

PE1469/G

Petitioner Letter of 13 October 2013

PETITION PE1469 – NEIGHBOUR NOTIFICATION DISTANCES FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR WIND TURBINES

Dear Chris

Thank you for letting me know the Public Petitions Committee will again be considering my Petition on 29 October.

It is unfortunate that the Scottish Government are unable to provide a response until the end of November as I imagine this will mean the Petition will have to be continued into the New Year.

I have a few comments to make in the meantime which may be of interest to the Committee.

John Angell, Head of Planning at Falkirk District Council made the following comment which was quoted in the Falkirk Herald:

While we need to work within the planning legislation and guidelines we do have concerns that the regulations for neighbour notification of wind turbine applications do not extend far enough. We have written to the Scottish Government asking them to consider amending these procedures to allow us to notify premises within a wider area of wind turbine applications.

<http://www.falkirkherald.co.uk/news/local-news/braes-residents-protest-over-wind-turbine-1-3058333>

<http://www.falkirkherald.co.uk/news/local-news/maddiston-residents-object-to-wind-turbine-plan-1-3155995>

I wrote to Mr Angell to enquire whether he was aware of my Petition and I received the following response on 29 August 2013.

“Dear Ms Jackson

Thank you for your email of 24 August 2013 to John Angell. He has asked me to reply on his behalf.

We have not yet received a written response from Scottish Government but, having discussed this matter with their officers I understand that they are considering the issues raised by Falkirk Council and the issues raised by you in your petition and will be reporting back to the Petitions Committee in the autumn. A copy of the Council's letter to Scottish Government has been forwarded to Cosla for information.

I hope this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Bernard Whittle
Development Management Co-ordinator”

I am sure other Local Authorities would agree with East Renfrewshire and Falkirk in supporting a change in neighbour notification distances for wind turbine planning applications.

Kind regards

Aileen Jackson