

WIND GENERATION APPEALS UPDATE

August 2014



Please find below a resume of decisions made between 3 July 2014 and 31 July 2014.

If you have any queries in relation to any of the decisions listed below, or other renewable schemes please contact Richard Glover. Email richard.glover@squirepb.com or direct dial 0113 284 7023.

Eastfield

PINs No.	PPA-320-2068
Decision and date	Dismissed 03/07/14
Location	Land south of West Benhar Road, Eastfield, Harthill, ML7 5TG
Inspector	Lance R Guilford
Appellant	Eneco Wind UK
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for 5 turbines with a blade tip height of 125m. The main issues were the landscape and visual effects and residential amenity. The proposed development is envisaged to be community owned. The Reporter found that there would be significant landscape effects up to 2km from the site. The Reporter considered that the landscape had an intrinsic local landscape quality for recreation as it is close to existing settlements and core paths. The Reporter was of the view that there would be a significant adverse effect on the landscape setting of Eastfield, with the proposed turbines being very close to the settlement. The Reporter found that there would be significant adverse visual impacts from the proposed turbines, even at some distance, but that the main area of concern was the visual impacts from the settlements of Harthill and Eastfield. The Reporter also found that some dwellings in proximity to the proposal could become unattractive places to live. Overall, the Reporter considered that the proposal did not accord with the development plan and that there were no material considerations which would justify granting planning permission.

Brightenber Hill

PINs No.	APP/C2708/A/12/2186488
Decision and date	Dismissed 03/07/14
Location	Land adjacent to Brightenber Hill, Gargrave, Skipton
Inspector	Zoe Hill
Appellant	Energiekontor UK Ltd
Determination process:	Hearing
Summary of decision	Proposal for 3 turbines with a blade tip height of 100m. The main issues were the effects on the living conditions of nearby occupiers, the character and appearance of the landscape in the surrounding area and the effect on the setting of listed buildings. With regard to the effects on the living conditions of nearby occupiers, the Inspector considered that the effect on the occupiers of Ash Tree Farm would be harmful. Further, given that the occupiers spend their life working the farm, they would be aware of the presence of the proposed turbines during their day, making it likely to become oppressive. Similar harm was also noted by the Inspector in relation to Haugh Field Farm. The Inspector found that the area within 800m of the site would be very significantly and adversely affected. This harm to the landscape was attributed significant weight. With regard to the effect on the setting of listed buildings, the Inspector noted that there would be harm to the setting of a number of grade II* and grade II buildings. The Inspector concluded that the benefits of the proposal were not sufficient to outweigh the harms.

Knightacott

PINs No.	APP/X1118/A/13/2205462
Decision and date	Dismissed 03/07/14
Location	Land at Knightacott, near Bratton Fleming, Devon
Inspector	Wendy J Burden
Appellant	ClearWinds Ltd
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 78m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the landscape and the amenity of the nearby Caravan Park. The Inspector noted that the countryside had an unspoilt and tranquil character, the protection of which she considered of some importance. The proposed turbine was considered to undermine the remote and unspoilt character. The Inspector also noted that the proposal would be seen against the skyline from within and from the edge of the Exmoor National Park. The Inspector found that there would be sufficient distance between the proposed turbine and the Caravan Park to avoid any overwhelming visual impact on the users of the caravan site. Overall, the benefits of the proposal were not deemed sufficient to outweigh the significant harm to the character and appearance of the area.

Grayingham

PINs No.	APP/N2535/A/13/2198797
Decision and date	Dismissed 03/07/14
Location	Grayingham Grange, Grayingham, Gainsborough, DN21 4JD
Inspector	Louise Crosby
Appellant	Warden Farming Company Limited
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for two turbines with a blade tip height of approx. 35m. The main issue was the effect on aviation safety. The proposed turbines would be sited 17 nautical miles north of RAF Waddington. The MOD stated that the proposed turbines would be visible on the Primary Surveillance Radar at RAF Waddington. Single cell blanking of the radar was suggested by the appellant, but the MOD confirmed that the radar at RAF Waddington did not have this capability. The two mitigation measures the MOD would accept are at a cost that would be prohibitive to the appellant. The Inspector therefore concluded that the proposal would adversely impact on aviation safety and that the benefits of the proposal were not able to outweigh the impact in terms of aviation safety.

Oakworth

PINs No.	APP/W4705/A/13/2205470
Decision and date	Dismissed 03/07/14
Location	Moorside Farm, Broad Head Lane, Oakworth, Yorkshire, BD22 0QN
Inspector	A Thickett
Appellant	Geoff Buckley
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 44.95m. The main issues were whether the development constituted inappropriate development in the Greenbelt, the impact on the character and appearance of the area and the effect on protected species. The Inspector noted that the proposal did constitute inappropriate development in the Greenbelt. The appellant did not take into account the cumulative impact of the proposed turbine together with the turbine at Tewitt Hall Farm and this was considered to be an omission. The Inspector considered that cumulatively, there two turbines would appear disjointed and at odds with each other. The Inspector was of the opinion this would have an unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the area. The appeal site is located 70m from the South Pennine Moors SSSI. Natural England objected to the proposal on the grounds that insufficient information was submitted to determine the likely impact on protected species. Without this information, the Inspector was unable to determine that the proposal would not harm protected species. The harms as noted above were found to be incapable of being outweighed by the benefits.

