

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm

Consultation Report

Prepared for Naturalis Energy Developments

By Quatro Public Relations

Summer 2023

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1. Introduction

In 2020, Quatro was appointed to provide stakeholder engagement and public consultation support to Naturalis Energy Developments, the joint venture between Renantis (formerly Falck Renewables) and REG Windpower, on their proposal for Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm near Tonmawr, Neath Port Talbot.

We have been required to undertake a comprehensive programme of consultation to comply with, and indeed exceed, the pre-application engagement requirements set out as part of the Development of National Significance (DNS) planning process. As such, this Consultation Report will be submitted to accompany the final application.

Following the notification stage and prior to submitting a DNS application to the Welsh Government, the proposed application must be publicised and consulted on for a period of at least six weeks. Detailed guidance on the requirements during this period is set out in the Welsh Government's Developments of National Significance: Procedural Guidance, 2016.

In relation to this proposal, the Applicant extended the formal Pre-Application Consultation process to over eight weeks, from 5th December 2022 to 1st February 2023, in order to account for the Christmas period.

This Consultation Report sets out the community consultation activities undertaken during the Pre-Application Consultation process, as well as the feedback received. Engagement with statutory and special consultees has been set out separately in a report by the project's planning consultant.

2. Summary of Activities

2.1 Identifying the Consultation Zone

Prior to engaging local communities, a consultation zone was set up which consists of the council ward of Cimla & Pelenna in addition to the streets in Neath along the proposed access route (Appendix 1). The zone, which was determined to encompass the communities most local to the site, contained 2,675 addresses (both residential and business) to which all materials have been posted via Royal Mail.

2.2 Identifying Key Stakeholders

In addition to residents and local businesses, a list of individuals and community groups was identified as being appropriate to consult. This included the local Member of the Senedd, the local Member of Parliament, the ward councillors at Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, the ward councillors for the access route, and representatives on the local community councils.

Briefings were held with key stakeholders throughout the consultation period in order to keep them updated as the proposal progressed and gain an understanding of their views on the plans.

Naturalis Energy Developments attempted to establish contact with the local community council in an email to the clerk (Appendix 2) on 8th July 2022, shortly after receiving and reviewing the scoping response from PEDW and the week prior to the first round of consultation events, but no response was received to the offer of setting up an early-stage briefing prior to the exhibition.

Members of the community council nevertheless attended the exhibitions and were met with on Monday 3rd October 2022 and Thursday 19th January 2023 to discuss the proposal.

2.3 Channels of Communication

In order to disseminate information and allow residents and stakeholders to get in touch, we initially set up:

- A project website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk (Appendix 3);
- An email account at hello@mfdwindfarm.co.uk;
- A community hotline number at **0330 363 6229**

All materials were translated into Welsh to account for the region's bilingual nature, including the website, to which all key consultation materials were uploaded [here](#).

2.4 Social Media

Social media accounts were set up on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Mynydd-Fforch-Dwm-Wind-Farm-111247444537357>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/MFDWind>). These accounts were solely used for advertising purposes and to generate traffic to the project website.

Facebook advertising had a potential reach of 27,100 users within a 4km radius, which encompassed the site and the properties along the proposed access route, and so was found to be a useful method of disseminating information to a wider area.

2.5 Informal Consultation

A round of informal consultation for the project was held in July 2022, consisting of three events across two days.

The events were advertised (Appendix 4) in the South Wales Evening Post, which has an average daily circulation of 7,223, on three separate days. The same advertisement was also shared by ward councillors on several local social media groups in areas relevant to those impacted by the installation or transport route.

Community newsletters (Appendix 5) that provided basic information on the proposal and invited residents to the events were sent via 1st Class Royal Mail to the 2,675 residential and business addresses in the consultation zone. Advertising (Appendix 6) was also carried out via Facebook, which was shown on-screen to a total of 21,921 unique users.

Attendees were encouraged to provide their views by completing a feedback form (Appendix 7), the purpose of which was to gain a general understanding of residents' views on onshore wind energy, the principle of the project, and thoughts on how the community benefit could take shape. A copy of this was enclosed with the community newsletter to be completed and submitted by post using a provided Freepost envelope. Alternatively, the feedback form could be completed on the project website or at the consultation events.

Virtual Village Hall

A Virtual Village Hall was held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 from 19:00 to 20:00. This was an opportunity for the project team to present the proposals and allow residents to ask questions directly of the team.

This was considered to be an innovative approach that allowed the project team to directly engage with and present to residents in place of face-to-face consultation.

The event was attended by two members of the public.

An animation, which was also made available for viewing on the project website, was played before the floor was opened to questions from the public. A poll asked attendees the same questions that were on the feedback form, although this did not receive any responses from the attendees.

Public Exhibition Events

A Public Exhibition was held in Neath Little Theatre on Thursday 14th July 2022 from 10:00 to 14:00. This provided an opportunity for residents to view the proposal and ask questions directly of the project team in person. The first Public Exhibition event was attended by 12 members of the public.

A second Public Exhibition was held at Tonmawr RFC on Thursday 14th July 2022 from 16:00 to 20:00. The second Public Exhibition event was attended by 36 members of the public.

Banners with more detailed project information and images were displayed at both events (Appendix 8), and subsequently uploaded to the project website for anyone to view at their own leisure.

2.6 Formal Consultation

As part of the Pre-Application Consultation process, a round of formal consultation for the project was held in December 2022 / January 2023, following updates to the proposal as a result of the informal round of consultation.

This originally consisted of three events across two days in December 2022, although following feedback from local stakeholders the Applicant held an additional event in January 2023.

Ultimately, this period of consultation was run from 5th December 2022 until 23rd January 2023, exceeding the six-week period required by the DNS process.

The events were advertised in the South Wales Evening Post (Appendix 9) on three separate days, as well as being shared by ward councillors on several local social media groups in areas relevant to those impacted by the installation or transport route.

Leaflets (Appendix 10) that provided basic information on the proposal and invited residents to the December 2022 events were sent via 1st Class Royal Mail to the 2,675 residential and business addresses in the consultation zone. As the January 2023 event was organised after this, letters (Appendix 11) were hand-delivered to local residents inviting them to attend the additional session.

Advertising (Appendix 12) was also carried out via Facebook, which was shown on-screen to a total of 32,641 unique users over the consultation period (20,573 in relation to the December events, and 12,068 in relation to January event).

Attendees were encouraged to provide their views by completing an updated feedback form (Appendix 13), the purpose of which was to gain a general understanding of residents' views on onshore wind energy, the principle of the project and whether the updated proposal was an improvement on the original, and further thoughts on how the community benefit could take shape.

In order to encourage residents to learn more about the updated proposal before submitting feedback, the physical feedback form was not issued with the leaflet. It was instead provided to attendees of the consultation events or could be completed on the project website where the information was also made available.

The period for the reception of feedback was extended beyond the 23rd January 2023 end date, until 1st February 2023, so as to allow for the submission of postal feedback, thus extending the statutory process to a total of over eight weeks.

Virtual Village Hall

A Virtual Village Hall was held on Wednesday 14th December 2022 from 19:00 to 20:00. This was an opportunity for the project team to present the proposals and allow residents to ask questions directly of the team. The event was attended by 35 members of the public.

The animation used in the previous round of consultation was updated to reflect the changes made to the proposal. This was then uploaded to the website and again was played during the Virtual Village Hall before the floor was opened to questions from the public. A poll asked attendees the same questions that were on the feedback form, the results of which have been incorporated in the statistics of Section 3 of this report.

