

Development Control
Melton Borough Council
Parkside
Station Approach
Burton Street
Melton Mowbray
LE13 1GH

Melton Borough Council

- 2 OCT 2012

28th September 2012

Dear Sirs .

Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England & Wales)
Regulations 1999.

Request for a screening opinion for a single wind turbine generator on land at
Southfields Farm, Church Lane, Somerby, Melton Mowbray LE14 2PS

On behalf of the land owners Jane and Mark Barnes we write to request a screening opinion
to establish whether the proposed development of a single wind turbine generator on land at
Southfields Farm requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA.)

For your consideration we have outlined the following key site and project characteristics.

1. The proposed development:

The land owners propose to erect a single wind turbine generator on their land to export
electricity under the Feed in Tariff scheme as a form of farm diversification.

The precise details of the turbine to be built are still to be determined, but it will have a rated
power output of up to 500kW. The tower height will be up to 55m with a rotor diameter of up
to 48m. The tip height will therefore be up to 79m.

2. The site:

The turbine at Southfields Farm is located approximately 700m South of the outskirts of the
village of Somerby, approximately 160m west of Owston Road

(See Appendix Map 1 for general location.)

Pure Renewable Energy Limited
Telephone: 0115 979 3380
5 Chase Park, Daleside Road, Nottingham. NG2 4GT
Email: info@purenewenergy.co.uk Web: www.purenewenergy.co.uk



The site lies within Natural England National Character Area (NCA) 93 High Leicestershire. There are no Landscape and Nature Conservation Designations in this NCA

(Source: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/images/93_High_Leicestershire_1cm6-32371.pdf)

The site lies at the southern edge of Landscape Character Assessment 15 (High Leicestershire Hills) in the Melton Borough Landscape and Historic Urban Character assessment report. The landscape character is described as:-

"A Classic Landscape influenced by the requirements of sporting estates with attractive stone villages amongst rolling pastoral hills and escarpment, and a range of field shapes and sizes enclosed by well-managed often chamfered hedges, woodland, parkland, copses, green lanes, wide grass road verges and some intensive arable land"

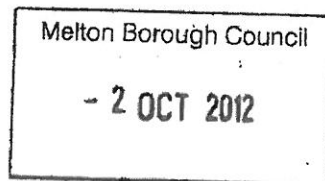
The distinct characteristics of the landscape are:-

"Rolling hills and pronounced escarpment

Well preserved sporting estates

Historic features, green lanes and parkland

Unimproved grassland"



(Source: <http://www.melton.gov.uk/pdf/Melton%20Mowbray%20LCA%20Report.pdf>)

The report goes on to discuss the landscape and cultural sensitivity of areas around the town of Melton Mowbray, but Southfields Farm is outside of this area.

3. Proposed turbine location:

The proposed turbine location is at Easting 478111 Northing 309519. The turbine will be located in open field away from hedgerows and trees to take advantage of the best wind resource on site. (See Appendix map 2 for precise location.)

Statutory designated sites within 5km of the proposed development site.

4. Country parks

Burrough Hill country park lies approximately 3 kilometres north west of the turbine location. Given the distance to the country park and the scale of the turbine it is not envisaged that there will be any significant effect on the setting.

5. Ancient Woodland

There are four areas of ancient woodland within 5km of the site as follows:-

- Cold Overton Park Wood. Ancient and semi-natural woodland approximately 4km south east of the site
- Tampions coppice – Ancient and semi-natural woodland approximately 4.5km south east of the site
- Owston Woods – Ancient, replanted and semi-natural woodland approximately 3.2km south of the site
- Lady Wood – Ancient and semi-natural woodland approximately 3.8km south east of the site

Given the scale of the development and distance from the ancient woodland it is not anticipated that there will be any significant effect upon ancient woodland features.