Cowshill

PINs No.	APP/X1355/A/13/2200979
Decision and date	Dismissed 03/07/14
Location	High Greenfield Farm, Cowshill, DL13 1AF
Inspector	Richard McCoy
Appellant	Mr F Beddard
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 34m. The main issue was the effect on the North Pennines AONB in terms of landscape character and visual impact. The Inspector noted that the proposed turbine would stand in an agricultural field which occupies an elevated position. The remote and wild nature of the area was also noted. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would be a prominent and striking addition that would be at odds with the inherent characteristics of the landscape. As such it was found to cause significant harm to the landscape character of the AONB and an unacceptable adverse visual impact on its tranquil and scenic qualities. Overall the Inspector found that the benefits of the scheme were not capable of outweighing the harms.

Loch Hill

PINs No.	PPA-170-2083
Decision and date	Dismissed 04/07/14
Location	Loch Hill, St John's Town of Dalry
Inspector	Neil Pope
Appellant	Mr Graham Bate
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for 11 turbines with a blade tip height of 100m. The main issues in this appeal were the landscape and visual impacts. The appeal site is immediately adjacent to Knockman Hill wind farm which has been consented, with another wind farm permitted to the east and another proposed to the north-east. However, the Reporter noted that although the proposal had been designed so that it appeared as one wind farm together with Knockman Hill, the turbines were different heights and the blade diameter significantly different. The Reporter found that this would harm visual amenity. This harm was not found to be outweighed by the benefits of the proposal.

Witherdon Wood

PINs No.	APP/W1145/A/13/2201363
Decision and date	Dismissed 07/07/14
Location	Agricultural land near Witherdon Wood, Ashwater, Devon
Inspector	J M Trask
Appellant	Ecotricity (Next Generation) Ltd
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 84m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the area, the setting of heritage assets and the living conditions of nearby residents. The Inspector noted that the proposed turbine would be a prominent addition to the local surroundings, which would be an incongruous feature in the remote and tranquil landscape and would have a significant detrimental effect. The Inspector noted that there would be some minor harm to the setting and significance of listed buildings and that this was to be considered in the planning balance. Further the Inspector, in agreement with English Heritage, found that there was insufficient information to be able to make a judgement as to the impact on Thorn Barrow SAM, which is located less than 500m from the proposed turbine. In terms of the effect on living conditions, the Inspector was of the view that the properties affected were sufficiently distant or shielded by land/trees. The benefits of the proposal were not found to be sufficient to outweigh the harms.

Harburnhead

PINs No.	Harburnhead
Decision and date	Granted 08/07/14
Location	Harburnhead, West Lothian
Inspector	Scottish Ministers
Appellant	Enel Viento S.L
Determination process:	Inquiry
Summary of decision	Proposal for 22 turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 126m under S.36 Electricity Act 1989. The main issues were the landscape and visual effects. It was noted that the proposal would have significant landscape and visual effects, particularly locally. However, in no instance was it found that the proposal would lead to an unacceptable or unbearable level of domination. Following this recommendation from Reporters, Scottish Ministers agreed that the landscape and visual impacts did not justify refusal.

Fauch Hill

PINs No.	Fauch Hill
Decision and date	Refused 08/07/14
Location	Fauch Hill, West Lothian
Inspector	Scottish Ministers
Appellant	Fauch Hill Sustainable Energy Ltd
Determination process:	Inquiry
Summary of decision	Proposal for 23 turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 125m under S.36 Electricity Act 1989. The main issues were the landscape and visual effects. It was noted that the proposal would introduce and unduly prominent development on the north-western slope of the Pentlands and would detract from the Pentlands as the main visual backdrop. There was also concern raised regarding the impacts on the panoramic views from some of the hill tops. Scottish Ministers agreed with the recommendation of the Reporters and refused the application.

Mathry

PINs No.	APP/N6845/A/14/2212645
Decision and date	Allowed 9/07/14
Location	The Paddock, Mathry, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 5LG
Inspector	Sian Worden
Appellant	Mr Bryan Farmer
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 34.2m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area and living conditions of neighbouring occupiers. The Inspector considered that due to topography there would be limited views of the proposed turbine and that it would not be unduly prominent or detrimental element in the landscape. With regard the impact on living conditions, the Inspector was of the view that the proposed turbine would not appear so close or so large as to be overbearing for occupiers of neighbouring properties. The Inspector considered that there would be a slightly detrimental impact on the historic landscape given the proposal's proximity to a number of SAMs and listed buildings. However, the benefits of the proposal were considered to outweigh this limited harm.