Public Exhibition Events

A Public Exhibition was held in Neath Little Theatre on Thursday 15th December 2022 from 10:00 to 14:00. This provided an opportunity for residents to view the updated proposal and ask questions directly of the project team in person. The first Public Exhibition event was attended by approximately 20 members of the public.

A second Public Exhibition was held at Tonmawr RFC on Thursday 15th December 2022 from 16:00 to 20:00. The second Public Exhibition event was attended by approximately 64 members of the public.

Whilst the Applicant attempted to record the number of unique attendees during the second round of events, the exact number cannot be guaranteed as some members of the public attended both sessions despite the same information being displayed at both.

One local resident who attended both sessions attempted to register themselves under different names in order to duplicate their objections.

The banners and images used in the first stage of consultation were updated with more detailed information and were displayed at both events (Appendix 14), and subsequently uploaded to the project website for anyone to view at their own leisure.

Additional Public Exhibition Event

Following feedback from local stakeholders, an additional public exhibition event was held on Wednesday 18th January 2023 from 16:00 to 20:00 in Tonmawr RFC. The layout of this event was amended to make it easier for members of the public to speak to relevant consultants regarding specific topic areas, with each consultant sat at a different table and signposted with their area of expertise.

However, a group of objectors instead organised for its members to attend the event en masse at 18:00 to speak to the Project Manager whilst recording his responses, with only a few talking to the consultants.

Unfortunately, the objector group also told its members and other residents not to use the project feedback forms, instead having one of its members hand out pre-written standardised letters of objection at the entrance to the venue. 11 of these standardised letters were ultimately received.

Members of the objector group had attempted to read through the registration data during the event in December, although they were prevented from doing this so no personal data was ultimately obtained by them.

They were nonetheless considered to be a GDPR risk and so attendees were not asked to register at the additional event. However, members of the public were counted as they entered the venue, with a total of 68 attendees.

3. Feedback

3.1 Informal Quantitative Feedback Summary

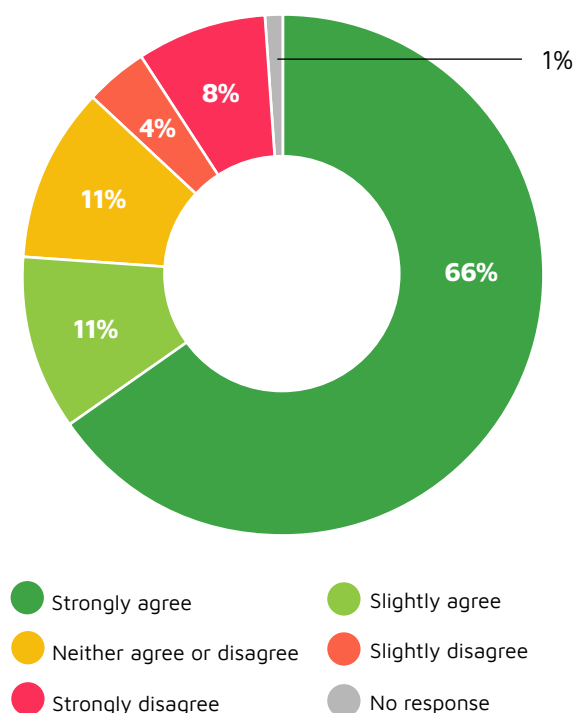
In total, 103 feedback forms were received following the first round of consultation. 70 of these were returned by post, 27 were submitted online, and a further six were filled in and returned at the Public Exhibitions.

Of the 103 feedback forms, 82 were from within Cimla and Pelenna ward, nine were from the wider Neath Port Talbot County Borough, one was from outside the County Borough, and 11 did not include an address.

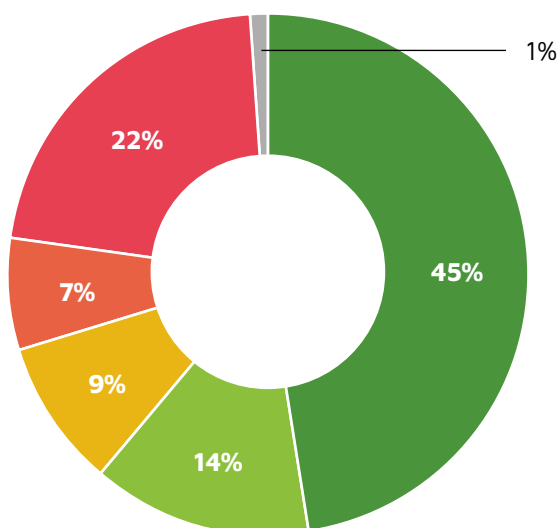
As can be seen from the results, the vast majority of respondents agreed that Wales needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources, and that onshore wind farms in pre-assessed areas are a good way to do this. Likely as a result of this, over half of respondents were supportive of the principle of the proposal.

The full results of the multiple-choice questions on the form can be found below.

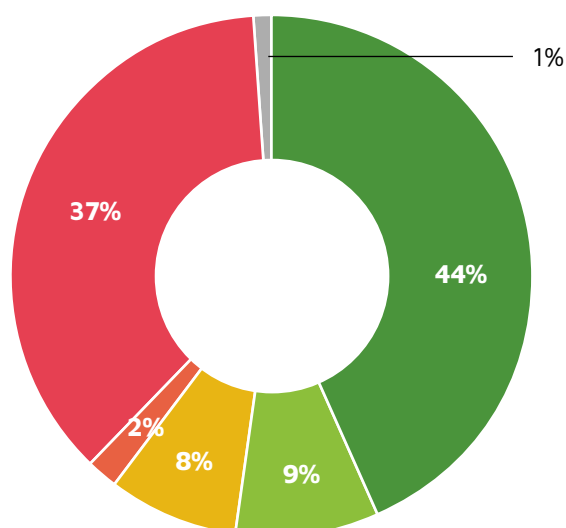
1. Wales needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources



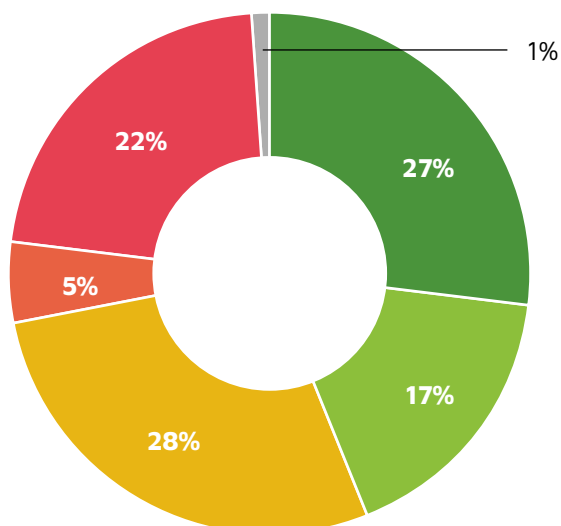
2. Onshore wind farms in pre-assessed areas are a good way to generate renewable energy



