



14/02/2023

Ref: Rotaheat
experimental Turbine

Dear Mr Thompson,

I understand that you have secured funding from Westminster Government and have acquired a parcel of land from Welsh Government to site an experimental (Axial blade) Wind to Heat turbine within the industrial area of Neath Port Talbot.

We understand that the project is also time sensitive or the grant monies will be lost. This project seems like a great idea with great aims and should boost the profile of Neath port talbot / Baglan area being at the forefront of developing such technology in an area with traditionally poor air quality etc, and this technology once developed could reduce reliance on fossil fuels to produce heat for domestic dwellings.

We have also seen that your turbine siting is as environmentally sensitive as it can be and is 51 metres away from the hedge to the Southwest.

1. The building to the north is slightly closer than this and we propose that this building be subject to a bat survey from May 1st onward (bat season is 1st May to September 30th inclusive).

We also propose the following monitoring to ensure that any possible harm to bats and birds is minimised:

2. A local Records Centre Protected Species
3. A walked transect of the site in July and September during low winds and warm temperatures.
4. A passive recorder set up on site in both June and July to record bat activity, even though bat activity has been shown to not correlate with bat mortality, it will reveal bat use of the site and may reveal the species most sensitive to wind turbines IE those that fly higher.
5. Should the project prove successful and for the future success of the scheme - Late summer and early autumn with low wind speeds have shown greatest mortality in America and by increasing the "cut in" speed of the device has also been shown to reduce mortality (by about 30%) in other studies. There are also ultrasound deterrent devices in use (such as those developed by NRG Systems) which can be affixed to the main mast.



6. We will of course accommodate any proportional and reasonable monitoring request/s from the local authority and yourselves to further ensure that any mortalities (if any) are minimised.

It sounds like an exciting project and I understand both 1st Minister Mark Drakeford and The Welsh Minister for Climate Change have been impressed by the device and would want to see it succeed to meet Welsh commitments to Climate Change.

Sincerely,



Glyn BSc (Hons), MSc, CBiol, MRSB Natural Resources Wales Bat Licence number S091520-1

Natural England Bat Licence Number:2016-22603-CLS-CLS