

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 10 April 2025 11:37:49

Application Reference No. : SMD/2025/0148

Site Address: Slate House Farm Morridge Top Road Onecote Staffordshire ST13 7SF Leek

Comments by: Colin AgarLady Meadows Farm

From:

Lady Meadows Farm
Lady Meadows Lane
Bradnop
Leek
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ST13 7EZ

Submission: Objection

Comments: Slate House Farm : SMD/2025/0148

I am writing to formally request that a comprehensive environmental impact analysis be conducted for the planning application concerning the proposed wind turbine project. This request is pursuant to the requirements set forth in the UK Planning Policy Framework and other relevant legislation.

Wind turbines, while advantageous for renewable energy production, can have significant repercussions on local wildlife, water resources, noise levels, and the visual landscape. An environmental impact analysis will provide a thorough evaluation of these factors, ensuring the project is in compliance with all legal and ecological standards.

As stipulated in the UK Planning Policy Framework, Any development likely to have significant environmental effects must be subject to an environmental impact assessment. This process is vital for maintaining the balance between development and conservation, and for safeguarding the interests and health of the local community.

In particular there are a number of relevant impacts as set out in the Town and Country planning (environmental impact assessment) regulations 2017 screening matrix:

8. POPULATION AND HUMAN HEALTH

The proposed site is in an area which is in a band of elevated radon, potentially greater than 30%. There may be risks caused by the considerable construction work;

10. BIODIVERSITY (SPECIES AND HABITATS)

- o There will be the very obvious disturbance to the Coombes Valley Site of Special Scientific Interest which houses an RSPB Nature Reserve
- o The area has been identified by natural England as a habitat for the priority species of Curlew, lapwing Snipe and Willowtit;
- o The disturbance impact of erecting turbines is likely to be significant for nesting birds. In addition studies suggests that up to 100,000 birds are killed by wind turbines every year.

11. LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL

- o Given the greatly increased height of the proposed replacement turbines, some 119m high (by way of context the Nicholson Monument is 27m tall), they will be visible for miles around and will be seen from the town of Leek. Leek has a considerable population of over 20,000 people. This is in addition to the residents of villages and hamlets such as Bradnop and Onecote in the immediate vicinity. It will also be a visual distraction for visitors to the Peak National Park, an area of outstanding natural beauty about a kilometre away.

Moreover this development is one of three turbine applications (one a large wind farm) within a relatively small area and there is likely to be a cumulative impact on the environment. They should therefore be viewed collectively and include SMD\2025\0149 and SMD\2025\0139.

Furthermore, according to the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, the applicant must provide an environmental statement setting out the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment. Conducting a full environmental impact analysis will ensure that all aspects of the project are meticulously considered and that any potential adverse impacts are mitigated.

Therefore, I strongly urge the council to require the full environmental impact analysis for this planning application. Doing so will uphold the principles of sustainable development and ensure that the project proceeds in an environmentally responsible manner. I trust that the council will take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with relevant planning legislation.

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