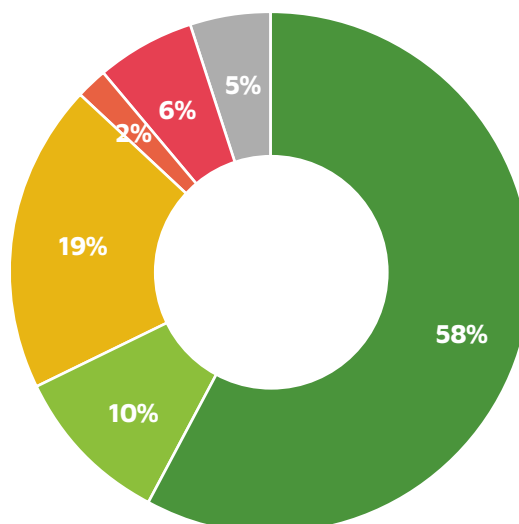
3. I support the principle of building a wind farm at Mynydd Fforch-Dwm



4. Wherever possible, new wind farms should be located next to existing wind farms



5. Local people should have the opportunity to share part of the ownership of Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm, so that the wealth generated by renewable energy is shared with local people



● Strongly agree
 ● Slightly agree
 ● Neither agree or disagree
 ● Slightly disagree
 ● Strongly disagree
 ● No response

3.2 Informal Qualitative Feedback

Residents were asked to give their further thoughts: "Please tell us your ideas for how Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm's Community Investment Package could be used to support local people and the community."

Suggestions for how the Sustainable Community Investment Package could be set up and allocated covered areas such as environmental initiatives, lowering energy bills, supporting businesses, and providing youth training.

The full set of responses, as they were written, can be found below.

“

"Not come here so that the community doesn't have an eyesore and a unrealistic energy source obstructing our beautiful views and harming our wildlife."

“

"By not putting wind farms over the village. Lowering the appeal for others to buy houses in the village. The village is not here to be bought."

“

"It would support local people and local tourism by not being built here. In order to bring your turbines to our small rural location you will need to come through the village. On roads that are not built for it and where small children play. The plenna/afan valley is well known across the UK and the world for having beautiful views and tranquil walks. You placing 200m turbines ruins this. Therefore ruining the local tourism and creating poor living conditions for residents, who will have to see and hear them 24/7. If residents wanted to look at huge metal structures they'd live in cities."

“

"Individual homes in tonmawr should be compensated for these monstrosities. trying to bribe people with so called community funding.its a load of crap. take your wind farm and shove them where the wind dont blow."

“

"I am shocked after seeing on Facebook about the meeting. I have lived here for over 12 years and have had no information posted through my door to tell me about your proposal!

My house is directly in line with the 3rd wind turbine you are planning to put up - I would have expected at least a letter or somebody to come to Johns Terrace and speak to everybody or even have given us notice there was a meeting!

I work at [REDACTED] where the Pen y Coedd wind farm is. The wind turbines there are never all working so would it not be a better idea to get that wind farm with all of the turbines already installed working? Surely if they were working this would generate more than the ones you intend to build and you would not have to ruin the landscape.

I am also extremely concerned after being up to the wind turbines at Pen y Coed about the noise that is created by the wind turbines.

There is no mention about using your grant funding to install solar panels to Tonmawr residents which would help lower our energy bills. It seems like they are being put here and will only benefit people who do not live in the village.

Can you let me know what terms of compensation you will be offering home owners of Johns Terrace and Blaenavon Terrace. This will seriously impact on the house prices up here and result in people not wanting to move up here. All of the villagers in Tonmawr were told the land had been sold to a company to protect forestry and that a new area with walkways would be created for the public to use. Looking at all of this it seems that was just lies so that you could get this far into planning without any residents knowing.

Please can you send me all of the information that was given to people who attended your meeting at the rugby club I also request that any further meetings or information you will email me or send me copies so I can keep up to date with it. You need to remember that a lot of the residents in Johns Terrace and Blaenavon Terrace are elderly who do not use the internet. You as a company have a responsibility to ensure that all residents of Tonmawr are informed by post and not just rely on them happening upon it the day after the meeting."

“

"No amount of money and investment promises would make me consider voting for the utter abomination that is being proposed here! Absolutely unreal. It should never have been considered an appropriate site to situate the turbines. The projection of how the village would look should alone deem this a nonstarter, this should not even be up for debate.

I am also not a "NIMBY", I am open to realistic, worthwhile options regarding renewable energy.

My opinion on this ridiculous proposal for Tonmawr would remain the same if I was not living in the village."

“

"I do not want windmills directly behind my house."

“

“The way this questionnaire is worded is shockingly poor and quite frankly amateurish/childlike. The options manipulate you into answering “agree” on certain questions that have no actual bearing/relevance to the proposed wind farm. Only question 3 has a bearing on this scheme. For example question 1&5 I agree with but I feel obliged to put “strongly disagree” as I believe you will use any agreement to my answers in your consideration for this scheme which wouldn’t be a true reflection as I strongly disagree with it in all aspects. Furthermore there is no box to voice any further concerns, hence why I’m writing my views in here. Whilst I support the production of renewable energy constructing 200m high turbines on an area approximately 275m above sea level seems absurd and would be a serious blight on the local landscape.”

“

“Can you confirm a rumour that the turbines will be transported through Neath, in particular Cimla Road and some front gardens will be affected?”

“

“Shove the money where the sun doesn’t shine!!!

The impact on a place of natural beauty, risk to health and wellbeing are far out weighed by the local public taking this menial cash bribe.”

“

“In addition to wind turbines, I think each and every building should have solar panels on the roof!! Also, people should replace gas with electric!!”

“

“I was invited to the public exhibition at Tonmawr RFC on July 14th 4pm-8pm. I arrived at 6pm but no sign of anybody. The gates were locked. What happened? If cancelled, why did you not put a notice at entrance? Is this a sign of a poor organisation?”

“

“Swings, slides, etc. for upper village in old tennis court. Keeping cycle paths clear. Money for TRFC, who are doing a grand job for the village.”

“

"Q5 is a double edge sword question. If, and I say again if the wind farm goes ahead as planned then the local residents should definitely be compensated for having these monstrous things on their doorstep.

By selecting strongly agree it sort of implies I am in favour of the project.... which I am not.

There's been a wind farm on our Coed Y Mynydd area for years..... I have never received a single penny from its owners (Vattenfall?) since it's existence.

Whilst there may be 'project applications' for funding certain investors, it's hardly any incentive for the ordinary resident who will receive nothing in terms of a financial reward.... despite having these turbines forced on them. Maybe a discount in their electricity bills would be deemed a more fairer distribution for all to share in the so called benefits from the generation of green energy?

Also the effects on the property values leaves much to be desired.... devalued property prices will inevitably result.

Who would wish to live in the vicinity of these massive whooshing towers that will be a blot on the local landscape....

What about the roads that will brunt the burden of the low loader HGV's, damage to infrastructure along the planned route (if there is one) and the subsequent damage and carnage of buildings and traffic chaos as these units are transported to their final siting locations.....

I would prefer that the size of these massive turbines be located OFFSHORE, not on a beautiful local Welsh traditional village that offers a unique environment rich in biodiversity."

“

"If cost of electric is lowered it would encourage people to allow wind farms nearby."

“

"Personally, I see any further expansion of the wind farm network an insult to the people of the South Wales Valleys. We have already 'done our bit' in the grand scheme of things. When are the 'decision makers' going to look at further alternatives to erecting monstrous turbines along our skylines, and looking more favourably at tidal energy. Its something that is 100% guaranteed 24 hours per day! Please - NO MORE TURBINES!!! (even solar farms are preferable)"

“

"Youth Clubs help with hire of halls. Support local activities, choirs, charity organisations, etc. Child minding facilities. Support bus services to restore late services to enable people to go to town etc up to 11pm at night - non existent since COVID."

