



Lunan Valley
Protection Group

Dulater Hill Wind Turbine Development - Forneth & Butterstone

LUNAN VALLEY PROTECTION LTD. Registered in Scotland SC464745

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For the latest information: www.lunanvalley.org.uk or www.dunkeldandbirnamnews.co.uk/trees-not-turbines

Overview of Project: 17 wind turbines up to 125 metres high (410ft) from ground to blade tip are proposed on the hill above Forneth and could look like the picture above. Whilst the UK needs energy, and wind is one source, at the same time it is essential that the planning process protects unique and sensitive landscapes and that cumulative impact is minimised. There are sound planning reasons for rejecting this proposal given the potential impact of these proposed turbines on the landscape, ecology, economy and residents.

Visual Impact: These turbines will be visible both locally and at a distance given their placement on the Highland Boundary Fault (HBF), the line of hills that mark the transition of lowland to highland landscape. The landscape of the HBF is important in the defining characteristics of the River Tay National Scenic Area, and these turbines would become a prominent feature of skyline views in this important recreational area.



See <http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/2305/Renewable-energy-proposals>

The **Lunan Valley Environment** has historically been protected given the ecological sensitivity of its birdlife, wildlife, plant life and protected waterways. The initial **Road Construction** to enable the delivery of turbines parts and the **Industrial Construction Traffic** threaten the safety of the environment, wildlife and residents in the short-term. An accident similar to the one pictured here could cause permanent damage to Craiglush Loch, where the road is too narrow at places for two trucks to pass each other and the soft verge can be less than 30 cm wide. The potential **Economic Risk** to the recreational value of the area far outweighs any benefits.

Cumulative Impact:

From Aberfeldy to Alyth, 102 turbines have been approved (white) and 161 proposed (yellow). Dulater will fill in a line of turbines marching across Perthshire, highlighting the cumulative impact.



Blade's WT1000 was heading to the Gordonbush wind farm when the verge of the road gave way

Please
Affix
Stamp

The Scottish Government
Energy Consents Unit
4th Floor
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow G2 8LU

The Planning Process: Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) published their most recent Local Development Plan in February 2014, to guide planning decisions. ***This means that the most effective way to influence the planning process when writing letters is to ensure that your letter addresses concerns that are raised by the PKC Local Development Plan.*** Here is a brief summary of some sections relevant to Dulater to help you think of points important to you:

Policy ER1A - broadly supports new proposals for renewable energy, but that the decision of **where** to build these projects needs to take into account the following:

- Individual or cumulative effects on biodiversity, landscape character, visual integrity, the historic environment, cultural heritage, tranquil qualities, wildness qualities, water resources and the residential amenity of the surrounding area,
- Transport implications, and in particular the scale, nature and impact of traffic likely to be generated, including, road capacity, safety, and the environment,
- Impact on the local economy, including tourism and recreation interests.

Policy ER6 - to conserve and enhance the diversity and quality of the area's landscapes, planning decisions should:

- Not erode the local distinctiveness, diversity and quality of the visual landscape,
- Safeguard views, viewpoints and landmarks from development,
- Safeguard the tranquil qualities of the area's landscapes,
- Safeguard the relative wildness of the area's landscapes.

Policy NE1 – also safeguards the local scenic and ecological designations.

PM1 - all development to contribute positively to the quality of the surrounding built and natural environment, including surrounding views or skylines as well as the wider landscape character of the area.

Policy EP6 - protect and seek to enhance the nature conservation and landscape interests of the **Lunan Valley Catchment Area**. There is a presumption against built development except for tightly defined exceptions where there will be no adverse impact on the environment or unacceptable increase in traffic.

The best way to register your opinion on this application is to write a letter and send it by email to representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or post to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU. Letters should clearly state that you are commenting on "Proposed Section 36: Dulater Hill Wind Park in Perth and Kinross," and include your name in block capital letters, the date, your postal address and email. Copies should be sent to PKC Planning Department (DevelopmentManagement@pkc.gov.uk).

Based on Scottish and PKC planning guidelines, here are some points you can include in your letter.

1. Visual impact of the wind turbines and impact on the landscape character. An important issue is the Highland Boundary Fault, which is identified as an important Scottish landmark. These turbines will impact the view from the King's Seat on Birnam Hill, 'an iconic Scottish viewpoint' and from the A9, described as the 'Gateway to the Highlands' (SNH 2010).
2. Cumulative impact of wind turbine development in the local area.
3. This all has a direct impact on the 'recreational value' of the area and on tourism.
4. There are numerous road safety issues during construction, and long term visual impacts planned on a unique road in a designated scenic area.
5. Potential impact on protected species and waterways of this highly protected area.

However, if you want to object and don't have the time to write a letter, you can post this tear-off note.

Name (block capitals): _____

Date: _____

Full Address: _____

Ref: Proposed Section 36: Dulater Hill Wind Park in Perth and Kinross

I wish to register my objection to the above planning application based upon the grounds that they are contrary to the Scottish Planning Policy, and contrary to Policies ER1A, ER6, NE1, PM1 and EP6 of the Perth and Kinross Council Local Development Plan. Perth & Kinross Council state that the Council will protect and seek to enhance the nature conservation and landscape interests of the Lunan Valley, reflecting the transitional beauty of the Highland Boundary Fault and an array of sensitive habitats and wildlife including the ospreys at the Loch of the Lowes.

More specifically, I am concerned about the following issues (tick as appropriate):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impact on the visual landscape and skyline | <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative impact of turbines on landscape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impact on the bird population and wildlife | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic impact on recreation and tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impact of the road construction on users and landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential disruption or accidents on road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potential threat to the quality of the National Scenic Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential threat to designated environmental sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |