



Batsworthy Windfarm – Compliance with Noise Related Planning Conditions

Planning application received from RWE NPower Renewables by North Devon Council (NDC).	November 2006
NDC Planning Committee refused application.	June 2011
RWE appealed decision, resulting in Planning Inquiry.	June / July 2012
Note - RWE appointed Hoare Lea Acoustics (HLA) as their acoustic consultants, whilst NDC continue to use Robert Davis Associates (RDA).	
Planning Inspector granted the application with noise related planning conditions, requiring : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noise Immissions from the site not to exceed specific levels (as identified in the planning permission) at specific locations - Development not to take place until a scheme to monitor noise (in order to assess associated compliance, at 3 locations) has been submitted to and agreed in writing by NDC (condition 37) 	October 2012
Scheme for monitoring noise compliance agreed by NDC and associated planning condition (37) discharged by NDC.	January 2015
First export date of electricity from site.	(7 th) April 2016
Operator commence noise compliance monitoring at a total of 6 properties – (as opposed to the 3 required by the planning permission). NDC commission RDA check monitoring exercise.	May 2016

Community Meeting – during which a number of representations were received by NDC and responded to in the days / weeks following the meeting.	(30 th) June 2016
Request to extend noise monitoring exercise beyond the initial 6 months submitted by Operator – as insufficient data had been gathered to make a robust assessment of compliance - subsequently approved by NDC.	October 2016
Ownership of site changed - from RWE NPower Renewables to Blackrock Investment Management Blackrock sub contract the management of the site out to REG Power Management (REG) (HLA remain the chosen acoustic consultant)	October 2016
Request submitted by Operator to cease noise monitoring exercise and remove equipment - as they believe sufficient data been gathered to make an assessment of compliance. Following advice having been received from RDA, the request was initially refused but subsequently allowed by NDC in February 2017 following a further period of monitoring - subject to the caveat that noise monitoring equipment would be reinstalled by Operator at NDC's request. Operator agreed to this caveat.	December 2016
Results of noise monitoring exercise submitted to NDC - Report 2017/03/29.	March 2017
Report 2017/03/29 reviewed by NDC and RDA. RDA made a number of recommendations for further analytical work to be undertaken on the data gathered, by Operator.	May 2017
In line with RDA recommendations, NDC asked Operator to undertake additional analytical work.	May 2017

"Supplementary Analysis Report" submitted to NDC by Operator.	June 2017
"Supplementary Analysis Report" reviewed by RDA.	July 2017
In line with RDA recommendations, NDC asked Operator to re-install noise monitoring equipment at 3 of the monitoring locations - as insufficient data had been gathered at these locations to enable a robust assessment of compliance to be made in accordance with the conditions of the agreed method statement. <i>(Note – Operator undertakes mitigation works to address exceedance at a property where they reported an exceedance – "Birchwood House")</i>	July 2017
Community Meeting – during which a number of representations were received by NDC and responded to in the days / weeks following the meeting.	October 2017
Discussions between NDC / RDA / Operator / HLA – as Operator does not believe the additional monitoring requested by NDC to be necessary.	November – December 2017
Meeting between NDC and senior representatives from Operator / Blackrock.	January 2018
Confirmation received from Operator that they would undertake the requested additional monitoring, requesting that NDC assist them in seeking to obtain permission from the 3 relevant property owners that they would allow Operator to install noise monitoring equipment on their property.	February 2018
Community Meeting – during which a number of representations were received by NDC and responded to in the days / weeks following the meeting.	February 2018
Communication sent to 3 relevant property owners (The Ridge, All Angels, Birchwood House) in relation to seeking	(15 th) March 2018

their permission for Operator to re-install noise monitoring equipment on their property – with a deadline of 14 days for a response.	
Communication received from The Ridge that they would allow the additional noise monitoring equipment to be reinstalled on their property.	(20 th) March 2018
Communication received from All Angels that they would allow the additional noise monitoring equipment to be reinstalled on their property - subject to a number of requests they would like to make to the Operator.	(26 th) March 2018
Communication received from Birchwood House that they do not give permission for Operator to reinstall noise monitoring equipment on their property.	(24 th) March 2018
Communication sent to property Birchwood House asking them to reconsider allowing monitoring from their property.	(28 th) March 2018
Communication received from Birchwood House re-confirming that they do not give permission for Operator to reinstall noise monitoring equipment on their property.	May 2018
Requests forwarded to Operator by NDC on behalf of owner of property #2 - communication subsequently received from Operator that they would not be heeding these specific requests.	June 2018
Permission obtained from property owner #2 to allow the additional noise monitoring equipment to be reinstalled on their property.	September 2018
Scope of noise monitoring submitted to NDC and subsequently agreed.	October / November 2018
Noise monitoring commenced at properties where permission has been obtained.	December 2018
NDC commission “check monitoring” exercise at The Ridge	January 2019

and All Angels.	
"Surrogate" 3 rd property identified by NDC to Birchwood House.	January 2019
Operator refuse to commence monitoring at surrogate property.	January 2019
NDC commission own monitoring exercise at surrogate 3 rd property – in order to quantify effects of mitigation measures at Birchwood House.	February 2019