“

"Anything that supports all ages of the community would be beneficial."

“

"I totally oppose this proposal. Beside the massive disruption and damage to our village roads and infrastructure, the effects on the biodiversity is going to be catastrophic. We have bats, lots birds of prey etc nesting locally, all of these will be impacted by the turbines. I haven't seen any benefits from the Coed-y- mynydd wind farm. Personally I've never seen them move although I've been informed they do. I also feel properties will be de- valued as nobody would want to live with this view and have the constant noise they create .

Buildings and private properties in Neath are even under threat to transport these to our village. If this proposal is passed it will be in total disregard to the will of the villagers."

“

"I oppose this proposal as I believe we have enough wind farms in this area. The closest to me is in the Afan Forest pelena side. These farms, even though they are good for renewable energy, are taking over the countryside. I have seen the other windfarms in close proximity to where I live and have my stables. Surely these sites are enough. There is also the heavy traffic going through villages in order to get these turbines on site. Our roads are congested enough with logging trucks."

“

"I am not against wind farms and am all for renewable energy. But were you want to put these winds turbines the access to a very small village with one way in and one way out and the amount of heavy machinery will be detrimental to the roads. The part of the mountain up blaenavon farm appears to not very far the houses and looks like they be towering over the village and the grazing land of the live stock which are currently grazing on that part of. land will be lost how is that benifical to local farmers. I assume you will be making changes to the village roads in order to gain assces as the roads in our village are deffently not accessible to big machinery. The health and wellbeing to people in the village paramount I see nothing positive to come from this."

“

"South Wales had an opportunity to have wave power in Swansea and turned it down. Look at the situation now with energy prices. If our area can benefit directly from clean energy to force prices down and be more self sufficient we should take the chance as a community now and let this pass us by."

“

"We also agree to turbines out in our tidal seas, Britain could be self sufficient."

“

“Affordable sports area for local teams to play and practice their sports. Food banks. Opportunity for young people and children to visit site and learn about renewable energy. Drop in computer hub for secondary school pupils and youth powered completely by the wind farms. Decoration of hub designed by youth / secondary pupils in theme of renewable energy. Interactive model of how electricity is generated by wind farm and sent to people’s homes.”

“

“Do not have that knowledge.”

“

“Cannot give any ideas as the newsletter arrived at our address after the public exhibitions had been held so how there be a consultation!”

“

“There are many local sports organisations in need of money, particularly for the young and old. The elderly need to interact more in their community, so community centres, well equipped with such things as short bowls equipment is vital. Youth clubs in these centres would also greatly help to keep young teens occupied etc.”

“

“Using local people employing them to work on the project - use local businesses to supply materials where possible. Give something back to the community such as sponsorship for local football / rugby clubs etc.”

“

“Should not be built at all a blot on the countryside for little return and cause more damage to the environment etc. etc.”

“

“The community centre and the rugby clubhouse are the social hub and heart of the village of Tonmawr used by almost all residents. They share a car park which is in a poor state of repair. One of the priorities should be the renovation and resurfacing of this car park.”

“

“1. MTB maintenance,
2. Trail maintenance,
3. Road improvements,
4. Cycle paths”

“

“Support local infrastructure even if its old or new ie community centres, playing fields, sport halls.”

“

“I have no definite views on this. Please forgive my writing. I am registered severely sight impaired.”

“

“Keeping sheep.”

“

“It is ridiculous that the Welsh countryside is being decimated to supply electricity for England. If power is required site these monstrosities in the Home Counties!! Who owns the companies that intend to install them? Probably not British! Insufficient notice of public meetings. Received letter 12th July, meetings 13th & 14th July - Why??”

“

“I think any decisions made would be best arranged at meetings. Footnote - One thing which has annoyed me is the indecisions and delays of the Swansea Tidal Lagoon. If it had gone ahead in the beginning it probably been built and up and running by now.”

“

“I think wind farms are a waste of money. They only work if there is wind. You can't rely on the weather to make it work.”

“

“YES I agree with renewables. But for me it's tidal, this is the way forward. YES, expensive to set up but there forever after. Plus will attract tourism in Wales, create jobs, and suit this environment. I understand why this is not pursued, it's because it doesn't make money for the big companies.”

“

“All [illegible] sports organisation that are registered with the appropriate governing bodies of that sport.”

“

“Enhancing the environment, improve cycleways and bridlepaths etc, aid local businesses, improve tourism projects, improve transport links, improve local amenities and play areas, etc.”

“

“It must be helped to bring the cost down of bills down and we should not be held to ransom by any other country as we are now.”

“

“Slightly off topic. It is important to include solar power and battery storage for excess power generated to supply local area when not producing power. Local investment could include grants for local community projects and causes.”

“

“More activity centres for young and old, learning skills for progress or for fun.”

“

“Feel it is totally necessary to become more independent as a nation, in providing energy. Not a new feeling, but the situation following Ukraine war has reaffirmed this idea. Also feel it is necessary to reduce costs for people who struggle to heat homes. Additionally, would like to see replanting of trees, many of which have been cut down because of disease. This would improve carbon dioxide levels and provide stability for the mountains which surround us, thereby making houses on those mountains less susceptible to landslide.”

“

“I think we have to think of the future generations”

“

“A grant to each person in the area would be great; especially the way things are”

“

“Upgrading existing facilities, Rugby Clubs and community centers in Tonmawr and Pontrhydyfen. Grants to local enterprises and organisations. Life enhancing projects to benefit the local people.”

“

“I think wind farms are a good source of renewable energy but would like to think that any discounts on electricity are passed onto customers to bring energy prices down.”

“

“Reduce the cost of electricity for homes and businesses.”

“

“I strongly disagree with the positioning of the wind turbines, in full view of our village.”

“

“Firstly, actual proposed site needs to be moved out of view from upper village households, either further back or more towards existing wind farm. Secondly, investment needs to be easily accessible by community groups to be used to enhance local playgrounds, services, sports facilities within the impact area. Possibility of community gardens.”

“

“Community bus service cheaper power to householders better medical care centre no heavy plant movements through village least amount of home disruption but my overall opinion you will kill the village no one will want to buy property in tonmawr.”

“

“1. Insulation of homes, 2. Solar panels, 3. Grants extended to lower income households not just those on particular benefits. Would have appreciated having this information earlier as other households in Cimla. Too late to rearrange appointments in order to attend consultation events. This information was received on July 12th 2022. Great concern about extra traffic on Afan Valley Rd during construction. We have already had 2 years of great inconvenience during the building of Cefn Saeson School.”

“

“This is a surprise communication - up to present time have not given much thought/consideration to subject, will certainly do so from here on in. Thank you for bringing subject to my attention.”

“

“A grant to each person in the area would be great; especially the way things are”

“

“Maybe you can sort out the shop in Queen Street ‘Reggae Reptiles’ as it was.”

“

“Help toward cheaper energy prices”

“

“Free electricity for Tonmawr!”

“

“I would like to see funding going towards the maintenance of the local paths and mountain bike trails. Being as there is a developing tourism is emerging. The paths and trails are currently poorly maintained. Ideally a ranger in post that could keep the bushes from growing over the paths and the trails would be a big help.”

“

“Agree with share part of ownership; like the idea of local people being able to benefit from the electricity produced by the farm - cheaper tariffs etc. Would like to see assistance/grants for insulation and alternative heating solutions - including professional guidance on best solutions for particular properties etc.”