6. Local Nature Reserves

There are no local nature reserves within 5km of the site

7. National Nature Reserves

There are no national nature reserves within 5km of the site

8. Ramsar sites

There are no Ramsar sites within 5km of the site

9. Special Protection Areas

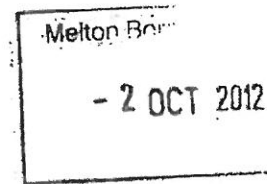
There are no SPAs within 5km of the site

10. Sites of Special Scientific Interest

There are two SSSIs within 5km of the site as follows:-

- Owston Woods (Citation 1001112) approximately 3.2km south of the site
- Tilton Cutting (Citation 1002018) approximately 4.9km south west of the site

Given the scale of the development and the distance from the SSSIs it is not anticipated that there will be any significant impact.



11. Important bird areas

There are no important bird areas within 5km of the site

12. Green Belt

The site is not within green belt

13. Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The site is not within an AONB

14. National Parks

The site is not within a national park

15. World Heritage sites

There are no world heritage sites within 5km of the site

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16. Scheduled monuments

There are 7 scheduled monuments within 5km of the site as follows:-

- Castle mound (UID LE103) approximately 5km south of the site
- Burrough Iron Age hill fort (UID 17088) approximately 3km north west of the site
- Moated Grange and enclosure at Owston (UID 17031) approximately 2km south of the site
- Whatborough deserted medieval village (UID 17090) approximately 4.2km south of the site
- Sauvey Castle (UID 17033) approximately 4.8km south of the site
- Owston Augustinian Abbey and fishponds (UID 17092) approximately 2.3km south of the site
- North Marefield deserted medieval village (UID 17030) approximately 3.3km south west of the site

Given the scale of the turbine and distance to the scheduled monuments it is not envisaged that there will be a significant effect on their settings.

17. Cumulative impact:

From the information available in the public domain we do not believe there are any wind farms or wind turbines in planning or otherwise within 5km of the proposed development which will need to be assessed for cumulative impact. The need for any cumulative impact assessment will be discussed with the council prior to the application.

18. Aviation:

As required consultation with the MOD, CAA and NATS will be a part of the planning application.

19. Telecommunications:

Assessment has been made of the telecommunications links in the area via Ofcom and JRC. The proposed turbine location will have no adverse effect on any links.

20. Dwellings:

The turbine location is 600m from the nearest dwelling at The Maples, Knossington Road, Somerby, Melton Mowbray LE14 2QP. At this distance it is unlikely that the visual amenity, shadow flicker or noise from the turbine will have an impact on the property, but this will be addressed in detail in the planning application.

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21. Archaeology:

There is no known archaeology on site. During the construction stage a watching brief for archaeology will be adopted.

22. Transport :

The turbine will be delivered to site via the following route:-

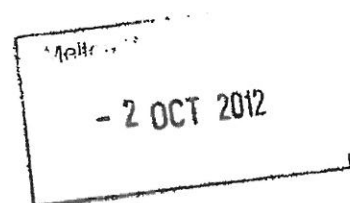
- A1 to A47 West
- A47 right turn onto B6047 Melton Road (no land take or removal of street furniture required.)
- B6047 turn right onto Oakham Road (no land take but potential removal of sign on inside of right turn required.)
- Oakham Road turn left onto Whatborough Road
- Whatborough Road runs into Long Lane, Long Lane runs into Somerby Road
- Somerby Road runs into Owston Road

- Site access will be via the existing access on left off Owston Road
- 200m of new track will be required on site

