

Wind Farm Letter - Ideas

(Please see “Isle of Skye Wind farm Fact Sheet” (below) for detailed figures and ideas to add to your letter etc.)

NB. You need to include name, address, post code and a phone number on letters to the press and elected members

You don't need to include all of these points, and letters should be written in your own style so we are not using a “standard” objection/letter which tend to have less impact.

1. The 30 turbines at the two existing Wind Farms at Edinbane and Ben Aketil already produce more than 10 times the electricity needed to power the whole of Skye.
2. These existing turbines are 100m high.
3. There are proposals for 144 new turbines on Skye, up to 200m in height at 9 wind farms (7 new farms and repowering Edinbane and Ben Aketil)
4. These turbines all due to be built to link up to the new SSEN Skye Reinforcement power line scheduled for 2028. This power line only necessary for these new wind farms and will cause huge environmental damage itself.
5. Wind farms will cause massive environmental damage to peat land, wildlife, forest, water courses. Wind turbines release large quantities of highly toxic microplastics into the environment due to wear and tear.
6. Will cause years of traffic chaos as giant blades, towers, concrete etc transported across Skye.
7. Massive visual and noise impact for those who live near the new farms and devalue property.
8. Red airplane warning lights on the top of 200m high turbines will destroy Skye's dark skies.
9. Unquantifiable damage to tourist industry
10. Skye becoming characterised as an area of Wind Farm development...leading potentially to many more in years to come.
11. Wind Farm developers owned by overseas companies so profits do not even stay in the UK/ Scotland.
12. Community benefit payments from the developers are tiny - £5000 per MW - where figures show community owned turbines can return £170,000 per MW (and sometimes much more).
13. Community “Consultation” events are a box ticking exercise. Poorly advertised and attended.

Suggest we ask for:

1. A freeze on any further large scale privately owned wind farms in the region, beyond those already having planning consent.
2. A funded programme of support and loans to enable communities to build and own their own small scale wind farms which would return far more income for local people and projects.
3. Proposals for repowering at Edinbane and Ben Aketil should be limited to replacing existing turbines at end of life with the same number and the same size. Email Addresses: