

Head of Planning and Regulatory Services Dumfries and Galloway Council Kirkbank House English Street DUMFRIES DG1 2HS

28 June 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

## KNOCKENDURRICK WIND FARM Ref No 13/P/2/0284

The Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland (APRS) <u>objects</u> to the above application for the following reasons:

- The proposed development is contrary to Local Development Plan policy OP1, as
  it does not respect, protect or enhance the region's rich landscape character,
  scenic qualities and features, nor does it reflect the scale and local distinctiveness
  of the landscape
- The proposed development is contrary to Local Development Plan policy IN1, as
  it would have an unacceptable significant adverse impact on the landscape and
  amenity of the surrounding area
- The proposed development is contrary to Local Development Plan policy IN2, as it does not satisfactorily address the guidance contained in the Dumfries and Galloway Windfarm Landscape Capacity Study: the local landscape is not capable of accommodating development of this size without significant detrimental impact on landscape character or visual amenity, and its design and scale are not appropriate to the scale and character of its setting
- The proposed development is contrary to Local Development Plan policies NE1 and NE2, as it will significantly adversely affect the landscape character and scenic interest of the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area and Solway Coast Regional Scenic Area
- This application is in an area which has been proposed as a National Park by APRS and the Scottish Campaign for National Parks over the last four years, a proposal now supported by your Council; Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) states (Table 1, p39) that wind farms will not be acceptable in National Parks, so to retain the potential for this area to become a National Park this application must be refused

- Approval would set an unwelcome precedent for this area, making it vulnerable to further wind energy developments with more numerous and larger turbines
- There are several properties within 2 km of the site, contrary to the clear intention of SPP (Table 1, p39) to provide significant "community separation" protection from wind farms for areas within this distance of settlements
- There could be adverse effects on biodiversity through displacement and increased mortality, particularly in relation to red kite

Please contact me if you require any further information or clarification. Please keep me informed as to the progress of this application.

Yours faithfully

John Mayhew MA MSc DipTP MRTPI Director

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