“

“Reduced electricity costs”

“

“Please make roads & path accessible to bikes. Currently the gates up there cannot let cyclists through as they are too narrow.”

“

“Any community investment should be controlled by the community and not the local council.”

“

“Money should be shared equally for projects in different villages”

“

“These Community Investment Packages are obviously a fraction of the profits that your company will make, and distribute to your shareholders via dividends.

“

“More mountainbike trails”

This will leave us with the eyesores of all these turbines dumped in one small county, Neath Port Talbot.”

“

“I wish to know how all this building and transporting of equipment will effect me. The main road is already extremely busy due to one end of the estate being closed for nearly 2 years. It is a nightmare already trying to get out of the estate.”

“

“Improve walkways and cycle tracks in area. Plant additional trees in the surrounding areas of Tonmawr and Cimla villages.”

“

“If the wealth is shared locally but not just fed into the main council, I agree.”

As the website was set up during the COVID pandemic, it also included the question: "To ensure you can share your views in safety during the Covid-19 pandemic, our consultation will be conducted primarily using interactive online tools and events, like this website. Do you have any other ideas for how we can safely consult local people about our proposals?"

The full set of responses, as they were written, can be found below.

“

"Come into the community with flyers, door knockers and exhibitions"

“

"Make sure you send every resident in Tonmawr all of the information by post - I have not received anything from you to date and am extremely disappointed!"

“

"Be more open with the affected as this has been going on since 2012 and know people are saying that it is the first they have heard of the plans and this grant scheme make it known where the monies have gone."

“

"I am making my objection to the proposed wind farm at Myndd Fforch-Dwm on this section of the online form, as you haven't provided any other space on this form or website!

My main objections are : The proposed height of the turbines at 200m, is monstrous in the context of the village skyline! As they will be situated on top of a 300m hill! They will tower over the nearby houses on Johns Terrace and Blaenavon Terrace, as well as dominating the village skyline!

The other main objection is the noise of the turbines blades and gears will be audibly tangible to the residents of Blaenavon Terrace and Johns Terrace, because of how close they will be to the houses and how monstrous the turbines and gears will be!

In principle I have no objection to the wind farm being at the smaller original site, well away from the main village and houses. And not dominating the village skyline!"

“

"By coming to the village and not hiding behind the covid 19 excuse. The older generation, which are a huge proportion of the residents aren't having a say using technology. However, I expect you already know that which is why you are using it. The leaflets are not informative, therefore do not allow people to make an informed decisions."

“

“Before I answer this question I would like to comment on the questions you have asked. They are very misleading and are very general. Rather than being about this particular proposal. Question 1 - Wales produces huge amounts of renewable energy. But if you cared at all about renewable energy. You would build these out at sea, where wind is plentiful. However, I suppose this would cost YOU more. Question 2 - preassessed by who? People who don't live in the local area but are quick to make huge amounts of money from it. Question 3 - the only question relevant. No I don't agree to this. There are multiple reasons and I could go on and on. Question 4 - definitely not. They should not be placed by existing wind farms. This will turn the beautiful countryside side into a metal monstrosity. Question 5 - the village is not here to be bought. 125 grand a year for 20 years. Is pennies. How about a percentage of what it earns. THE VILLAGE DOES NOT WANT THE WIND FARM. Question 6 - I have answered above Question 7 - covid 19 is a poor excuse to use in order to hide from a village that does not want you here. Also technology is a fabulous way of keeping elderly residents from having their say properly (as let's be honest the leaflets weren't exactly full of truthful info). Door to door enquires should be undertaken by an impartial person who gives honest facts both positive and negative for people to make an informed decision. But corruption and money talks. So I doubt they will ever be impartial. In conclusion please put your windfarms out at sea, out of the way.”

“

“Your questions are all slanted to the positive, so that the consultation can be spun. Why don't you allow people to comment on what they think about this proposal? You haven't even asked for my views on this development. Is it all cut and dried? Welsh Government's TAN 8 placed nearly 40% of Wales' total windfarms in one small local authority, Neath Port Talbot. We have been swamped with windfarms, from my house I can see over 70 wind turbines. Our landscape character has been destroyed, along with our heritage which relates to the landscape. Neath Port Talbot's Planning department will not even decide on this application. Why don't you put these turbines offshore? Local people won't even have a say on this proposal.”

“

“Provide the names and addresses of planning officers and company directors so respective demonstrations can be apportioned to their [CENSORED] ideas in their own back yards. This is nothing more than a disgraceful act by total imbeciles. Wales generates more renewable energy than it consumes so take these monstrosities to areas in energy deficit!!!”

“

“Please email me an answer to my question above.”

“

“Find somewhere else to put them”

“

“A meeting in the village so all residents can attend.”

3.3 Formal Quantitative Feedback Summary

In total, 72 feedback forms were received following the second round of consultation. 15 of these were returned by post, 57 were submitted online, and none were filled in and returned at the Public Exhibitions.

Of the 72 feedback forms, 36 were from within Cyma and Pelenna ward, 33 were from the wider Neath Port Talbot County Borough, two were from outside the County Borough, and one did not include an address.

As can be seen from the results, the percentage of people who believe that Wales needs to generate more energy from renewable sources is fairly consistent with the informal round of consultation.

The percentage of respondents supportive of the principle of the project increased by 11% compared to the informal round of consultation. It is worth noting that no respondents selected “slightly agree” or “slightly disagree” in the formal round, indicating that views were stronger, both supportive and otherwise.

When asked whether the updated proposal is an improvement on the original, roughly the same percentage either agreed, disagreed, or were neutral. However, as some of the feedback shows, part of the disagreement is due to respondents believing that the original proposal with taller turbines would have been preferable.

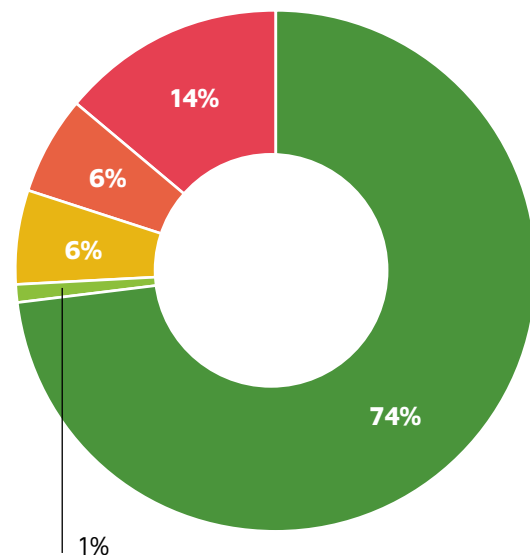
On the topic of community benefit, almost half of respondents believe that local people should share ownership of the project, but roughly the same percentage of respondents are unsure of how they would invest.

Based on the comments received, this is largely because of the cost-of-living crisis and the perception that there is not much money in the area.

