

POLICY EN10 – ENERGY GENERATION FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES

Renewable energy proposals appropriate for Melton, including biomass power generation, combined heat and power, hydro, wind, solar and micro generation systems, will be supported and considered in the context of sustainable development and climate change.

Proposals for renewable energy technology, associated infrastructure and integration of renewable technology on existing or proposed structures will be assessed both individually and cumulatively on their merits taking account of the following factors;

- *Siting so as to gain maximum effect from wind/solar/water sources*
- *The surrounding landscape, townscape and heritage assets*
- *Residential and visual amenity*
- *Noise impacts*
- *Odour impacts*
- *Designated nature conservation, geo-diversity or biodiversity considerations*
- *Ecology*
- *Aircraft movements and associated activities, including effects on radar, communications and navigational systems*
- *Electromagnetic transmissions*
- *High quality agricultural land*
- *Access for construction, maintenance and de-commissioning*
- *Not creating demand for bio-energy fuels known to result in net carbon emissions through production methods, transport requirements and/or loss of carbon sinks.*
- *General safety in terms of highways, power lines, icing, visual distraction*
- *Transport movements for importation of biomass fuel*

In the case of proposals for wind energy development involving one or more wind turbines, planning permission will only be granted if:

- *The development site is in an area identified as being of low or low-moderate sensitivity to wind turbine development in the Melton and Rushcliffe Landscape Sensitivity Study 2014. These areas and acceptable turbine requirements are set out in the table below.*
- *Following consultation, it can be demonstrated that the planning impacts identified by affected local communities have been fully addressed and therefore the proposal has their backing.*

Landscape Character Assessment Unit	Acceptable Maximum Turbine Height and Cluster Size
LCU1 Vale of Belvoir	<25m as a single turbine or clusters of two/three in larger scale areas
LCU3 Leicestershire Wolds: Dalby to Belvoir Wolds	<25m as a single turbine or clusters of two/three in larger scale areas
LCU5 Leicestershire Wolds: Ragdale to Saltby Woods	<25m as a single turbine in the smaller vales or two/three turbines in elevated areas.
LCU6 Kesteven Uplands: Saltby and Sproxtton Limestone Edge	Up to 50m as clusters of two/three turbines in wooded areas or clusters of four/five in open arable areas
LCU8 High Leicestershire Hills: Great Dalby	Up to 50m as clusters of four/five turbines

and Gaddesby Pastoral Farmland	and in areas of varied, steeply sloping topography and small field patterns clusters of two/three
LCU9 Leicestershire Wolds: Wreake Valley	<25m as clusters of two/three turbines
LCU 10 Leicestershire Wolds: Eye Valley	<25m as a single turbine in the east of the area and two/three turbines in the west.
LCU11 High Leicestershire Hills: Gaddesby Valley	<25m as clusters of two/three turbines
LCU13 Leicestershire Wolds: Buckminster, Wymondham and Freeby Farmland	Up to 50m as clusters of two/three turbines
LCU14 Leicestershire Wolds: Asfordby Quarry	Up to 50m in clusters of four/five turbines
LCU15 Leicestershire Wolds: Melton Farmland Fringe	Up to 50m as clusters of two/three turbines

In developing proposals for new thermal generating stations, developers should consider the opportunities for CHP and district heating from the very earliest point and it should be adopted as a criterion when considering locations for a project.

Renewable energy proposals which will directly benefit a local community in the medium and long term and/or are targeted at residents experiencing fuel poverty will be particularly supported.