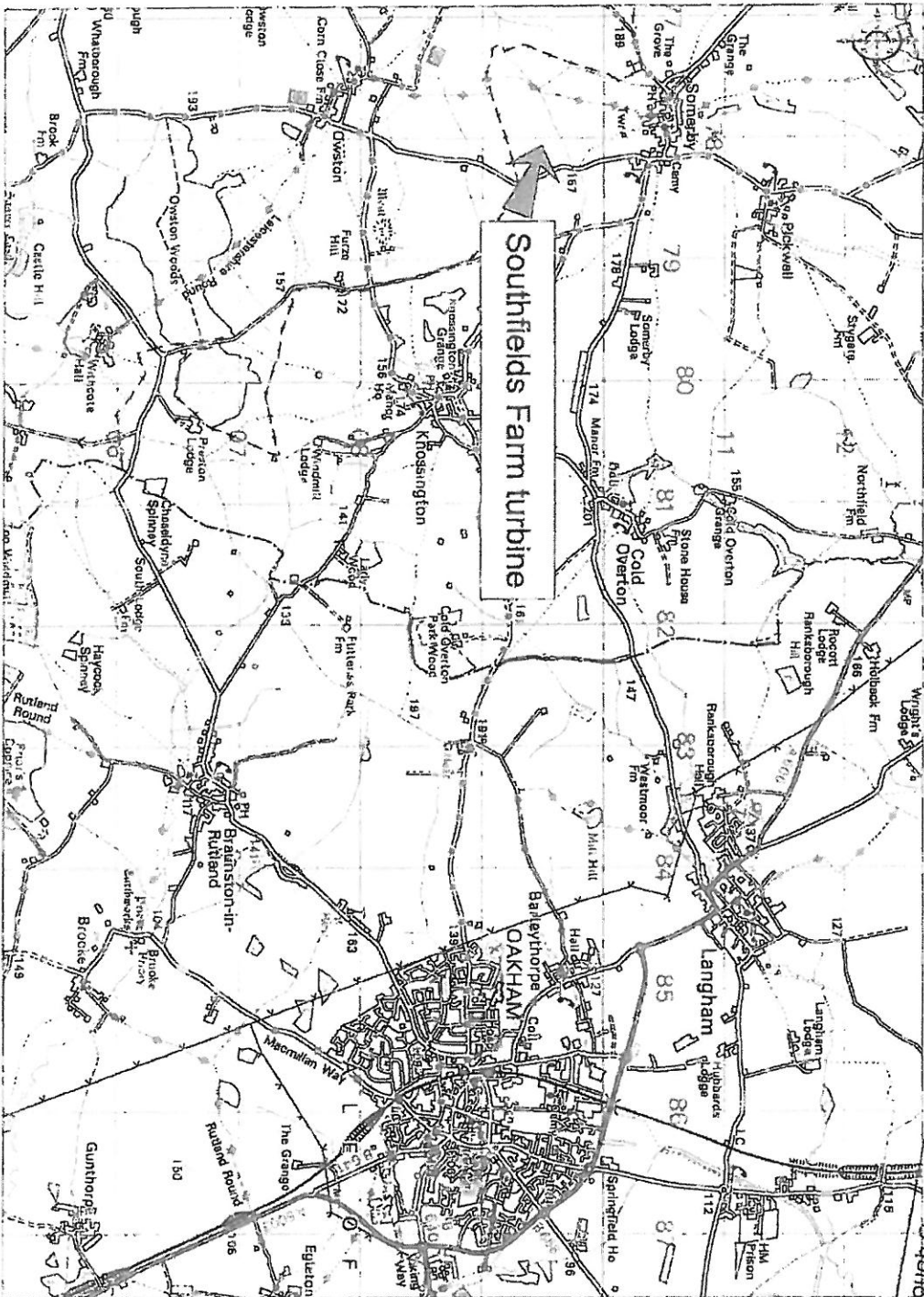
We trust the above information is helpful to you in arriving at your screening decision and look forward to hearing from you in due course. If you require any further information or clarification in the meantime, or would like to organise a site visit please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Alan Irvine
Managing Director
Mobile 07940178113



