

THE CHILLINGHAM WILD CATTLE

Outline response to npower's proposal to construct 18 turbines at Middlemoor.

There are a number of proposals to erect approximately 400 turbines in Northumberland. The Middlemoor development is one of them. If they were to be built the landscape of Northumberland would be degraded.

THE CATTLE AND CHILLINGHAM PARK

The herd of wild cattle have existed at Chillingham for hundreds of years. They are unique in the world. They are not farmed but roam freely in the park at Chillingham. They are classified as wild animals.

Visitors are taken into the park by a warden to view the cattle. The trustees have been persuaded by the government to create a footpath in the woods adjacent to the cattle; this path will be available to the public free of charge.

The cattle and park are the responsibility of the Chillingham Wild Cattle Association, a registered charity (no. 221071). It was incorporated in 1939.

OBJECTIONS

The trustees are aware of the need to save energy and of the need to develop renewable forms of power. They expect to provide wood for biomass power stations in the future.

The unique selling point of Northumberland is its unspoiled landscape. This is particularly the case in the north of the county.

The views from the footpaths at Chillingham are spectacular. North one can see to the Eildon Hills and beyond into the Scottish borders. To the east one sees the coast with Holy Island, the Farne Islands and down to Dunstanburgh. South to Rothbury Forest and west to the Cheviot Hills. If 125 metre industrial structures in the form of

wind turbines are built at Middlemoor they will dominate the landscape and spoil the main attraction of Northumberland.

Much effort has made to increase tourism in Northumberland. At present potential visitor attractions are awaiting the outcome of the planning process before deciding to go ahead with further development.

If the turbines are built in the numbers proposed in Northumberland it is likely that many of the holiday homes will have 125 metre structures dominating their views. It is feared that visitor numbers will fall. This will have an adverse effect on employment and prosperity in the area.

At the public Inquiry The Chillingham Wild Cattle Association will willingly escort as many people as necessary to go onto the footpath to see the potential damage that could be done by the Middlemoor development.

Chris Leyland (Park Manager)