Shirwell

PINs No.	APP/X1118/A/13/2204240
Decision and date	Dismissed 14/07/14
Location	Hartland View Farm, Shirwell, Devon, EX31 4LA
Inspector	Mr A Thickett
Appellant	Mr and Mrs A Lewis
Determination process:	Hearing
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 61m. The main issues were the effects on local heritage assets and the character and appearance of the area. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would result in substantial harm to the setting of Youlston registered park and garden. Although the proposed turbine would be located over 1km away, the Inspector was of the view that the height and modern industrial appearance of the turbine would detract significantly from the setting of Youlston Park. The Inspector also found that the proposed turbine, by virtue of its size, would have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the local area. The benefits of the proposal were not found to be sufficient to outweigh the harms.

Howe Farm

PINs No.	APP/X1545/A/13/2197924
Decision and date	Allowed 14/07/14
Location	Howe Farm, Southminster, CM0 7UR
Inspector	D J Board
Appellant	JD Mee and Sons
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 46m. The main issue was the effect upon the character and appearance of the area. The appeal site is located within a Special Landscape Area and Coastal Zone. The proposed turbine would be sited on the edge of a relatively large open field. The Inspector noted that due to the height and movement of the blades, the turbine would be a prominent addition to area, but that it would not be out of scale with the vast skies and openness of the area. The Inspector considered the cumulative impact of the proposed turbine in conjunction with the nearby Gaia turbine and noted that although there would be some cumulative visual impact from these 2 turbines it would not be significant. Overall, the benefits of the proposal were deemed sufficient to outweigh the limited harms.

Green Lane

PINs No.	APP/X1545/A/13/2200176
Decision and date	Allowed 14/07/14
Location	Green Lane Farm, Green Lane, Asheldham, Southminster, CM0 7DU
Inspector	D J Board
Appellant	Mr Tim Parker
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 27m. The main issue was the effect of the proposal on the character of the landscape of the area. The Inspector was of the view that the proposed turbine would not be out of scale with existing landscape features. It was found that it would not significantly harm or change the character of the landscape. Although visible from some viewpoints, the proposed turbine would be sited in a relatively large open field and would not appear unduly prominent or overbearing. Cumulatively, the Inspector noted that a number of other turbines have been permitted in the wider area. However, the proposed turbine would not significantly change the overall perception of the rural scene. The benefits of the proposal were considered sufficient to outweigh the very limited harm.

Lodge Farm

PINs No.	APP/Y0435/A/13/2200186
Decision and date	Dismissed 14/07/14
Location	Lodge Farm, Wolverton Road, Castlethorpe, MK19 7ES
Inspector	Paul Griffiths
Appellant	JAJ Sawbridge & Sons
Determination process:	Hearing
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 99.5m. The main issues were the effects on the living conditions of local residents and on the setting and significance of heritage assets. The Inspector noted that two properties that would be situated 486m from the turbine, which had gardens facing directly towards the turbine. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would appear as a dominant and oppressive presence so much so that this would have a significant detrimental impact on the living conditions of the occupiers of the dwellings. The Inspector noted that there would be inter-visibility between the proposed turbine and some listed buildings, SAMs and conservation areas. However, many of these heritage assets only derive a very small degree of significance from their wider setting. Where setting was considered to play a more important part to the significance of heritage assets, the Inspector found that the harm would be less than substantial. The benefits of the proposal were not considered to be capable of outweighing the harms.</p>

Dovecote Farm

PINs No.	APP/Y0435/A/13/2200621
Decision and date	Allowed 14/07/14
Location	Dovecote Farm, Turvey Road, Astwood, Newport Pagnell, MK16 9JX
Inspector	Paul Griffiths
Appellant	OffGrid Power Wind Ltd
Determination process:	Hearing
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine 78m to blade tip. The main issues were the effects on the living conditions of local residents and on the setting and significance of heritage assets. The Inspector noted that the distance between the proposed turbine and the closest properties was considerable. Therefore, the proposed turbine would not appear dominant. With regard to the effect on heritage assets, the Inspector found that there would be some harm to the settings of a SAM and listed buildings. However, the setting was only considered to contribute a small part to the significance of the assets and the harm caused was found to be less than substantial. Overall, the benefits of the proposal were found to outweigh the harms.</p>

Fordoun

PINs No.	PPA-110-2210
Decision and date	Allowed 14/07/14
Location	Redhall House, Fordoun, Laurencekirk, AB30 1SD
Inspector	David Liddell
Appellant	Ed Moro
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with an 18m tower. The main issues were the landscape and visual impacts and the impacts on the setting of Redhall House. The Reporter noted that the proposed turbine would be well-sited in relation to other landscape features, situated close to established woodland and would therefore have a minimal effect on the overall landscape character and visual impacts. The Reporter found that the proposed turbine would not have a significant impact on any views of Redhall House, or the outlook from it. The Reporter concluded that there were no material considerations which justified refusing planning permission.

