

Reasons to say “No!” to Development

- **Current Proposal** to build 9 Wind Turbines, each 102 metres high, conflicts with recommendations in the Landscape Capacity Study which was commissioned by Midlothian Council (2007). The Local Plan protects the setting of the Pentland Hills Regional Park, greatly valued by local people.
- **The proposed site** is under three miles away from the Auchencorth Moss wind farm proposal, which was rejected at Public Inquiry and under two miles from the Spurlens Rig proposal, rejected by Borders Council.
- **The cumulative impact** is significant. **A huge opencast coal mine at nearby Cauldhall has been approved.** 14 wind farms are in operation and around 10 more under consideration or construction within twenty miles. Between Eddleston and Romanno Bridge a further 29 turbines in planning process.
- **Wind speed** There are no site specific wind data. Local wind speed measurements show much lower wind speeds than claimed. This has implications for amount of electricity produced and CO₂ saving.
- **There will be critical impact on the rich wildlife** which currently inhabits the area. Mount Lothian is close to Gladhouse Reservoir SPA, part of the Moorfoot Hills AGLV, and to sites of special scientific interest, where osprey, barn owls and hen harriers are resident and the exceedingly rare Great Crested Newt has made its home.
- **Tyne Esk Trail** would be re-routed to a much less attractive position. Amenity walks and the National Cycle Network seriously affected.
- **The number of Tourists** to the area is likely to drop, as it appears that 50% of those visiting Scotland come for our wilderness, wild landscapes and unspoilt hills.
- **Local Jobs** will be short-lived. Wind Prospect Developments Ltd., who have submitted the proposal on behalf of EDF Energy, have stated that they do not anticipate significant long term opportunities for employment
- **It is recognised that wind farms** also prove detrimental to house prices and health. Unknown effect on Penicuik’s TV reception.

Government View “The Scottish Government wants to see the right developments in the right places” *Fergus Ewing, Scottish Minister, (September, 2013)*

Mount Lothian is clearly the wrong place.