ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL CORPORATE SERVICES

## PUBLIC SERVICE & LICENSING COMMITTEE

EXTRACT FROM MINUTE OF MEETING OF OBAN, LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006

\_\_\_\_\_

## 5. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

(g) 05/00016/ELSE36: GREEN POWER: ELECTRICITY
CONSULTATION: ERECTION OF WINDFARM CONSISTING OF
20 TURBINES – CARRAIG GHEAL, INVERINAN, TAYNUILT

Having adjourned consideration of this matter to this meeting from the meeting of the Area Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> April, Members considered a report dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2006 by the Assistant Area Roads & Amenity Services Manager in regard to alternative access routes.

## **Decision:**

It was agreed to recommend to the Public Service and Licensing Committee that the Council raise no objections to the Scottish Executive granting Section 36 and deemed planning permission for the following reasons: -

- 1. Archaeology: No significant archaeology has been identified on the site. Therefore the proposal complies with Structure Plan Policy STRAT DC9 and NPPG 18;
- 2. Ornithology: The Environmental Statement confirms that the proposal complies with Structure Plan Policy STRAT DC 7 and NPPG 14 Natural Heritage;
- 3. Historic Environment: There are no listed buildings in the vicinity of the application site and therefore Structure Plan Policy STRAT DC9 Historic Environment complies;
- 4. There are no Health and Safety reasons to refuse consent;
- 5. Economic Development: Employment during the construction period and afterwards for the maintenance and running of the site;
- Landscape Assessment: Scottish Natural Heritage have raised no objections. The proposal complies with Policy RUR1 of the Adopted Lorn Local Plan and Policy WF1 of

the approved Argyll and Bute Windfarm Policy because the Environmental Statement covers viewpoints listed as 10, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 and as these are a considerable distance from the site, the broad and mountainous landscape of Lorn can absorb the windfarm when viewed from those locations. The impact from Kilchrenan and Annat, which is probably the closest community to the site, will be minimal. Viewpoints 15 and 11 - from two important hilltops the landscape can absorb the wind farm because of the vast scale of the landform. Significant visual effects will be limited to very few sites and the openness of Loch Awe and the large scale of the landscape can accommodate this wind farm development;

- 7. Cumulative Impact: When viewed from the East, Beinn Ghlas and the proposed windfarm will be visible, however the distance between the two windfarms lessens the cumulative impact and again the landscape can accommodate both groups of turbines;
- 8. Road Safety: The Roads Department have raised no objections to the Fearnoch route which will present the least disruption to other road users and will mitigate environmental disturbance to the B845 corridor:

It was further agreed to recommend that conditions be remitted to the Director of Development Services in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Local Member.

(Ref: Report by the Head of Planning and report dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2006 by the Assistant Area Manager, Roads & Amenity Services, submitted)