Paul Matthew Hill

PINs No.	PPA-110-2215
Decision and date	Allowed 15/07/14
Location	Land at Paul Matthew Hill, Johnshaven, Montrose
Inspector	David Buylla
Appellant	Renewable Energy Ventures
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for two turbines with a blade tip height of 99.5m. The main issues were the landscape and visual impacts and the effect on heritage assets. The Reporter noted that the landscape character in close proximity to the site is one in which wind turbines are already a noticeable feature, but that agricultural use remained the dominant characteristic. The addition of the proposed turbines would not, in the view of the Reporter, alter the balance. The Reporter found that there would be adverse visual impacts in close proximity to the site. However, these existing views are already characterised by man-made influences. The Reporter considered that the effect would therefore not be significant. With regard to heritage assets, the Reporter was of the view that the proposal would detract from the setting of the regionally important cairn at the summit of Paul Matthew Hill, resulting in a significant adverse effect. The benefits of the proposal were found to outweigh these harms and the appeal was allowed.

Beacon

PINs No.	APP/D0840/A/13/2197974
Decision and date	Allowed 15/07/14
Location	Beacon, South Petherwin, Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 7JA
Inspector	Neil Pope
Appellant	Mr Chris Parson
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single wind turbine with a blade tip of 77m. The main issue was the impact on the character and appearance of the area. The Inspector noted that the appeal site was situated within an attractive area of countryside that included some existing wind turbines. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would be a very prominent addition to the landscape and would detract from the visual tranquillity of the area. However, the Inspector did note that the proposed turbine would be seen as a very small part of an expansive rural scene. The Inspector found that there would be sufficient separation between the proposed turbine and existing/consented turbines in the area. The landscape would remain a landscape with occasional turbines and the proposal would not significantly change this overall perception. A number of other matters were considered by the Inspector, but none of these issues justified the refusal of planning permission.

Halsdon Barton

PINs No.	APP/W1145/A/13/2207006
Decision and date	Allowed 16/07/14
Location	Halsdon Barton, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6NX
Inspector	J M Trask
Appellant	W J Watkins & Sons
Determination process:	Written Representation
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 79m. The main issue was the effects on the character and appearance of the landscape. The appeal site lies within an area where there are prominent overhead electricity lines and other wind turbines. The Inspector was of the opinion that the proposed turbine would be a prominent addition to the area but it would not significantly affect most of the key qualities of the landscape. Although there would be some harm to the character and appearance of the area, the Inspector found that this would be outweighed by the benefits of the proposal.

Heights Farm

PINs No.	APP/W4705/A/13/2206603
Decision and date	Allowed 17/07/14
Location	Heights Farm, Heights Lane, Silsden, Yorkshire, BD20 9HW
Inspector	A Thickett
Appellant	Mr Steven Turner
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 34.5m. The main issue was the effects on the character and appearance of the area. The Inspector found that the proposed turbine would be close enough to the farm to be visually associated with the farm buildings 200m away. The Inspector also noted that the proposed turbine would be the same model of turbine as an existing turbine 500m away. The Inspector considered that the two turbines would be read together, resulting in an element of visual harmony. The surrounding man-made and natural features were found by the Inspector to mitigate the visual impact of the proposed turbine. Overall, the Inspector concluded that the proposal would not cause significant harm to the landscape.

Sorbie

PINs No.	PPA-170-2090
Decision and date	Dismissed 17/07/14
Location	Millairies Farm, Sorbie, Newton Stewart, DG8 8AL
Inspector	R W Maslin
Appellant	Mr A Brown
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for two turbines with a blade tip height of 47m. The main issues were the landscape and visual impacts. The appeal site is located 500m from farm buildings. The Reporter considered that the proposed turbines would have a significant impact on the landscape within approx. 2km of the appeal site. The Reporter found that this impact would be exacerbated by the contrast between the height and prominence of the proposed turbines and that of more modest existing turbines. The Reporter also found that there was insufficient information provided in relation to noise impacts of the proposal. Overall, the Reporter was of the opinion that the benefits of the proposal were not capable of outweighing the harms.

East Moneylaws

PINs No.	APP/P2935/A/13/2193153
Decision and date	Dismissed 17/07/14
Location	East Moneylaws Farm, Cornhill-on-Tweed, TD12 4QD
Inspector	Andrew Hammond
Appellant	Mr Robin Lathangie
Determination process:	Recovered by Secretary of State
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for two turbines with a hub height of 24.6m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area and on heritage assets. The Inspector found that the proposed turbines would introduce vertical features into the sensitive landscape of peaks and outcrops and as such would be detrimental to the landscape character. The Inspector also considered that the proposed turbines would be visually detrimental in local views, although it was noted that there are a limited number of local receptors that would be affected. The Inspector noted that the Flooden Battlefield and Flooden Monument lie 1km from the appeal site. The Inspector found that the Battlefield and Monument would be experienced within a much wider landscape than the confines of the Battlefield alone. He found that the proposed turbines would be seen in numerous views across the Battlefield and from the Monument. The Inspector was of the view that the harm would be less than substantial, however this was still to be considered in the planning balance. The Inspector concluded that the benefits of the proposal did not outweigh the harms and recommended dismissal of the appeal. The Secretary of State agreed with the Inspector.</p>

