

Communities Against
Reagill & Sleagill Turbines

Alert

**Pure Renewable Energies
becomes
Pure Renewable Energy**

No 5 – Autumn 2010

carst AGM

Monday 1st November at 7.30pm
Sleagill Methodist Chapel

Mike Hall

(Fells Chairman & veteran of many Public Enquiries)

**Update on Cumbria
Windfarm Developments
Presentation and Slide Show**

Highlighting many issues relevant to us all
Please come along to hear what's happening, voice your opinions
and elect your committee

Developer Changed

The developers originally concerned with the Reagill wind farm, Pure Renewable Energies Ltd in Co. Durham (PRE) have now reassigned their licence for the development to a new company, Pure Renewable Energy Ltd. In Nottingham, this is managed by one of PRE's former employees (note the almost identical company names!)

What does this mean?

Does PRE (the original one) now feel that the Reagill wind farm is not viable? Will the new company be submitting a planning application soon? We don't know! The CARST committee is watching developments carefully and will keep you informed as we gather more information on this new company (www.purenrenewenergy.co.uk)



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Cumbria Update

Planning Inspector Rejects Berrier Hill Windfarm Appeal

Following the Public Inquiry (Sept. 2009 – Feb. 2010), it was confirmed in June 2010 that the planning application for 9 wind turbines has been **rejected**. The main reasons for dismissing the appeal were:

- The adverse effect of the development on the character and appearance of the surrounding area, taking account of its proximity to the Lake District National Park.
- The area in which the appeal site lies cannot be considered in isolation from the Northern Fells to the west, and the creation of a new landscape sub-type would radically alter the landscape character of virtually the whole of the sub-type.
- The alteration resulting from the installation of the proposed wind farm would have a substantial impact on the character of the landscape.
- The development would have a variety of effects in terms of visual impact, which would be most harmful in the middle distance.
- In particular from the A66 near Highgate Farm, the scheme would severely compromise the appearance and role of the foothills. It would have an adverse visual impact on the scene, resulting in significant harm.
- The scheme would severely mar the quality of the views towards Blencathra and its associated fells.
- The location chosen for the scheme, its design and scale would seriously harm the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

Grise – near to Skelton Mast

The application was for 9 wind turbines. At the Public Inquiry in June 2010 the appeal was rejected, thus protecting the landscape and the surrounding area.

BT Withdraws Planning application at Threaplands, near Bothel

BT says (September 2010): “*After thorough environmental and technical assessments of the site at Threapland Lees and valuable feedback from the local community we have decided to withdraw our planning application at this time*”. The application was for four 410 ft turbines close to the existing Wharrels Hill site (8 turbines). Ironically even BT’s own paid advisors, prior to the application, described the visual impact on Threapland and the surrounding area as “*emphasising the feeling of enclosure ... radically changing the character of the landscape through over dominance*”. They go on to say the impact would be “*severe*” with the visual effect of a “*maximum, direct, long-term, adverse impact*”.

Armistead – to the east of M6 Junction 36/7 (southbound)

The planning application was upheld at the Public Inquiry, but FELLs (Friends of Eden, Lakeland and Lunesdale Scenery), the lead player in the Countryside Protection Consortium of South Lakes (CPCSL) has applied for leave to appeal to the High Court on the decision, and so it is still pending. Watch this space!

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Mike Hall from FELLs will be attending the carst AGM to present an update on Wind Farm developments in Cumbria and the latest Government policy. Everyone welcome from 7.30 onwards.

CARST was established in June 2009 by the local parishes
to oppose the proposed development.
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