Southfields Farm - Appendix Map 1
General Location



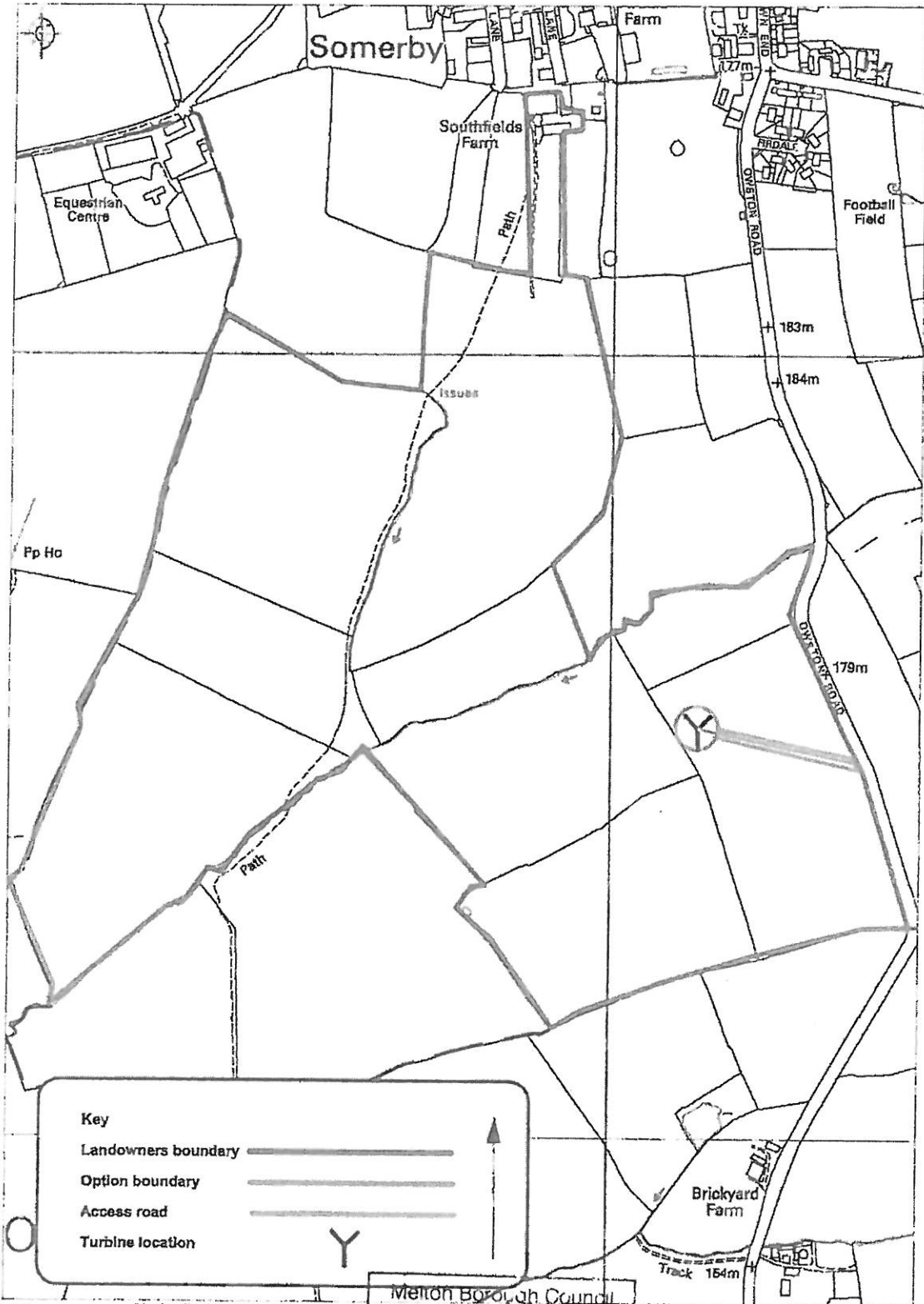
Promap

Scale 1:50,000 at A4

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Southfields Farm - Appendix Map 2
Precise location



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 **It is not possible to comment on this Application.** Only Applications currently under consideration are available for comment.

Application Details	Important Dates	Applicant Details	Agent Details	Associated Documents
Date Application Received:	02/10/2012	Date Application Validated:		02/10/2012
Target Determination Date:	No Details	Actual Committee Date:		No Details
Neighbour Consultations sent on:	No Details	Expiry Date for Neighbour Consultations:		No Details
Standard Consultations sent on:	No Details	Expiry Date for Standard Consultations:		No Details
Last Advertised on:	No Details	Expiry Date for Latest Advertisement:		No Details
Latest Site Notice posted on:	No Details	Expiry Date for Latest Site Notice:		No Details
		Overall Expiry Date:		No Details
Date Decision Made:	19/10/2012	Date Decision Issued:		19/10/2012
Permission Expiry Date:	19/10/2017	Date Decision Printed:		No Details

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