Trelaske Farm

PINs No.	APP/D0840/A/13/2202579
Decision and date	Dismissed 21/07/14
Location	Trelaske Farm, Cubert, Newquay, Cornwall, TR8 5PY
Inspector	Brian Cook
Appellant	Tregothnan Estate
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 34.4m. The main issues were the effect on the setting of heritage assets and on the character and appearance of the area. The Inspector agreed with English Heritage and found that the proposed turbine would disturb the sense of peace and tranquillity of the setting of the Lost Church SAM and Grade II listed building, causing substantial harm to the heritage asset. The Inspector also considered that there would be harm to the Church of St Cubert (Grade I) albeit it this would be less than substantial. The Inspector also found that the proposed turbine would result in a marked change in the character of the landscape which would be harmful. The benefits of the proposal were not considered sufficient to outweigh the harms.</p>

Trefinnick

PINs No.	APP/D0840/A/13/2203511
Decision and date	Dismissed 21/07/14
Location	Land at Trefinnick, Bray Shop, Callington, Cornwall, PL17 8PX
Inspector	Brian Cook
Appellant	Murex Energy Limited
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 77m. The main issues were the effects on: heritage assets; and landscape character and visual amenity. The nearest heritage asset (a group of Grade II farm buildings) would be 400m from the proposed turbine. The Inspector found that the setting of these buildings would not extend to the appeal site. The Inspector then considered the effect on two Grade I churches. The Inspector noted that the both church towers were considerable and that at the time of building it would have been the intention for the church towers to be the dominant feature in the locality. The proposed turbine was considered by the Inspector to undermine the setting of both churches. For one of the churches this would result in substantial harm and the other less than substantial harm. The Inspector also found that the proposal would unacceptably alter and harm the way those who live, work and visit the area appreciate their local landscape. Overall, the benefits of the scheme were not capable of outweighing the harms identified.</p>

Westfield Farm

PINs No.	APP/R4408/A/14/2212199
Decision and date	Dismissed 21/07/14
Location	Westfield Farm, Royd Moor Road, Thurlstone, Sheffield, S36 7RD
Inspector	Michael R Moffott
Appellant	Mr Robert Barraclough
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 34.2m. The main issues were whether the proposal would be inappropriate development in the Green Belt; the effect on the openness of the Green Belt and the effect on the character and appearance of the area. The Inspector found that the proposed turbine would be inappropriate development in the Green Belt and that it would also result in some loss of openness. The Inspector noted that the proposed turbine would be sited in an open field, 75m from the nearest building and 200m from the edge of the village. It was also noted that there were few vertical elements within the local landscape. The Inspector found that the proposed turbine would introduce an incongruous element that would harm the visual amenity of the local landscape. In conclusion, the Inspector held that the benefits did not outweigh the harm and the very special circumstances necessary to justify the proposal did not exist.</p>

Mean Moor and Harlock Hill

PINs No.	APP/M0933/A/13/2203115
Decision and date	Allowed 21/07/14
Location	Mean Moor and Harlock Hill, Pennington, Ulverston
Inspector	John Braithwaite
Appellant	Infinergy Limited
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for five turbines with a blade tip height of 99.5m, incorporating the removal of 5 existing turbines on Harlock Hill. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the landscape and on residential amenity. The Inspector found that the proposed turbines would not be overbearing or intrusive in relation to settlements and visitor routes, but they would have a significant adverse effect on the character of the landscape close to the site. In terms of residential amenity. The Inspector considered that there would be an adverse effect on a number of residential properties. However, due to distance and screening the properties would not become unattractive or unpleasant places to live. The benefits of the proposal were deemed to outweigh the harms.

Ffordd Pennant

PINs No.	APP/T6905/A/14/2212659
Decision and date	Dismissed 22/07/14
Location	Land at Bryn Gwian Farm, Ffordd Pennant, Eglwysbach, Conwy, LL28 5UN
Inspector	Sian Worden
Appellant	Mr Oliver Foulkes
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 67m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the area and on the setting of Mwdwl Eithin round barrows. The appeal site lies within a rural, upland area where much of the land is used for agriculture. The Inspector noted that views from the appeal site were panoramic and spectacular. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would be immediately noticeable and harmfully prominent in the landscape. The round barrows SAM is clustered at the highest point of Mwdwl Eithin and would be less than 0.5km from the proposed turbine. The siting of the SAM is fundamental to it significant and the Inspector found that the proposed turbine would be a tall, prominent, distracting element which would fail to preserve the setting of the SAM. The benefits of the proposal were not considered sufficient to outweigh the harms.

Todcastle Farm

PINs No.	PPA-380-2045
Decision and date	Allowed 22/07/14
Location	Todcastle Farm, Darvel Road, Strathaven, ML10 6QD
Inspector	David Liddell
Appellant	Archie Meikle
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 47m. The main issues were the landscape and visual impacts. The Reporter considered that the undulating, relatively open and large-scale nature of the landscape could successfully accommodate the proposed turbine, with the overall effect on the character of the landscape being insignificant. The main visual impact was considered to be from the A71, but the Reporter found that any significant impacts would be fleeting. Overall, the Reporter was of the view that there were no material consideration which justified refusal of planning permission.

