

From: Shearer, Scott <SShearer@scotborders.gov.uk>
Sent: 23 Apr 2024 04:25:28
To: idoxdmslive@scotborders.gov.uk
Cc:
Subject: FW: Pines Burn Wind Farm, Scottish Borders
Attachments: ENE 212 EKA Approach v6.pdf

From: Shearer, Scott
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:24 PM
To: Oulaghan, Teena C2 (DIO Estates-SafegdgMgr1) <Teena.Oulaghan100@mod.gov.uk>
Subject: Pines Burn Wind Farm, Scottish Borders

Dear Teena,

Our Reference: 22/01580/FUL
Your Reference: DIO23260

Site Name: Pines Burn
Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 21/01137/FUL to allow a tip height extension.
Site address: Land Southwest of Lurgiescleuch (Pines Burn) Hawick Scottish Borders

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing in relation to the above application which remains under our consideration. We are seeking to progress the application with a view to determine the application and an upcoming Planning and Building Standards meeting. In order to do this we are seeking to understand if the MOD's position remains as communicated within your original consultation response dated 9th December 2022 which are;

1. Impact of T2 on Air Traffic Control Radar at Deadwaterfell, and
2. Impact on Eskdalemuir Seismological Recording Station

I understand that the applicants may have contacted you directly to seek to respond to both reasons for objection and therefore I am seeking to establish if this may alter the MOD's position.

Air Traffic Control Radar

Would it be possible to advise if a suspensive condition (noted below) which seeks to agree a Mitigation Scheme for T2 before development works on the turbine are undertaken would address this part of the objection?

Turbine 2 shall not be erected until a Mitigation Scheme to address the impact of the development upon the ATC radar sited at Deadwater Fell has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as planning authority (in consultation with MoD). The development shall thereafter be operated fully in accordance with the approved Mitigation Scheme for the duration of this permission.

Reason: To ensure Turbine 2 does not detract from the operation and functionality of the Air Traffic Control Radar at Deadwaterfell

Eskdalemuir

The applicants have provided the attached report from XI in relation to the developments impact on the Seismological Recording Station. Would it be possible to have your views on this and whether this provides any assurances that the development will not adversely affect the recording station?

If the findings of the attached report do not allow the objection to be lifted, then I would welcome your views on whether seeking to address the developments impact on Eskdalemuir by way of a suspensive condition is considered to be appropriate by the MOD. The applicants have suggested the following wording;

No part of any turbine shall be erected unless and until a Mitigation Scheme to address the impact of the development upon the Eskdalemuir Seismic Array has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council as planning authority (in consultation with MoD). The development shall thereafter be operated fully in accordance with the approved Mitigation Scheme for the duration of this permission.

The Mitigation Scheme must:

- a. demonstrate that the seismic impact of the development will not exceed 0.0310826 nm (the seismic impact of the development permitted by the planning permission dated 17 August 2018 ref: 17/00010/FUL);
- b. include measures for the seismic impact of the specific turbines to be installed to be measured both before commencement of development and following commissioning of the wind farm; and
- c. set out remedial measures that would be undertaken in the event of the post-commissioning monitoring identifying that the development was operating in excess of 0.0310826 nm.

Reason: Reason: To ensure the development does not affect the operation and functionality of the Eskdalemuir Seismological Recording Station

Determination

We are seeking to determine the application at the July Planning and Building Standards Committee and an important consideration is whether the development has addressed its impacts on defence interests, including seismological recording. We would therefore seek to welcome your views on the applicants proposals noted above.

To allow us to prepare a recommendation of this PBS meeting would it be possible whether you would be agreeable to entering in to a processing agreement to agree to provide a response by the 27th May 2024 please?

Kind regards,

Scott

Scott Shearer
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