PROPOSAL - CONSTRUCTION OF A WIND FARM COMPRISING THE ERECTION OF FIVE WIND TURBINES PLUS UNDERGROUND CABLING, METEOROLOGICAL MAST, ACCESS TRACKS, CONTROL BUILDING, TEMPORARY SITE COMPOUND AND ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENT

<u>SITE</u> - SPRING FARM RIDGE, BEING LAND TO THE NORTH OF WELSH LANE BETWEEN GREATWORTH AND HELMDON, NORTHANTS

IN THE MATTER OF A PLANNING APPEAL UNDER S.78 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

**BETWEEN:** 

**BROADVIEW ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS LTD** 

**Appellant** 

-and-

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Respondent

PINS Ref: APP/Z2830/A/11/2165035/NWF

LPA Ref: S/2010/1437/MAF

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# APPENDICES

TO PROOF OF EVIDENCE
FOR THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

South Northamptonshire Council's performance in determining planning applications for wind energy development

## South Northamptonshire Council's performance in determining planning applications for wind energy development

- 1.1 South Northamptonshire Council recognises the national policies, guidance and targets and, in terms of the contribution being made towards these targets, to date the Council has approved planning applications for a total of some 12MW of generating capacity. In doing so the Council has granted permission for 17 of the 27 planning applications it has determined for wind energy developments of various scales (i.e. 63% of applications). This equates to permissions already granted for some 27 individual turbines.
- 1.2 The appeal proposal is one of only three applications the Council has refused for wind energy development. Both other refusals were for single turbines (max height 24.5m):
  - S/2009/1166/FUL The applicant failed to provide either a bat survey or demonstrate the proposal would not have adverse impact on protected species. The proposal was subsequently approved in a re-submission application (S/2010/1178/FUL).
  - S/2012/0796/FUL The turbine was proposed to be sited in an area of known archaeological interest and the applicant failed to provide any survey work to demonstrate that archaeological assets would not be unacceptably damaged. The proposal was subsequently approved in a re-submission application (S/2012/1126/FUL).
- 1.3 In effect, the appeal proposal therefore represents the only wind energy proposal in the district which the Council has refused. The remaining 7 applications were withdrawn by the applicants.
- 1.4 In addition to the above there is currently an appeal against non-determination for a single 86.45m (500kW) wind turbine at Poplars Farm, Wappenham (S/2013/0010/FUL). At the time of writing this proof of evidence the appeal is at an early stage and the council is yet to submit its statement to the Inspectorate.
- 1.5 Although the Council has not had many applications for wind energy development to consider, the high ratio of approvals for the applications it has received is a clear indication of its recognition and commitment to supporting renewable energy developments where circumstances allow.
- 1.6 The clearest demonstration of this is the fact that the Council itself granted planning permission for a 9 x 90m turbine (11.7MW) 'wind farm' elsewhere in the District (S/2011/1421/MAF) in May 2013.
- 1.7 With regard to the appeal proposal, the Council acknowledges the contribution it would make towards regional targets and national objectives (of between 10 and 15 MW per annum).

Official Government Press Notice (6<sup>th</sup> June 2013) 'Onshore wind: communities to have a greater say and increased benefits'

Department of Environment and Climate Change RESTATS figures at July 2013:

https://restats.decc.gov.uk/app/reporting/decc/datasheet