Hassiewells

PINs No.	PPA-110-2217
Decision and date	Dismissed 23/07/14
Location	Hassiewells, Rothienorman, Aberdeenshire AB51 8XX
Inspector	Richard Dent
Appellant	Hassiewells Renewables LLP
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for three turbines with a blade tip height of 100m. The main issues were noise impacts, the effect on heritage assets and the landscape and visual impacts. The Reporter noted that cumulative noise issues had not been agreed between the appellant and the Council, which lead the Reporter to adopt a precautionary approach on this issue. The Reporter found that the proposal would have an unacceptable impact on Logie Newton monument, which would be located 600m from the closest turbine. In terms of landscape and visual impacts the Reporter noted that in cumulative terms the proposal would not cross the unacceptability threshold or be unacceptable in landscape character terms. Visual impacts were not found to be of a level that the Reporter considered would warrant refusal of planning permission. However, the benefits of the proposal were not considered sufficient to outweigh the harms.

Clyde Extension

PINs No.	Clyde Extension
Decision and date	Allowed 23/07/14
Location	Clyde Wind Farm, South Lanarkshire and Scottish Borders
Inspector	Scottish Ministers
Appellant	SSE Renewables (UK) Ltd
Determination process:	Inquiry
Summary of decision	Proposal under S.36 Electricity Act 1989 for up to 54 turbines, 44 of which would have a blade tip height of 142m and 10 with a blade tip height of 125.5m. The main issues were the landscape and visual effects. However, Scottish Ministers concluded that the benefits of the proposal would outweigh the harm to the landscape. Additionally, an appropriate assessment was undertaken in relation to the effect on the River Tweed Special Area of Conservation. This concluded that the integrity of the SAC would not be affected as long as the proposal was carried out in accordance with the mitigating conditions proposed by SNH and the design constraints provided in the Environmental Statement.

Dersalloch

PINs No.	Dersalloch
Decision and date	Allowed 23/07/14
Location	Dersalloch Wind Farm, 4km east of Straiton, South Ayrshire
Inspector	Scottish Ministers
Appellant	ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Ltd
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for 23 turbines, 16 with a blade tip height of 125m and 7 with a blade tip height of 115m. The main issues were the impacts on the Dark Sky Park and Observatory and impacts on the Craigengillan Estate. Scottish Ministers noted that the Applicant had agreed with the MOD to install infrared LED aviation lighting which is invisible to the naked eye. It was therefore held that the brightness from the lights would not be sufficient to affect the Dark Sky Park’s Gold tier status. The same conclusion also extended to the Observatory, and Scottish Ministers found that it would not affect the potential for tourism and recreation. In terms of the effect on Craigengillan Estate, Scottish Ministers were of the view that the Applicant has done everything it could reasonably do to mitigate some of the significant impacts, to the extent that SNH removed their objection. Overall, Scottish Ministers concluded that these impacts are not so significant to be considered unacceptable and when considering in the balance, the benefits were found to outweigh the harms.

Poplars Farm

PINs No.	APP/Z2830/A/13/2202083
Decision and date	Allowed 23/07/14
Location	Land at Poplars Farm, Wappenham, Towcester, NN12 8SU
Inspector	John Braithwaite
Appellant	Mr Aidan Jones
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 86.45m. The main issues were the effects on the character of the landscape and on heritage assets. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would have an effect on the character of the landscape up to 0.5km from the appeal site. It was noted that there are public rights of way within and around the site. The Inspector considered that within and around the site the proposed turbine would be the defining feature and would dominate the immediate area, but from further afield this would cease to be the case. With regard to heritage assets, the Inspector found that the proposed turbine would harm the setting of the Church of St Mary (1km from the proposed turbine), but that the harm would be less than substantial and that the harm on other heritage assets would be negligible. Overall, the Inspector was of the view that the benefits of the scheme would outweigh the harms.

Tregarrick

PINs No.	APP/D0840/A/13/2210306
Decision and date	Dismissed 24/07/14
Location	Tregarrick Farm, St Tudy, Bodmin, PL30 3PJ
Inspector	J M Trask
Appellant	Mr and Mrs Alford
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 77m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the area and on the setting of designated heritage assets. The site lies within an open and expansive location with the Camel Valley to the East. The Inspector found that the proposed turbine would be seen from many locations in the wider landscape and would be a prominent addition to the area. It was also considered that the proposed turbine would detract from the remote, tranquil and rural landscape. In cumulative terms, the Inspector was also of the view that the proposed turbine, in combination with other operational turbines in the surrounding area, would lead towards an industrialisation of the character of the area. The Inspector also found that there would be harm to the setting of the Church of St Brueredus and to a lesser extent the church of St Uda, as well as a minor impact on Hengar Manor. In carrying out the planning balance, the Inspector concluded that the benefits of the proposal were not capable of outweighing the harms.

