

Wrong place to site wind farm

9:14am Tuesday 30th October 2012 in [Letters to the Editor](#)



WE are concerned that residents quoted in your article “Blowing hot and cold over wind farms” (Thursday, October 25) appear to believe the proposed [Navitus Bay Wind Farm](#) is being promoted by, or has the backing of, Bournemouth Council.

Neither assumption could be further from the truth.

Whilst the Council fully acknowledges the need for more sustainable energy, we completely agree with the sentiments of David Lloyd from Challenge Navitus. This is the wrong place for a wind farm.

As a statutory consultee, the Council is obliged by the government to work with Eneco, but despite our best efforts they have failed to provide the information that we need to give an informed response to their proposals.

They have still not even provided some basic information, such as the height and number of the wind turbines or an accurate photomontage of what the wind farm will look like from the clifftop on a clear day.

They are treating the local community with contempt if they believe that we do not need to see these fundamental details before judging the impact of their proposals.

We have put pressure on Eneco to locate the wind farm out of sight of the coast because, not only will its visibility impact on the enjoyment of the natural environment by local residents, but we also have robust data that clearly indicates a negative impact on tourism should a wind farm be visible from the resort.

That in short, potentially means less income and less jobs in Bournemouth’s tourism industry. Indeed, Eneco were extremely careful to site their other offshore wind farm, off the coast of Holland where they are based, out of sight of the coast so as not to impact on Dutch residents and tourists. It is not unreasonable to expect the same approach here.

From the very start we have insisted that the quality and amount of information in the public domain should be vastly improved, so that people can see for themselves the visual impact that the wind farm would have from Bournemouth’s beaches and clifftops. If Eneco will not do it, residents will continue to wonder what they have to hide.

I can assure Bournemouth residents that the Council will continue to do everything possible to robustly represent their views to Eneco. Any resident who wishes to express an opinion is requested to contact their local Councillor.

Their details can be found on the Council’s website bournemouth.gov.uk, so that the Council and Bournemouth’s MPs can continue to make representations to Eneco on their behalf.

CLLR JOHN BEESLEY, Leader of Bournemouth Borough Council

Stop this potential blight of turbines

9:16am Tuesday 30th October 2012 in [Letters to the Editor](#)



A screenshot from Challenge Navitus' video animation of how the wind farm might look

I WAS pleased to see the Echo's two-page coverage of the immensely important local issue of the Navitus Bay Wind Farm and its help in raising public awareness.

Whilst however it talks about the [arguments for](#) and [against](#), those against are clearly set out but there is only one argument in favour – local jobs.

Normally, these are exaggerated by wind companies, so a breakdown should be provided. Also, they do not refer to the expected loss of real local jobs in tourism.

Two key facts: two million birds migrate annually through the site and the likely turbine height at 673 feet is about 1.5 times that of the Isles of Wight and Purbeck.

Apart from the work of CN, coastal residents' associations are getting together to fight the plan, which amounts to a large scale industrial development in a place of great beauty.

There has also been a recent successful meeting of council leaders and MPs to work out an opposition strategy. Let us hope they manage to stop this potential blight.

WA HOODLESS, Harland Road, Bournemouth

Join hands in demo against wind farm proposal

9:17am Tuesday 30th October 2012 in [Letters to the Editor](#)

WITH regard to the Echo's article ('Blowing Hot and Cold over Wind Farms', Daily Echo, October 25) you, the public, will have an opportunity to show your opposition to the proposed location of the Navitus Bay Wind Farm in the first peaceful public demonstration to take place, on [Swanage](#) seafront, on January 13 2013 at 11am when those opposed to this damaging location will join hands in protest.

It is anticipated the event will have media coverage.

Please feel free to contact me, charlie@charliesphotos.co.uk

CHARLIE SANDERSON, Swanage