

North Dover Wind Park



Briefing Notes

Site details:

- The site is based within the Parish Boundary of Langdon.
- North Dover Wind Park will be a 5 turbine layout generating approximately 31.3 GWh/yr¹.
- The North Dover Wind Park will offset 29,752 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year².
- The North Dover Wind Park will repay the 'carbon debt' (i.e. the energy used during their life cycle - from production to maintenance and decommissioning) in approximately 3-6 months.
- The North Dover Wind Park will provide enough energy for between 7,497 - 9,490 homes³

What size will the turbines be?

- The North Dover Wind Park turbines will be 120m in height to the blade tip.

Does the electricity generated come directly to my home?

- No, the turbines are connected to the National Grid. Any electricity you receive will come from your current electricity provider who will supply you from their own preferred sources.

Will they still move if there is no wind?

¹ Based on the NOABL wind speed database, which states that at 45m in height the wind speed on the site is 7.1m/s.

² This is based on an emissions factor of 995g CO₂/kWh as qualified in October 2006 by the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST), and as electricity generated by coal fired power stations is typically displaced by wind power generating capacity. However, it should be noted that future changes in the power generating mix and fuel costs in the UK over the life of the wind farm means this figure may change over time.

³ This is based on average annual domestic electricity consumption as qualified by DTI, Energywatch and OFGEM.

- The North Dover Wind Park turbines are designed for a start-up wind speed (i.e. the minimum necessary) of 2.5 m/s (5.6mph).

If the turbines are not moving will my electricity supply be affected?

- If there is no wind and the turbine stops turning, obviously no energy is being generated. However, as the turbine feeds directly on to the National Grid, which supplies your home, there will be no disruption to your service as the Grid is designed to deal with fluctuations in demand. The Grid system is designed to withstand the loss of the largest operational unit (power plant), which currently equals 1,320 MW. Therefore slight gaps in generation of energy by the turbines should pose no problem.

Is there any danger if there are strong winds?

- The North Dover Wind Park turbines are designed to shut down in the event of mean wind speeds of 22 m/s (49mph) in order to protect the internal and external structure of the turbine. This shut down speed will not include gusty conditions where the mean wind speed is less than this value.

What happens if one of the turbines breaks down?

- The North Dover Wind Park turbines are all remotely controlled, in the event of any technical problems we will be notified immediately via SMS/email. Alternatively, there will be an information board on site which will have all relevant contact details for Ecotricity.

How long do the turbines last for?

- The turbines are designed to be operational for at least 25 years. Wind turbines can be decommissioned quickly and easily at the end of their operational life span (1-2 days per turbine is required) so that the land can be returned to its original use.

Who has been consulted during the planning process?

- Throughout the planning process we have consulted any stakeholders who may be significantly affected by the proposed development, this includes:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| - The Environment Agency | - Dover District Council | - RSPB |
| - Natural England | - Ofcom | - Crown Castle |
| - Orange | - T-Mobile | - CSS |
| - Southern Water | - Kent County Council | - BBC |
| - Kent Wildlife Trust | - BT | |

How noisy will the new development be?

- Potential noise impact from the existing turbines and proposed turbines as well as the construction and decommissioning stages have been assessed.

The assessment shows that the predicted noise levels at the nearest residential locations to the site meet the night time limit under all conditions and operational noise from this site is not considered to be significant.

Noise from construction and de-commissioning stages will not be significant at any residential locations.

Will the construction of 5 new turbines spoil the landscape?

•The proposed land site is outside any area designated by the LPA as an Area of Important Landscape Quality, and some 2.5km from the nearest Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Kent Downs).

The proposed development is not expected to have significant impacts on any of the nearby Conservation Areas or their settings, on nearby Scheduled Ancient Monuments or their settings, or on nearby Listed Buildings and their settings. There are no Historic Landscapes within the site of the application.

I have heard about 'shadow flicker', will this effect me?

•Shadow flicker is regular or semi-regular variation in light intensity caused when a light source is intermittently interrupted by an obstruction.

Mitigating measures can be implemented. These range from retrofitting a house or building with effective blinds or shutters if these are absent, to, in extreme scenarios, shutting the turbine down during potential flicker periods.

Ecotricity will monitor the situation carefully and if local residents' homes are affected by shadow flicker, a specific technical expert will be brought in to assess the impact and determine what mitigation strategy would be best to rectify the issue.

How will the lorries gain access to the site during the construction phase?

•Access on to the proposed site at North Dover is from Archers Court Road which links to the A2(T) at the Whitfield roundabout.

Due to the nature and quality of the access route, it is not perceived that any permanent improvements will be needed for the delivery of the turbine components.

The transportation will be programmed to avoid rush hour traffic within the area.

A survey undertaken by **ecotricity** and Enercon, has confirmed that all the roads along the proposed route will be viable for the delivery of all the turbine components including the A256, as all the roads have a width no less than 4m.

Why not build offshore?

•The main problem is that it costs more money. So that we can continue supplying our customers with energy at the same cost as their regional supplier we need to keep our installation costs to a minimum.

You have to lay cables under the sea from the nearest sub station to the turbine(s) which will be some distance from the shore. It is a lot more complex to lay foundations, and erect the towers due to using different machinery. When you are digging the foundations it is also using technology that is typically used in the oil industry, which you would then be indirectly supporting. Another large problem is the fact that if you have a problem with the turbine and it has shut down you may need to gain access, if there are rough seas then it can take days or weeks to get out there.

Where can I view copies of the application?

• Copies of the application will be on display at Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, for a 16 week period after submission.

• There will be a link on the **ecotricity** website to the non-technical summary as well as photomontages and a PDF feedback form for comments.

• Should people wish to buy a copy of the application charges will be as follows;

- Paper copy £150
- CD copy £35