

**PROPOSED WINDFARM AT SPRING FARM RIDGE, HELMDON/GREATWORTH,
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (SOUTH NORTHANTS COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATION
S/2010/1437/MAF)**

PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF PLANNING PERMISSION

APP/Z2830/A/11/2165035

STATEMENT BY VERONICA WARD,

OF GREATWORTH PARISH

I wish to draw your attention to a small section of the B4525 which may become a serious accident blackspot if five wind turbines 410 feet high are erected at "Spring Farm Ridge". The section I refer to is approximately one mile west of the proposed turbine no.1.

When travelling this road from west to east there is a right turn to Greatworth which is hidden from motorists due to a rising left hand curve in the road. The turn becomes visible at a distance of 100 metres. Just as drivers reach this point of 100 metres from the turn an unexpected view of all the turbines will appear directly in front of them on the horizon. If a vehicle turning right to Greatworth is stationary at the turn because of oncoming traffic, I am very concerned that a sudden distraction (maybe even flicker from a rising winter sun) at this point could cause multiple collisions.

I speak from experience - a blimp was flown at 410 feet in the centre of the proposed site on the day that the SNC Councillors made a site visit. I attended the visit and when returning home to Greatworth from Sulgrave I found myself completely distracted by the blimp as I approached the right turn in question. I failed to indicate right, there was a van right up close behind me, but luckily no oncoming traffic.

The B4525 has a far greater increase in traffic flow in proportion to many other roads in the area because it now has all traffic between Banbury and Northampton directed along it. As a result, heavy lorries and commuters have to intermingle with the local traffic, much of which is the twice daily school run. As the B4525 is fairly straight in places and is not subject to a speed restriction the through traffic is often very fast moving.

I would very much appreciate it if the Inspector could visit this section of road which causes me so much concern during one of her site visits, and include the potential danger here as one of her many reasons for refusing the appeal by Broadview to overturn the SNC's decision about Spring Farm Ridge.

Veronica Ward