

**Outline Statement of Case in respect of proposed construction of 18 wind turbines, 125 metres high, at Middlemoor, Alnwick**

**By C J Bosanquet, Estate Office, Rock, Alnwick, NE66 2TQ**

I wish to make two principal objections:

**1. Landscape**

The turbines will have an extremely detrimental effect on the natural environment of this part of Northumberland, as they will be visible from up to 25 miles around, notably from the coast. They will materially transform the landscape for the worse. Their height is enormous, and they will permanently blight the Northumbrian countryside. This may have an adverse impact on tourism in the area. The unimpeded wide views of the Northumbrian moors are a priceless asset which should not be sacrificed for power generation.

**2. Hydrology**

The main water supply to the Rock Estate is the spring at Kitty Carter (Grid Reference NU 183212), from where it is pumped to a tower at Rock Midstead. This is fed by underground aquifers from the North Charlton moors where the turbines would be sited. Each one will have a concrete base weighing several hundred tonnes which could seriously affect the aquifers. If this happened the effect on the water supply could be very serious.

A secondary objection is the following:

**3. Road safety:** The windfarm would increase the risk of accidents on the already dangerous A1 trunk road which passes close to it. This is two-lane (apart from the short stretch of dual carriageway at Brownieside), and there are two aspects which concern me:

(a) During construction there will be a large number of heavy vehicle movements which will cause traffic hold-ups.

(b) When the project has been completed the close presence of wind turbines is likely to distract drivers and may cause accidents, particularly at junctions such as Charlton Mires (B6347).