

PROTECT RURAL EAST FIFE

c/o 34 Reform Street
Tayport
Fife
DD6 9HX
Tel : 01382 334115
Email: enquiries@pref.org.uk
website: www.pref.org.uk

Development Services
Fife Council
Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
Fife KY7 5LT

Thursday, 17 May 2007

Dear Sirs,

Public Consultation: Supplementary Guidance – Renewable Energy Technologies other than Wind Energy

On behalf of the Protect Rural East Fife group I should like to offer our comments and recommendations on the above as follows;

With regard to the **Forward** section, in the last sentence of the 1st paragraph, it is stated that *"...we can prevent the changes but action has to be taken now"*. We doubt that it is possible to prevent the changes and would suggest wording such as *"...we can attempt to halt the effect of global warming by increasing our commitment to action now"*.

In the 2nd paragraph, 1st sentence, after the word *"lifestyle"*, we suggest adding the words *"and businesses could make changes to their operation"*. In the 3rd sentence, after the word *"Residents"* we suggest adding *"and businesses can be encouraged to employ..."*. At the end of the paragraph we suggest adding *"...thereby reducing demand and reliance on fossil fuels"*.

In the 4th paragraph, it is claimed that Fife Council support the use of renewable energy generation and in particular a minimum provision of 10% "in situ" renewable energy generation. Since the 10% target is not yet part of Fife Council's adopted policy and may be subject to change, we suggest deleting reference to the 10% target. A reference to the relevant core plan policy would suffice (i.e. subject to that policy stipulating the minimum target). We would prefer to emphasise the term 'minimum' by adding a sentence such as *"Fife Council will encourage all new development which exceeds the absolute minimum target of renewable energy generation as specified in the core plan policy"*.

With regard to content;

Para 2.3 Refers to the UK government's white paper on energy (2003) and thereby, it is stated that a significant reduction in emissions could be achieved by 2020 by securing energy efficiency in households, industry etc. However, the means by which Fife Council might achieve this is not shown. A reference to supporting guidance on how Fife Council intend to comply with the white paper would be useful.

Para 2.6 Refers to microgeneration/domestic scale and is supportive, in principle, of a 10% minimum embedded (on site) generation requirement. Since this paragraph follows on from the topic of solar energy generation it seems to be a limited target. We suggest widening the scope of the sentence to include all forms of microgeneration/domestic scale energy production. As above, the 10% target could be omitted and reference added to the relevant core plan policy.