

Save the Pentlands



Stop Auchencorth Windfarm



A wind power station threatens the Pentland hills - 18 giant turbines on Auchencorth Moss, 1.5 miles south of Penicuik, will devastate our local landscape. Wildlife, tourism and our peace and tranquillity will all be adversely affected. What are the consequences? – almost zero savings of CO₂ emissions, devastation of a precious landscape, and enormous profits for the company and landowner.

Save the Pentlands OBJECT NOW

Please write a letter, or use the one attached
(and note there is space for a further personal comment)
Visit www.pepawind.org.uk for more information.

- Each turbine will be 100m (328ft) high— much higher than other turbines in the area. As a comparison, the Scott Monument is 61m (200ft) high.
- These 18 turbines will have a widespread effect on the outstanding wild views around the Pentland Regional Park and the Moorfoot Hills, AGLVs right on the edge of Edinburgh. Tourist routes to Scotland, in particular the A701 and A702, and local routes will be severely affected. Yet another wind power station will add to the cumulative visual effect – according to E.ON there could eventually be as many as ten wind farms visible from the Pentlands.
- Local businesses will suffer as tourists (walkers, cyclists, birdwatchers etc) from Edinburgh and further afield go elsewhere to enjoy unspoiled scenery.
- Wildlife will suffer as the turbines encroach upon the migration routes of vulnerable birds. Wildlife around Auchencorth include pink-footed goose, greylag goose, skylark, linnet and other species considered of medium or high conservation importance.
- Massive engineering works will disturb the peat bog. CO₂ will be released and the bog may be prevented from performing its usual job of regulating the flow of water from rainfall. This raises the spectre of potential flooding downstream along the North Esk. The adjacent SSSI could also be affected. The concrete bases will be left in place after decommissioning.
- Do we *need* a wind power station on Auchencorth? Windpower contributes little to reducing CO₂ emissions – the CO₂ saving *claimed* by E.ON per day for the entire wind power station is the same as is caused by a single flight from London to New York. But no-one can know if CO₂ is saved, since Cockenzie, Longannet and other coal-fired plants continue to operate when the wind is still – as you would expect. Zero savings is nearer the mark. Windpower is NOT about reducing CO₂ emissions – it is only about making money. Without the substantial revenues from Renewable Obligation Certificates and Non-Fossil Fuel subsidies, wind power stations are not viable. With these subsidies, millions and millions of pounds are generated. This money goes to E.ON.
- Who pays? You do. Windpower is an inefficient and expensive source of electricity, which generously lines the pockets of landowners and wind farm owners. You pay dearly for power, the loss of open spaces and, for those who live nearby, the prospect of diminished property values. Sunday's papers forecast cost rises of up to 13% for domestic energy – and that's just the start.
- Terrestrial television reception may be affected. E.ON say they will wait until the wind farm is built and then sort out any problems.

Please write a letter individually or use the one below to make your views known.

Mr. Mike Shiel
Planning Officer
Planning Department
Midlothian Council
Fairfield House
8 Lothian Road
Dalkeith
EH22 3ZQ

Dear Mr Shiel

I formally OBJECT to the Auchencorth Windfarm proposal (planning application 06/00067/FUL) because:

- The site is unacceptably close to the Pentland Regional Park
- The landscape impact on the Park and this part of Midlothian is significantly adverse, and contrary (at least) to policies PHP1, PHP2, RP1, RP6, RP7, RP11, and RP15 in the Midlothian Local Plan 2003.
- Tourism and the local economy will be threatened
- It will create excessive construction traffic and noise
- There will be an unknown effect on wildlife and ecology
- It threatens to damage an adjacent SSSI
- It is likely to cause major disturbance to watercourses and peatland
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Name

Date

Address