Dear Sir/Madam

**Petition reference PE01469**
**Neighbour notification distances for wind turbine applications**

The Falkirk Council Planning Committee has asked officers to make contact with the Scottish Government with regard to the above petition. The Planning Committee has requested that the attached Falkirk Council letter dated 5 June 2013 is forwarded to the Public Petitions Committee for their consideration.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards

Bernard Whittle
Development Management Co-ordinator
Falkirk Council
5 June 2013

Alan Cameron
Scottish Government
Directorate for Local Government and Communities

Alan.cameron@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sir

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACTS

Development Erection of a Single Wind Turbine (225kW, 45.9 Metres in Height to Tip) with Temporary Access Track

Location Site To The South West Of The Leys Denny

Application No. P/12/0208/FUL

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations – Neighbour Notification Procedures

I am writing to you at the request of the Falkirk Council Planning Committee regarding the neighbour notification procedures as set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and the proposed amendments coming into force on 30 June 2013.

Concerns have been expressed by the Committee that wind turbine developments have potential impacts on residents within a wide area but often there are no neighbours with a notifiable interest. The Planning Committee requests Scottish Government consider amending the neighbour notification procedures for wind turbine developments to require the planning authority to notify premises within a wider area.

The Committee is aware the Regulations require the publication of a notice in the local press where there are no premises on neighbouring land and they are aware of the other publicity requirements set out in the Regulations. The Council could choose to go beyond the requirements of the Regulations but this would lead to allegations of inconsistency and allegations that the Council is lobbying support or objection to development proposals. It is considered that any extension of neighbour notification requirements would need to be prescribed by Scottish Government.

I should be grateful if you would give serious consideration to this request and look forward to hearing from you

Yours faithfully

Bernard Whittle
Development Management Co-ordinator