Causeway Bridge Farm

PINs No.	APP/D2510/A/13/2205932
Decision and date	Dismissed 25/07/14
Location	Causeway Bridge Farm, 48 Church Lane, Manby, Louth, LN11 8HL
Inspector	Ron Boyd
Appellant	Bernard Matthews Wind Energy Co-operative Limited
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 78m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area and the setting of the AONB. The Inspector considered that the existing schemes at Mablethorpe and Conisholme and the consented scheme at Gayton would result in a corridor of wind development. The Inspector found that the presence of these three schemes effectively eliminated the landscape capacity to absorb any more turbines. The proposed turbine was therefore found by the Inspector to amount to an unacceptable additional degree of harm to the surrounding landscape and to the people living, working or travelling within or through it. The Inspector considered that there would be an effect on the views towards the AONB, but found that this would not be so sufficient to warrant dismissal of the appeal on its own merit. The benefits of the proposal were deemed to be insufficient to outweigh the harms.

Oston

PINs No.	APP/P3040/A/14/2211474
Decision and date	Dismissed 28/07/14
Location	Land west of Spa Lane, Orston, Near Bottesford, Nottinghamshire, NG13 9NE
Inspector	Michael R Moffott
Appellant	Hallmark Power Ltd
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 74m. The main issues were the effects on: the character and appearance of the landscape; the setting of heritage assets; and the use of the recreation ground. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would be a conspicuous and visually intrusive feature in near views and from public rights of way. It was therefore found to be severely detrimental to the landscape character. The Inspector found that the proposed turbine would compromise the setting of the Orston conservation area (0.5km from the appeal site) and St Mary's Church, neither of which would amount to substantial harm, but are still required to be considered in the planning balance. In terms of the recreation ground, the proposed turbine would be 300m from the recreation ground. The Inspector considered that given the proximity of the proposed turbine to the recreation ground, the proposed turbine would be likely to distract players of both football and cricket. The overall view of the Inspector was that the benefits of the proposal would not be sufficient to outweigh the harms.

Pinclanty Farm

PINs No.	PPA-370-2038
Decision and date	Allowed 28/07/14
Location	Pinclanty Farm, Pinmore, Girvan, KA26 0TE
Inspector	David Liddell
Appellant	Mr J Warrender
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 34.5m. The main issues were the landscape and visual impacts and noise. The Reporter noted that the proposed turbine would be sited on the relatively broad south side of the Stinchar valley. The Reporter considered that the proposed turbine would be sensitively sited and of a scale which would not result in a significant adverse effect on landscape character. In terms of cumulative effect, the Reporter found that due to separation distances and intervening topography significant cumulative impacts would not arise. The Appellant supplied updated information with regard to noise, based on the correct hub height for the proposed turbine and the Reporter found that the proposal would be unlikely to give rise to unacceptable noise impacts. The Reporter concluded that there were not material considerations which would justify refusal of planning permission.

Ludchurch

PINs No.	APP/N6845/A/13/2205770
Decision and date	Allowed 29/07/14
Location	Hill Farm, Ludchurch, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8JA
Inspector	Sian Worden
Appellant	Mr L Williams
Determination process:	Inquiry
Summary of decision	Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 72m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area and on living conditions of neighbouring occupiers. The Inspector noted that although a tipping point in terms of landscape capacity for turbines would come, the proposed turbine would not change the landscape from its current rural and agricultural character. The Inspector considered that the nature, location, siting and scale of the proposed turbine would be compatible with the character and capacity of the area. The Inspector found that the effect on neighbouring occupiers would not be overbearing or oppressive. This was due to separation distances, screening by vegetation and the degree of the view taken by the proposed turbine. Overall, the benefits of the proposal were considered to outweigh the limited harm

Calcethorpe

PINs No.	APP/D2510/A/14/2214037
Decision and date	Dismissed 29/07/14
Location	Calcethorpe House Cottage, Calcethorpe, Louth, LN11 0SN
Inspector	Paul Jackson
Appellant	Milligan Manby Farm Partners
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 21.6m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area and on heritage assets. The Inspector noted that although the proposed turbine would be modest in size, it would be sited in a very prominent position, making it highly visible from the surrounding highly regarded landscape. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbine would be intrusive and would jar with the tranquil nature of the area. With regards to heritage assets, a key characteristic of the area was considered to be medieval ruins, the Inspector was of the view that the heritage significance stemmed from an appreciation of the way in which human settlement has evolved on the Lincolnshire Wolds. The surrounding landscape was therefore found to be part of the setting. However, due to distance and screening the Inspector found that the turbine would only change a small part of the setting and would result in less than substantial harm. The benefits of the proposal were not deemed capable of outweighing the harms.</p>

