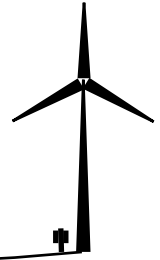


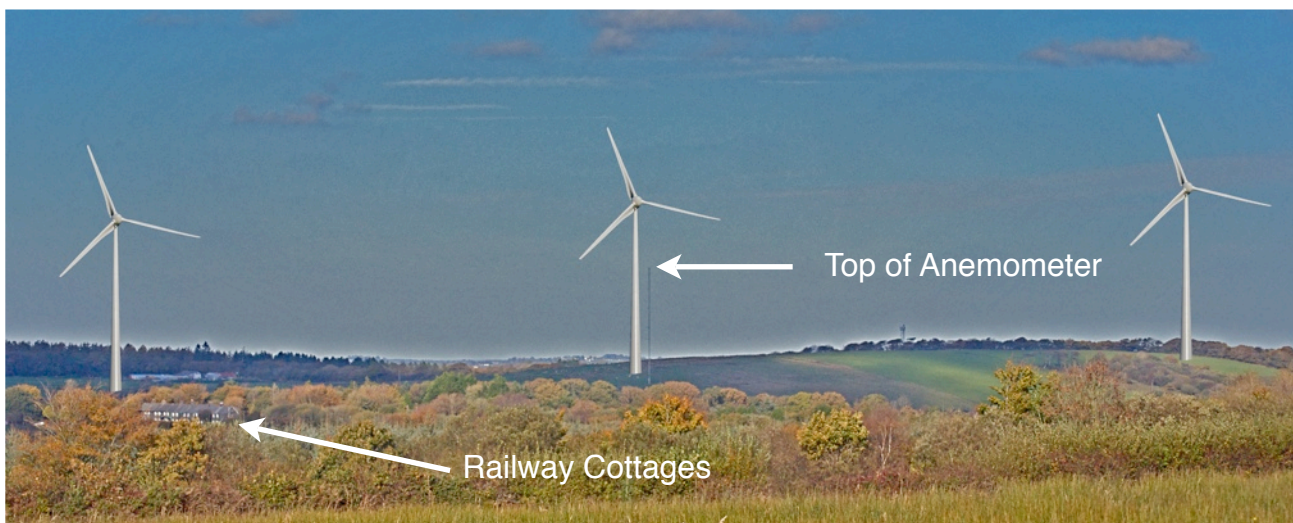
D. T. O. G.

community newsletter



Take a look for yourself

Proposed turbines would be twice as high



The 60 metres tall anemometer was erected on site on 6th October. DTOG understands that the revised application for the wind power station, to be submitted early in 2011, will be for three turbines instead of four, but to compensate for the loss in generation the turbines will be 10 or 20 metres taller than the previously proposed ones, at 115 or 125 metres. When you see the anemometer, just visualise three turbines, each of them twice the height of the mast.

The photomontage shows three 125 metres tall turbines, with the anemometer mast alongside the centre one (which has been placed further up the hill) and the Railway Cottages below the left one. The original photo was taken from the lane 500 metres west of Morecombe Cross.

The anemometer can be seen clearly from many places in the locality. The red light on top of it can even be seen clearly with the naked eye from Stowford Cross, over 4 miles away as the crow flies.

Background noise measurements are being taken at 6 locations around the site. This exercise began on 19th October and is expected to last 2 - 3 weeks.

The new Torridge District Council Wind Energy Policy

On 17th May 2010, TDC adopted a Wind Energy Policy produced by councillors after many months of work and a lengthy public consultation. The policy is designed to encourage developers to engage with the council at an early stage to identify which sites might be acceptable for wind power stations and which ones would not. It contains a minimum distance recommendation of 600 metres to residential properties (as it is perfectly entitled to do in accordance with Government planning policy PPS22, paragraph 22). It also contains a minimum distance recommendation of 500 metres to any SSSI, such as Whiteleigh Meadow.

Taken together, these recommendations wipe out all possibility of a wind power station at Dunsland Cross. There is just one snag. Some TDC planning officers are trying to ignore the TDC Wind Energy Policy.

The Landowner has backed the wrong horse

The new coalition government is keen to establish the 'Big Society' where local people decide what is best for their community. It is also keen to promote renewable energy generation where local communities want it. To facilitate this it has engineered a situation whereby generous subsidies are paid to most renewables schemes by artificially inflating people's electricity bills. This has been happening for years, whether you knew it or not.

It also recognises the unpopularity of massive onshore wind turbines near people's homes. So now it is offering subsidies via its 'Feed-in-Tariff' for solar photovoltaic (PV) installations, whether they be on single rooftops or covering hectares of farmland. **There is very little opposition, if any, to solar installations on farmland.**



The benefits of solar PV for the farmer are clear:

- **Generous extra income guaranteed for 25 years.**
- **Sheep can still graze between and shelter under the panels in the array.**

... and for the local and wider community:

- **Generous community benefits on offer.**
- **Silent operation means NO NOISE IMPACT.**
- **No moving parts and maximum height of 3 metres means VERY LITTLE VISUAL IMPACT. The panels are mainly concealed from view by hedges.**
- **No property devaluation.**
- **No impact on bats or dormice and no known impact on birds via reflection of sunlight.**
- **Unlike wind turbines they produce power when it is needed during daylight and not overnight when it is not.**
- **Unlike wind turbines they produce power every daylight hour, the amount depending on how overcast it is.**
- **Unlike wind turbines they produce power when it is most needed on freezing, calm, winter days. (Solar PV panels work best when they are cold. They require light, not heat.)**
- **British made PV panels can be used.**
- **Little concrete is used and there is minimal land disturbance constructing solar PV farms.**

Speaking about solar PV farms, Keith Roberts of CMS UK, a company which has installed a number of single wind turbines on farms in Torridge, said, 'Surprisingly, they would generate electricity in Devon as efficiently as wind turbines.' (*North Devon Journal, 21st October 2010*)

If our landowner wishes to diversify into green energy and increase his income without enraging the local community he should be considering solar PV. He should even be able to stay with Bolsterstone Innovative Energy (Holsworthy) Ltd. It is, after all, just a project management company and it should have no difficulty switching from wind to solar. It would probably save a considerable sum of money by doing so.

To read more about solar PV try www.the-green-company.com



Read 'The Wind Farm Scam'
by Dr. John Etherington
to find out the truth about wind farms.
ISBN 1905299834. Published by Stacey International.
Paperback. Price £9.99 (£6.39 from Amazon).

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- keep up to date with the latest news!

Contact DTOG via any of the addresses above. If you would like to support DTOG please send donations to

DTOG, View Farm, Dunsland Cross, Brandis Corner, HOLSWORTHY, EX22 7YH.

Cheques should be made payable to 'Dunsland Turbines Opposition Group'. Thank you.