



Causeymire Wind Farm. Photographs of existing operational wind farms within this newsletter are not intended to represent the appearance of the proposed Hampole Wind Farm.

Planning application submitted for Hampole Wind Farm

npower renewables, one of the UK's leading wind energy companies, has submitted a planning application to Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council for a five turbine wind farm to the west of the A1, south of the village of Hampole.

The predicted annual generation at the wind farm has been calculated using a capacity factor derived from performance data for wind farms already operating in England. Should site wind and turbine characteristics result in a similar capacity factor to these operational sites we can expect Hampole Wind Farm to generate an amount of electricity equivalent to supplying the approximate domestic needs of an estimated range of 4,800 to 7,300 average UK households each year, depending on the installed capacity of the wind farm¹.

If constructed Hampole Wind Farm will make a valuable contribution towards the Government's commitment to ensure 20% of electricity is generated from renewable resources by 2020.

Joanna Thompson, Senior Renewables Developer for the project, said, "This planning application comes following a wide range of assessments of the site's suitability for a wind farm and consultation with the local community.

"We are confident that we have designed a wind farm that is appropriate for the area in terms of the location, number and size of the turbines.

"The planning application will now be determined by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and we hope for a positive result before the end of the year."

The planning application, and accompanying Environmental Statement (ES), can be viewed at Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council Planning Department reception at Danum House and at the Woodlands Library in Doncaster. Copies of the Environmental Statement can be purchased from npower renewables.

For people who would prefer to read the key points of the ES, a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) has also been produced and this is available on the npower renewables website at:

www.npower-renewables.com/hampole

Frequently asked questions

Are wind farms noisy?

Wind farms developed and operated by npower renewables adhere to strict noise limits detailed in local planning conditions, based on recommendations by the DTI Noise Working Group. Modern wind turbines and well-designed wind farms are quiet in operation and, standing at the base of a wind turbine, a normal conversation can be held without difficulty. Most visitors to operational wind farms are surprised at how quiet the turbines are.

How safe is wind energy?

Wind energy is one of the safest energy technologies. It is a matter of record that no member of the public has ever been injured during the normal operation of a wind turbine, with over 25 years operating experience and with more than 70,000 machines installed around the world.

What happens to land surrounding the turbines?

While wind turbines are in situ, the land around the turbines and tracks will continue to be used for agriculture.



Do wind farms have an impact on birds and bats?

npower renewables has commissioned detailed surveys into the existing bird and bat activity around the site. Overall no significant impacts on the site's ecological interests are predicted. A report published by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds² states that 'we need urgent action to cut greenhouse gas emissions, and to redouble our efforts for nature conservation, if we are to avoid calamitous impacts on birds.'

How long does it take to 'pay back' the energy used to manufacture a wind farm?

The comparison of energy used in manufacture with the energy produced by a power station is known as the 'energy balance'. It can be expressed in terms of energy 'pay back' time, i.e. as the time needed to generate the equivalent amount of energy used in manufacturing the wind turbine or power station. The average wind farm in the UK will pay back the energy used in its manufacture within six to eight months.

How has the site been developed?

We have developed what we believe is an appropriately located wind farm for the site near Hampole. The site layout has been very carefully considered and developed following the advice of environmental consultants and the outcome of a wide range of consultations. It takes into account:

- numerous ecological studies at the site
- the results of background noise monitoring, to ensure we can comply with the standards set down in legislation
- existing infrastructure within and in the vicinity of the site
- the cultural heritage of the site including archaeology
- potential landscape and visual impacts
- comments received from consultees and the local community.

Over 150 people attend public exhibition

A two-day public exhibition and energy efficiency event held at the former village hall in Brodsworth in October 2007 attracted over 150 people.

Detailed plans were displayed and visitors were able to discuss their views and ideas about the project with npower renewables staff.

Everyone who attended was given the opportunity to complete a comments form and the responses received at the exhibition were encouraging. On the first day 67% of people who left their comments were in favour of the project, with 17% opposing the plans. Whilst on the second day 55% of people who left their comments were in favour of the project, with 34% opposing the plans. The remainder were undecided.