Burringham

PINs No.	APP/Y2003/A/13/2204957
Decision and date	Allowed 29/07/14
Location	Land to the north of sewage treatment works, Burringham
Inspector	Louise Crosby
Appellant	Ian Fowler & Co
Determination process:	Written Representations
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for a single turbine with a blade tip height of 67m. The main issues were the effects on the landscape and visual amenity. The Inspector noted that although the appeal site lies within open countryside, the landscape contains numerous large and tall man-made utilitarian type structures (the sewage works, the M180 motorway and overhead electricity lines). Another turbine is already operational in the same field as the proposed turbine. The proposed turbine is the same size and model as the existing turbine and they would be seen as a cluster of 2. The Inspector was satisfied that the proposed turbine would not alter the key characteristics of the landscape. Any limited harm was found by the Inspector to be outweighed by the benefits of the proposal.</p>

Haversham

PINs No.	APP/Y0435/A/12/2186522
Decision and date	Dismissed 29/07/14
Location	Land at Hill Farm, Haversham, Milton Keynes, MK19 7DY
Inspector	Paul Jackson
Appellant	RWE Innogy UK Ltd
Determination process:	Recovered by Secretary of State
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for five turbines with a blade tip height of 127m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area, on living conditions of nearby occupiers and on the effect of biodiversity and wildlife. The Inspector noted that there would be a significant change to the character of the landscape within 2-3km, which would lessen with distance. But overall, considered that the character of the landscape would not fundamentally change. Nor did the Inspector find that there would be an unacceptable impact on visual amenity. The Inspector considered that with additional screening planting, the effect on the living conditions of local occupiers would be acceptable. Effects in relation to biodiversity and wildlife were, in the Inspector's view, capable of being adequately mitigated. The Inspector found that the benefits of the proposal outweighed the harm and therefore recommended that it would be allowed. However, the Secretary of State considered that overall harm to visual amenity would be substantial and the effects of the proposed turbines would result in one property becoming an unacceptable place to live. The Secretary of State concluded that the benefits of the proposal did not outweigh the harms.</p>

Fenrother

PINs No.	APP/P2935/A/13/2194915
Decision and date	Dismissed 31/07/14
Location	Land off Fenrother Lane, Fenrother, Northumberland
Inspector	Phillip J G Ware
Appellant	Energiekontor UK Ltd
Determination process:	Recovered by Secretary of State
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for five turbines with a blade tip height of 126.5m. The main issues were the effect on the openness of the Green Belt, the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area and on the living conditions of nearby occupiers. The Inspector found that the proposal would constitute inappropriate development in the Green Belt and that it would also harm the openness of the Green Belt. The Inspector noted that the proposed turbines would be an encroachment into the countryside which separates Morpeth from its satellite settlements. The Inspector considered that the proposed turbines would have an unacceptable impact on properties in Fenrother which would have a clear view of the proposal, as they would become unattractive and unsatisfactory places to live. He also found that the overall character of the settlement would be significantly harmed. Additionally the Inspector was concerned regarding the adverse effect on one particular property, Moor Edge, as one of the residents suffers from autism and may be adversely affected by the movement of the turbine blades. The Inspector was of the view that the benefits of the proposal did not outweigh the harms and recommended that the appeal be dismissed. The Secretary of State agreed.</p>

Pilrow Farm

PINs No.	APP/V3310/A/13/2197449
Decision and date	Dismissed 31/07/14
Location	Pilrow Farm, east of the M5 and south of the A38 Bristol Road, Rooksbridge, Axbridge, Somerset
Inspector	Paul Jackson
Appellant	Broadview Energy Limited
Determination process:	Recovered by Secretary of State
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for four turbines with a blade tip height of 130m. The main issue was the effect on the character and appearance the landscape. The Inspector noted that the capacity of the landscape to accept change was affected by the existing landform and vegetation. The landscape was found by the Inspector to be unquestionable dominated by Brent Knoll. The addition of the proposed turbines of a very similar height and in proximity to its eastern slope would in the Inspector's view result in the landscape significance of the Knoll itself changing. The Inspector found that the proposed turbines would compromise the key landscape characteristic. The Inspector also considered that there would be a degree of harm to many views from the Mendips AONB. The Inspector concluded that the benefits of the proposal could not outweigh the harms and he recommended that the appeal be dismissed. The Secretary of State agreed.</p>

Saxby Wolds

PINs No.	APP/Y2003/A/12/2180725
Decision and date	Dismissed 31/07/14
Location	Land at Saxby Wolds, near Barton-upon-Humber, North Lincs
Inspector	A D Robinson
Appellant	RWE Innogy Ltd
Determination process:	Recovered by Secretary of State
Summary of decision	<p>Proposal for ten turbines with a blade tip height of 125m. The main issues were the effects on the character and appearance of the surrounding area, on heritage assets and the nature conservation interests including the Humber Estuary SPA. The Inspector found that the proposal would result in substantial harm to the quality and character of the landscape, as well as having a significant visual impact. Especially with regard to the Viking Way. The Inspector found that there would be an adverse effect on the significance of nearby heritage assets, but that the harm would be less than substantial. The Inspector was of the view that the proposal would not give rise to any significant effect upon pink footed goose of the Humber Estuary SPA. Overall, the Inspector found that the benefits of the proposal were not sufficient to outweigh the harm to the landscape. The Inspector therefore recommended that the appeal be dismissed. The Secretary of State agreed.</p>