

Health and Social Care Committee

HSC(4)-12-12 paper 6

Correspondence from the Petitions Committee: Petition P-04-329 control of noise from wind turbines

Attached as an annex to this paper, please find attached correspondence from the Petitions Committee regarding Petition P-04-329 control of noise from wind turbines.

Committee Service

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau Petitions Committee

Mark Drakeford AM
Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-04-329

19 March 2012

Petition: P-04-329 control of noise from wind turbines

At its meeting on 28 February, the Petitions Committee gave further consideration to a petition calling for the control of noise from wind turbines. At the meeting in Carmarthen, members of the public were invited to speak and share their experiences with the Committee. A transcript of that meeting is enclosed, for information.

The Committee also visited two wind farms the day before the meeting, in order to meet with wind turbine operators and see the turbines first hand.

Wind farm operators Statkraft told the Committee that although they had initially had issues with the wind turbines located in Atwallis, all turbines were now operating within the ETSU-R-97 guidelines for maximum noise emissions.

However, residents living close to the wind turbines told the Committee that the noise from the wind turbines is still causing them significant problems and they have asked that the ETSU-R-97 guidelines be reviewed or replaced.

As you will see from the transcript enclosed, the noise nuisance has in some cases affected residents' quality of life and health. The Petitions Committee will be following up petitioners concerns regarding the way complaints were dealt with by Statkraft, but the issue of noise emissions that are within the ETSU-R-97 guidelines and yet problematic for residents is on-going.

I will be writing to the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, and the Minister for Health and Social Services to make them aware of these concerns, but the Committee also wanted to make you aware of the issue for your future reference.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Powell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'W' and a distinct 'P'.

William Powell
Committee Chair

Enc: 28 February Petitions Committee transcript

<http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=1310>