



**Forest of Dean District**

Sent via Email - 30th November 2012

The Group Manager - Planning and Housing  
Forest of Dean District Council  
High Street  
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29th November 2012

FAO: Mr Tony Pope, Principal Planning Officer

**Planning Application: DF1396/12/FUL P1396/12/FUL**

**Alvington Court Farm, Court Lane, Alvington, Lydney Gloucestershire  
GL15 6BG**

**Erection of one wind turbine, grid connection, associated access and ancillary works including anemometer mast.**

CPRE is not averse to the principle of using wind power as a means to generate electricity. There do, however, appear to be fewer sites in Gloucestershire that, set against policy criteria, are acceptable for on-shore wind turbines. Those criteria also become more difficult to meet as the number of wind turbines in the adjacent surroundings increase – the issue of cumulative impact.

With this in mind, it is important that the Alvington Court Farm planning application is not considered in isolation by FODDC. It is simply the lead proposal for a line of wind turbines that the applicant would like to see built close to the Severn estuary. The LDA Design document Appendix 3 admits to this as does the accompanying drawing (3146\_08), both of which identify that in addition to the St Briavels Great Dunkilns wind turbine, for which the applicant has already obtained planning permission, a further four turbines are currently planned; one each on sites at Alvington Court Farm, Severndale Farm, Alnwick Grange-Plusterwine Farm, and Nurshill Farm. All would be of increased installed capacity compared with the approved Great Dunkilns turbine, which is also different in that it is set in the open landscape beyond the wooded scarp. It is noteworthy that a proposal with two or more turbines with a hub height over 15 metres requires a full Environmental Impact Assessment. We suggest that the "piece small" planning application approach being taken by the applicant could be an attempt to avoid the need for a full EIA, and FODDC should not accept this.

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Branch**

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