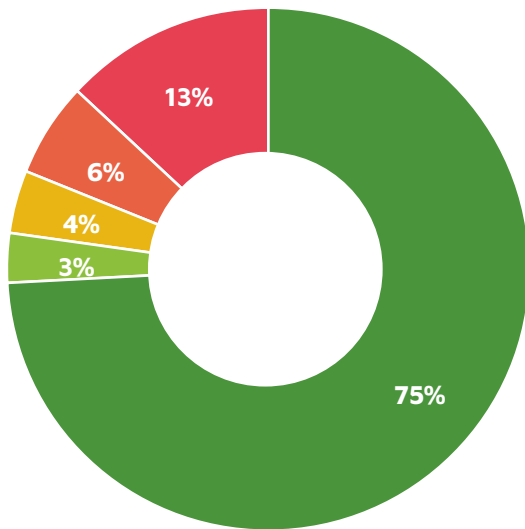
When asked about the three areas of benefit that they consider most important, the highest-rated were “sustainability / energy grants for local homes and businesses” (22%) and “environmental initiatives” (17%). The third highest-rated was a tie between “apprenticeships and training” and “promoting Welsh culture and heritage” (both at 16%).

The results of the multiple-choice questions on the form can be found below.

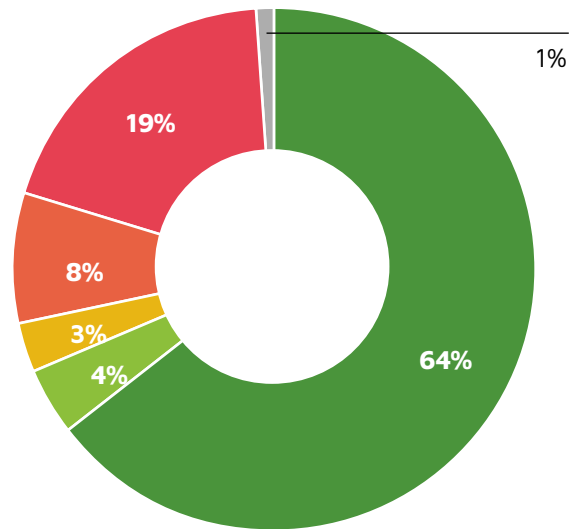
1. We are currently in a climate emergency



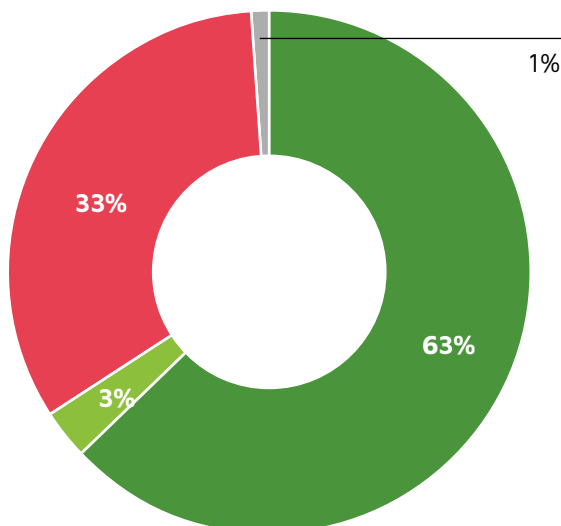
2. Wales needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources



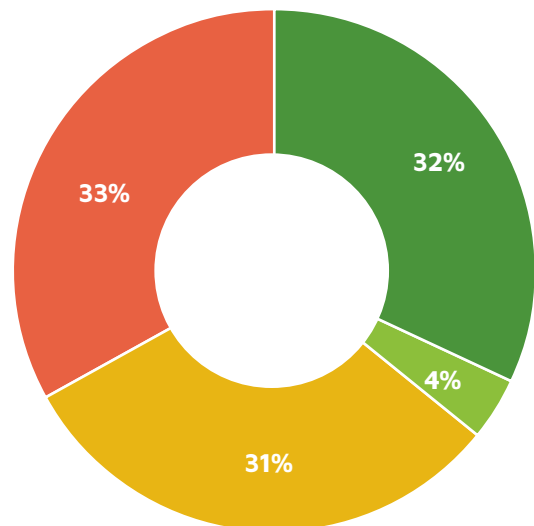
3. Onshore wind farms in designated areas are a good way to generate renewable energy



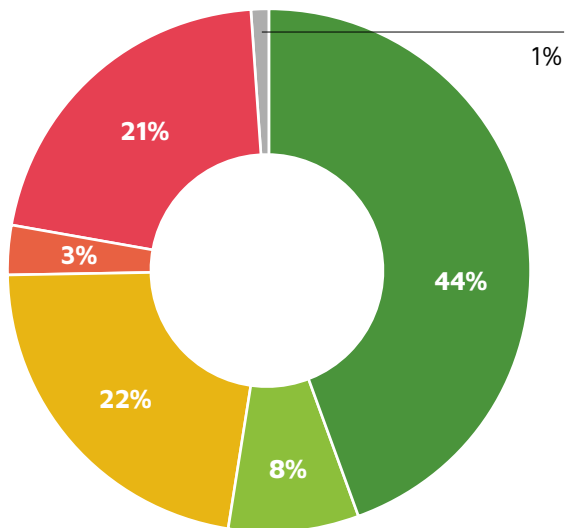
4. I support the principle of building a wind farm at Mynydd Fforch-Dwm



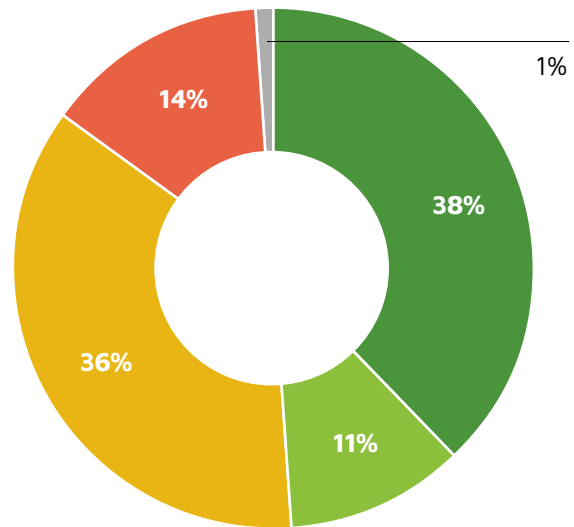
5. The adjustments made to the plans for Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm are an improvement on the original proposal



6. Wherever possible, new wind farms should be located next to existing wind farms

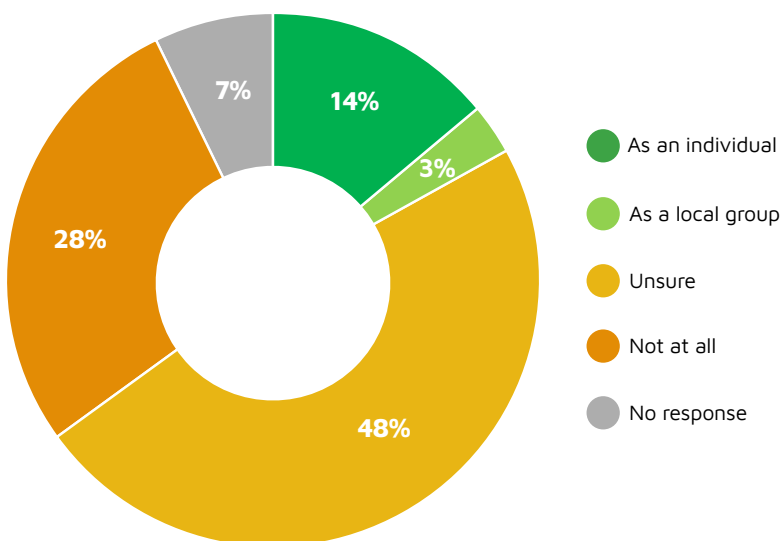


7. Local people should have the opportunity to share part of the ownership of Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm, so that the wealth generated by renewable energy is shared with local people



