

PROTECT RURAL EAST FIFE

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Thursday, 17 May 2007

Dear Sirs,

Public Consultation: Supplementary Planning Guidance – 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 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 2.2 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 requirements of the white paper would be useful.

Para 2.4 In this paragraph and elsewhere varying degrees of scope are referred to ranging from considerable through limited to the word scope alone. Since we do not see how these claims can be substantiated, use of the word "scope" alone would be preferred.