What has happened so far

npower renewables has commissioned a wide range of assessments of the site including ecology, visual impact and noise as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The results of the EIA have been submitted with the planning application and are available for any interested parties to read.

A wind measuring device called an anemometry mast was erected on the site to monitor the wind speed and direction. The anemometer mast measurements have been taken into consideration in the final design of the wind farm and will continue to provide useful information on the wind regime across the site.

The project at a glance

Number of wind turbines

Five

Installed capacity of the project

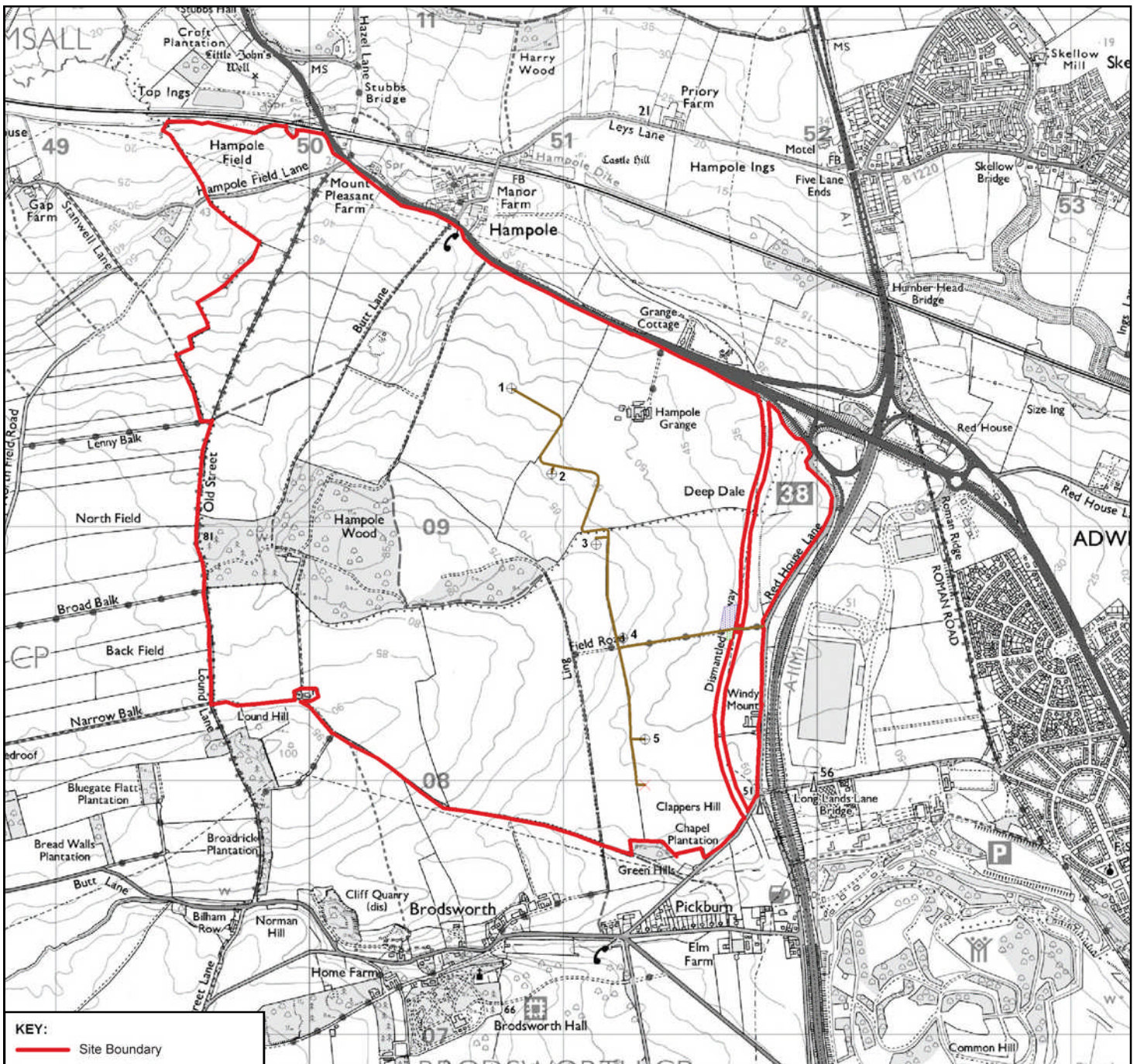
Between approximately 10 and 15 megawatts

