer, they have not commissioned a hydrological survey of the site. Such a survey would need to have many sonic investigations to assess the extent of the aquifer and the depth of both the aquifer and the underlying layer of shale. Even if they did 50 or so such sonic investigations which proved that the massive excavation for each turbine's concrete base would not puncture the shale or otherwise affect the aquifer in those particular places, they could not prove that they would not do so in another spot and it would be impossible to predict which springs and streams this would affect. In my valley alone, three streams from the proposed site area on the plateau feed the stream that supplies the water table on which my own and my neighbours' water supplies depend. There are many more streams throughout the site.

To the best of my knowledge a full hydrological survey has still neither been undertaken nor completed comprehensively. I offered to show the possible extent of the underground aquifer (massive!) and also exactly where the streams that feed the main stream in the valley here are. No one has ever asked me to do this, nor my neighbours.

Please put forward our concerns as above, and I would also like to add that I did not mention the risk of contamination to our water.

If our water supply in this valley dries up (which they have never done) as a result of work on the windfarm, including the necessary infrastructure, or if it is contaminated, it will be a major health and safety concern and additionally we will, of course, expect to be put on mains water - which would cost the powers that be an absolute fortune.

My thanks for your understanding of our concern and your promise to bring it to the attention of the Planning Inspectorate.

Sincerely

Jenny Hare