



Our Ref: General 40b – Planning Conformity/final responses/ East Riding, 3 Wind Turbines,  
Hilston, June 09.

16 July 2009

Peter Ashcroft  
Head of Planning and Development Management  
County Hall  
Beverley  
East Riding of Yorkshire  
HU17 9BA

Dear Peter

**Planning Application Number: DC/09/02000/STPLFE/STRAT/TC1**

**Erection of 3 wind turbines, substation, construction of access tracks and associated ancillary development at Land South of Hogsea Lane, Hilston.**

Thank you for consulting the Regional Planning Body (RPB) on the above application. The nature of the application has not changed significantly from the original application supported in principle by the RPB in its response dated 28 March 2007.

However since the RPB provided comments on the above application on 28 March 2007 the current RSS - The Yorkshire and Humber Plan has been issued by the Secretary of State in May 2008. Therefore officer comments have been provided below to ensure that current RSS (2008) policies are reflected.

*Climate Change & Renewable Energy*

Policy YH2 of RSS (2008) deals with the issue of climate change and resource use. It states that plans, strategies, investment decisions and programmes should increase renewable energy capacity and carbon capture. In line with these policies, the proposed development will assist in reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the region.

### *Renewable Energy Targets*

Policy ENV5 of RSS (2008) sets the Humber a target of at least 124 MW by 2010 and 350 MW for installed grid connected renewable capacity. Table 10.2 of RSS (2008) recommends a renewable energy target in East Riding of 41 MW to 2010 and 148 MW to 2021. Policy HE1C of RSS (2008) emphasises the need to develop the Humber sub area's renewable energy generation.

Based on information collected for the RSS Annual Monitoring Report (2008) the region installed additional renewable energy capacity from on-shore wind farms between 2007-2008 of 75.2 MW. In the Humber the total renewable energy capacity installed by onshore wind development was 64.3 MW between 2007-2008. In East Riding the total renewable energy capacity installed by onshore wind development was 34.3 MW between 2007-2008. It should also be noted that the RSS targets are not "ceiling" figures and that the RPB was supportive of the development when the proposal was for seven wind turbines.

### *Location*

RSS (2008) states that local authorities have an important role to promote renewable energy development, ideally with other authorities on a sub regional basis, and provide supplementary locational and environmental criteria to be used in assessing such development as needed.

The Landscape and Visual Impact Study carried out by the applicant highlighted that the proposal would inevitably lead to significant visual and landscape effects. However, it was also recognised that the three proposed wind turbines would relate well to the local landscape, respect the scale and composition of the landscape and that significant landscape and visual effects would be localised as a result of the relatively flat landscape and the limited locations for long distant views. Therefore the assessment concluded that the proposal would be acceptable in this location in landscape terms.

### **Conclusion**

Given the issues set out above, it is concluded that:

- This development is supported in principle by the RPB as helping to implement the RSS (2008) by providing renewable energy generation.
- It should be noted that the RPB was supportive of the proposal in principle when it was for seven wind turbines.
- Local landscape assessments will have to be taken into account by the local authority in reaching its decision.

If you have any queries about this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Poxon', written in a cursive style.

Jenny Poxon

Head of Service, Planning Delivery and Conformity

**Please note:** from 1 April 2009 officers supporting the work of the Joint Regional Board, the new Regional Planning Body, will work in LGYH; please amend your contact databases accordingly