Number of average homes supplied equivalent to project generation

Between 4,800 and 7,300 homes annually¹

Height of turbines

Up to 125 metres to the tip of the blade (highest point)



*may/may not be required

What happens next?

Once the local planning authority, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council has registered the planning application, a consultation period will begin during which anyone who would like to make a comment can do so by writing to the Planning Office at Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council.

The Environmental Statement will be available to be view at the locations below:

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

Development and Planning
2nd Floor
Danum House
St Sepulchre Gate
Doncaster
DN1 1UB

Woodlands Library

Windmill Balk Lane
Woodlands
Doncaster
DN6 7SB

Paper and DVD copies of the Environmental Statement can be purchased from npower renewables at the address below. The DVD costs £15 and hard copies cost £250. Hard copies of the Non-Technical Summary are also available free of charge from the same address.

In order to make your thoughts on the wind farm known, you should write to:

Arthur Doyle, Principal Officer
(Minerals and Waste)
Development and Planning
2nd Floor
Danum House
St Sepulchre Gate
Doncaster
DN1 1UB

If you would like this newsletter in larger print, please contact Claire Smith on 01793 894330

Any questions?

We hope you have found this newsletter informative however, if you have any questions about the project or would like more information please visit our website at www.npower-renewables.com/hampole

You can also contact the North of England team at

npower renewables
27A Harmire Enterprise Park
Barnard Castle
Co. Durham DL12 8BN
T: 0191 3504222

Or email:

hampole@npower-renewables.com



FSC

Recycled
Supporting responsible
use of forest resources

Cert no. SG5-COC-003413
www.fsc.org
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

If you would like more information about wind energy, please visit the British Wind Energy Association website at www.bwea.com

Wind power

Wind power is an essential part of the UK's commitment to increasing the volume of electricity generation from renewable energy sources, and helping to tackle climate change through reducing the nation's carbon dioxide emissions. If the planning application for the Hampole Wind Farm is successful, the wind farm would make a valuable contribution towards meeting targets for renewable energy generation and carbon dioxide reduction.

Our other projects

The UK needs to make use of all forms of renewable energy if it has a chance of meeting the targets set by the Government to produce 20% of electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

npower renewables is looking at developing a number of renewable energy projects including The Skerries, one of the world's first commercial-scale tidal stream projects, off the coast of North Wales and the Siadar Wave Energy Project, a wave power station on the Isle of Lewis.

Construction of npower renewables' Rhyl Flats offshore wind farm off the coast of Wales is also well underway and accompanies North Hoyle which was the UK's first offshore wind farm to be constructed. More information about our work can be seen at:

www.npower-renewables.com

References

¹Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4700 kWh, which is derived from a total UK domestic electricity consumption of 117.589 terawatt-hours (TWh) (The Digest of UK Energy Statistics 2005) and 25.2 million UK households (Mid-year Household Estimates published in 2004 by the Office for National Statistics).

Energy predicted to be generated by the proposal has been calculated using an assumed capacity factor of 26% (DTI Energy Trends UK regional capacity factors 1998-2004), and is based on an installed capacity of between 10 and 15 MW. The energy capture predicted and hence derived homes equivalent or emissions savings figures may change as site specific information is gathered

²A Climatic Atlas of European breeding birds (Jan 2008), published as a partnership between Durham University, the RSPB and Lynx in association with the University of Cambridge, Birdlife International, and the European Bird Census Council (EBCC)