

PaulB Smith

From: HARLOW, Thomas [thomas.p.harlow@parliament.uk]
Sent: 30 August 2012 11:47
To: PaulB Smith
Subject: FW: Proposed Atlantic Array Wind Turbines

FAO Bob Neill

Dear Bob,

I have received the below email from my constituent Mr Peter Bradley concerning the Atlantic Array which he does not wish to receive planning permission.

I would be grateful for your comments on the issues my constituent raises.

Yours ever,
David
(sent on his behalf to avoid delay)

Tom Harlow
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NB
Atlantic Array
NPCU

-----Original Message-----

From: bradley66 [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 August 2012 10:30
To: atlanticarray@npower-renewables.com
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed Atlantic Array Wind Turbines

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write with great concern regarding the proposed "offshore" windfarm composed of more than 188 massive wind turbines covering 92 square kilometers to be constructed in the Bristol Channel. I understand the site will be within the boundaries of the first UK marine conservation zone, a unique marine environment containing rare and protected species.


It will be close to the shores of Lundy Island, Gower and Devon coastline and so cannot really be regarded as "offshore" due to this proximity making it a highly visible along the coastline. In addition extensive large undersea cable trenches and 33 acres of onshore facilities will be needed to support the operation.

As a recreational diver I am all too aware of the decline in marine life around the UK coastline and the need to protect vulnerable areas, to ensure a natural legacy for future generations. These coastlines are also some of the most unspoilt natural landscapes and seascapes in the country. They are Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and include a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and huge swathes of National Trust protected land. The North Devon and Gower areas also have limited economies heavily dependent on landscape-based tourism, which will be directly impacted by this development.

I do recognise the need to address the growing energy gap for the UK, but feel that this proposed project does not represent the best option for the communities and environment affected. I believe that wind power is no longer considered as reliable and eco-friendly as first thought. For instance there is a need I believe to still operate conventional power stations to provide back up for when wind farms don't deliver the required power output, diluting "clean energy" claims for wind. The damage to the environment from obtaining materials and the construction itself are significant and the electrical power return limited compared to other forms, such as nuclear energy which although has high construction cost and carry an environmental risk, occupy a far smaller footprint.

I would appreciate my concerns being recognised and hope that this project does not proceed as currently planned.

Thank you
Peter Bradley



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