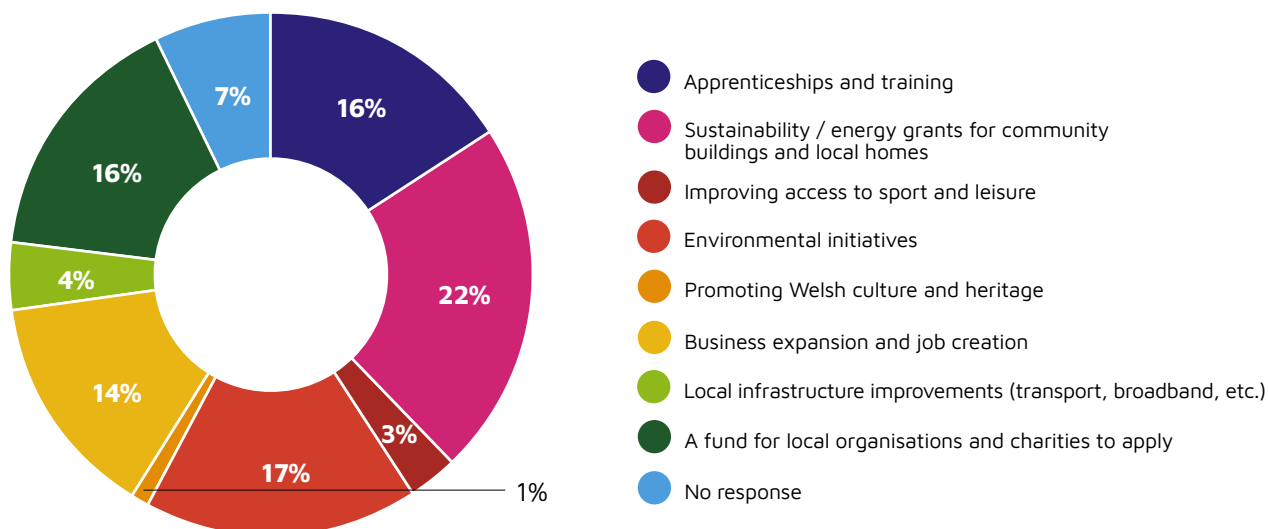
● Strongly agree ● Slightly agree ● Neither agree or disagree ● Slightly disagree ● Strongly disagree ● No response

8. Welsh Government policy supports the inclusion of local ownership in all new energy projects. If this project went ahead and should you have an interest in this aspect, how would you invest?



● As an individual
● As a local group
● Unsure
● Not at all
● No response

9. If granted consent, the project would deliver a Sustainable Community Investment Package. Please select the three areas of benefit that are most important to you:



3.4 Formal qualitative feedback

Residents were asked to give their further thoughts: "If you have any other ideas or comments on the Community Investment Package, write them below" and "Do you have any other concerns about or aspirations for the proposals?".

Suggestions for how the Sustainable Community Investment Package could be set up and allocated covered areas such as lowering energy bills, comments on the local ownership aspect, and making any potential fund accessible.

The full set of responses, as they were written, can be found below.

“

"Not all in the area are able to invest so it wouldn't benefit the ones who need it most. So a share or yearly profits to villagers is more appropriate."

“

"Huge concerns. As a resident of 79 years in this community, we have had problems and tragedies. I believe that Welsh Government should pay attention to the huge problems that Skewen Neath had with flooding, when the mine shaft burst and made so many people homeless. Our mountains and valley are peppered with shafts. I live beneath one of the mountains. We do not want Mynydd Fforch Dwm wind farm. I have seven grandchildren living in this village."

“

"If the wind farm goes ahead local people should be compensated for the loss of property value."

“

"I'm hoping consent will be denied therefore this will be irrelevant. We have received nothing from the Pen-Y-Cymoedd wind farm, which is on our doorsteps so see no reason to believe this will help the local community either"

“

"Totally wrong location for your proposal. Destruction of peat bog, local niche environments, biodiversity impacts (habitat/species, generic) flooding, subsidence, run off water, traffic chaos, pollution, business negative health / well being of locals, impacts house price devaluation etc!"

“

"Question 9 is non-applicable as this project will be far more damaging to our community and local environment than any benefit, if any, it would receive"

“

"My main concerns are removal of peat, the transport to the site through the village and that this is only one part of the proposal as you don't have access for overhead powerlines to Baglan."

“

"I personally feel that the proposed wind farm offers nothing except a blight to our village. We do not need another form of energy production at this point, when enough is already in the national grid. It's worrying that the Welsh Government does not consider the impact on local villages and the negative reports about turbines from other countries"

“

"Initial setting up of the wind farm will cause significant disruption in Tonmawr and beyond - traffic congestion, pollution, noise etc. The turbines are far too close to the village, causing a negative impact on residents, wildlife, quality of the environment and the value of houses in Tonmawr. Negative impact caused by the corridor to Briton Ferry is a concern.."

“

"My house could become unstable with all the movement the ground around. The road can't take all the heavy lorries which will be every day if the road clamps how do we get out for work and the emergency vehicles can't get in"

“

"I have lots of concerns which include wildlife impact, damage to infrastructure, detrimental financial damage on local business and surrounding areas. None of these concerns have been answered by any of the company's representatives as they don't have the answers themselves. Not reassuring at all! I am totally against this project!!!!!!"

“

"Don't want your turbines"

“

"I personally feel that the proposed wind farm offers nothing except a blight to our village. We do not need another form of energy production at this point, when enough is already in the national grid. It's worrying that the Welsh Government does not consider the impact on local villages and the negative reports about turbines from other countries"

“

"We don't want the windfarm in blaenavon and whatever financial "carrot" you dangle it will not compensate for destroying our community."

“

"1. Damage to local infrastructure 2. visual impact of these wind turbines 3. Impact on our health & well being. Noise and pollution prior to turbines being installed and after resurrecting. 4. destruction of our peatland and wildlife habitat 5. access to the sites will change the landscape of our village forever 6. targeting small valley village communities by Welsh Government"

“

"Don't want them in our village"

“

"Put them in your backyard"

“

"None"

“

"Needs to be simple to access unlike current projects"

“

"I would prefer Naturalis keep their money and use it to build offshore or floating turbines"

“

"New access roads are not required - the existing infrastructure created by Pen-Y-Cymoedd and Ffynnon Oer should be used to minimise further environment destruction. No more turbines in this area - already too many solar farm acceptable"

“

"Yes it will destroy - our landscape, destroy wildlife habitats, put the safety of the community at risk, infringe on our civil liberties, make living in the village feel like 'Hell on Earth', kill local birds, bats, reptiles, and amphibians, destroy the community we live in."

“

"That all energy needs, are met to all local residents impacted by living there and surplus energy is put back into Wales."

“

"I hope that the Welsh Government ignore the minority of people making loads of nonie and approve this project that will bring benefits to the area for decades to come."

“

“There are serious concerns about the impact of the site on local people. In addition to the change of infrastructure to accommodate getting the turbines onto site and the sheer devastation of the biodiversity of the site. It will take much more than 18 months to offset this. I am also concerned that investment is made by a foreign company. How is this allowed in Wales. Most of the windfarm in Bcbb are German owned and so it isn't even benefitting our country let alone community.”

“

“New access roads are not required - the existing infrastructure created by Pen-Y-Cymoedd and Ffynnon Oer should be used to minimise further environment destruction. No more turbines in this area - already too many solar farm acceptable”

“

“I applaud the opportunity for local ownership, but there is limited money in the area so I'm guessing that the opportunity will also be open to other people from outside the area?”

“

“This development is inappropriate for the area. Turbines too big and designed for offshore. Detrimental effect to the health and wellbeing of residents. Damage to the environment by the farm and to the corridor to take power to Briton Ferry. The act of construction will cause many problems.”

“

“I am concerned about the impact on the local community another wind farm will have also the noise it will make”

“

“Fully support renewable energy projects. With the increase of traffic through the local communities, it would be great if a contribution could be made to the maintenance and up keep of the roads, such as resurfacing and pothole filling”

“

“Don't let the noise form a handful of village idiots detract from the fact that we need to do something to protect the environment for our children and grand children”

“

“The proposed windfarm is not wanted in Tonmawr.”

“

“I wish had the disposable income to invest in this project but times are tough with the current cost of living crisis”

“

“I strongly believe in wind energy but getting the turbine to the proposed site worries me.”

“

“We don't want these monster wind turbines in our village”

“

“The roads from Neath to the proposed site are already congested and certain times I cannot cross the main road to get to the bus stop. The size and frequency of the transporters going through the Cimla will have a terrible affect on the roads especially when schools are starting and finishing. I’ve heard rumours of the wall by the TAs at bottom of hill will have to be removed for the transport to go around that bend. Surely there is another route of getting these turbines up the mountain and not involving so much disruption in the Cimla. There must be a farm track of some sort in Pontrydefen that can be utilised to get them to the top of the mountain? The disruption to my community when the transportation worries me especially when the school children are walking up and down from school. This is just my opinion thanks for taking the time to read.”

“

“Several months ago I met with residents near the proposed site to hear their thoughts, concerns and/or hopes for the development. During the meeting they shared their concerns over the disruption that would likely be caused during the construction phase due to the layout of the roads, the impact this will have on traffic flow and access in and out of the community, the potential damage to local habitats, biodiversity and peatland, as well as the visual impact in the immediate area surrounding the turbines. I fully recognise the climate and nature emergencies we face, and the need for us to invest more in alternative energy generation and build a net zero future. While we must act urgently, we cannot act in a way that does not take into account the impact of decisions or the opinions of residents. Throughout this process I would urge naturalis to hear the many valid concerns residents have, to take them seriously and to respond to the questions they have..”

“

“I think local people should definitely be offered the opportunity and invest in the project. My only concern is if not enough people take up the offer will that mean the offer is withdrawn - I hope not. Am sure there’s many people across Wales that would love to invest such a project?”

“

“I am strong against the proposal of this wind farm. My house will be directly affected in multiple ways. The reason we purchased this house was to enjoy the peaceful and Undisrupted surroundings it had to offer. If this proposal goes ahead my house will forever live in the shadows of the wind turbines not to mention the disruption on the only access road to my property. I have been unable to make the consultation meetings, but if you wish to get in touch with me directly then please feel free to do so.”

“

“No, happy to have the investment in the area”

“

“Good luck!”

“

“Wishing you all the best with the project, fingers crossed!”

“

“As a resident of Croeserw, I belong to a number of groups that have benefitted from the Llynfi wind farm overlooking our village. If this project is approved then the residents of Croeserw will have more sources of funding available to us for our community projects and initiatives. I hope its approved ASAP!!”

“

“We don’t want your turbines, would you want them where you live? Go back to your posh English homes and erect 250M turbines at the end of your gardens! Whats wring with a few extra turbines when we have so may in the area already. Let’s take a rational and long term approach and think about the benefits these turbines can bring to a really isolated and disadvantaged community such as Tonmawr.”

“

“The local opposition group should be ashamed of themselves for perpetuating myths and misinformation that have been long proven to be untrue by reliable and peer reviewed sources. Why aren’t they honest and just say they don’t like the look of the turbines rather than hide behind their campaign of misinformation.”

“

“I’ve no idea how on earth the large lorries will get past the drill hall, but am sure you’ve done your homework. I am concerned about the impact on Neath town centre so hope that all of the large lorries can come through the town early morning, late evening or on Sundays when most people are at home and not using the roads.”

“

“As a resident of Eastland Road, I will be disadvantaged when the deliveries start, so I have every right to be concerned about plans for this wind farm. However, we must look at the short term pain for the long term gain and the long term benefits of Mynydd Fforch Dwm clearly and unambiguously far outweigh the disadvantages.”

“

“You should have stuck with the original proposal and not reduced the heights!”

“

“[CENSORED] off back to London and stop ruining the Welsh countryside you sanctimonious and unscrupulous [CENSORED]”

“

“Good luck with this excellent proposal. Whats wrong with using a resource thats free for all? We aren’t relying on middle eastern gas coming into Milfoird Haven and being pumped around the Uk and this must surely be commended.”

“

“All the best with this project. A project that will help us achieve our net zero obligations and pave the way to a cleaner and greener lifestyle. Pob Lwc!”

“

“Why reduce the heights of the turbines from the original exhibitions? Surely we need to maximise the power generated by this clean energy project?”

“

“Working with local bodies, experienced in this field, to ensure the benefits have maximum impact on the community”

“

“Where do the good folk of Tonmawr think that the power comes from for their Christmas decorations? We need to generate more of our own electricity and stop relying on imported gas. This proposal is a perfect way of securing our energy future and I wish you all the best with the application. Just ignore the idiots that can’t see the benefits and who are solely worried about their property prices!”

“

“Whilst I wholeheartedly support this project, I also feel that Mark Drakeford and his colleagues should be putting the turbines in other parts of Wales. Whats wrong with putting more turbines in National Parks? I wish you the very best of luck and may god bless you.”

“

“I hope that the Welsh Government ignore the minority of people making loads of nonie and approve this project that will bring benefits to the area for decades to come.”

“

“Those opposing the project have had their day, this is about the future, not the past.”

“

“don’t let the naysayers have their way, they don’t speak for the majority of people in the wider area.”

3.5 Response to Feedback

In response to feedback and queries received during the consultation process, a Frequently Asked Questions document was produced and uploaded to the project website to be accessed by residents at any time. Whilst not a statutory obligation, this was kept updated as further queries were submitted throughout the PAC process.

4. Conclusion

This Consultation Report demonstrates that the Applicant has far exceeded what is required in terms of post-notification publicity and consultation as set out by the Welsh Government's Development of National Significance procedural guidance.

The consultation responses have been documented and considered throughout the evolution of the project. This has resulted in local communities and stakeholders having a clear influence on the development as, following the initial round of informal consultation, the Applicant reviewed the proposal and made changes in response to feedback.

This included reducing the heights of turbines 1 and 3 to 180m and re-siting them as far as constraints allow. The height of turbine 2 was also reduced to 165m. To allow for the decrease in the height of the closest turbines to the village, the Applicant also increased the tip heights for the two turbines furthest from Tonmawr, turbines 4 and 5, from 200m to 220m.

Following the initial round of consultation, the Applicant then held the formal consultation period on the updated proposal from 5th December 2022 to 23rd January 2023, exceeding the six-week requirement. The period for the reception of feedback was also extended beyond this to 1st February 2023, to allow for the submission of postal feedback.

Over the informal and formal consultation periods:

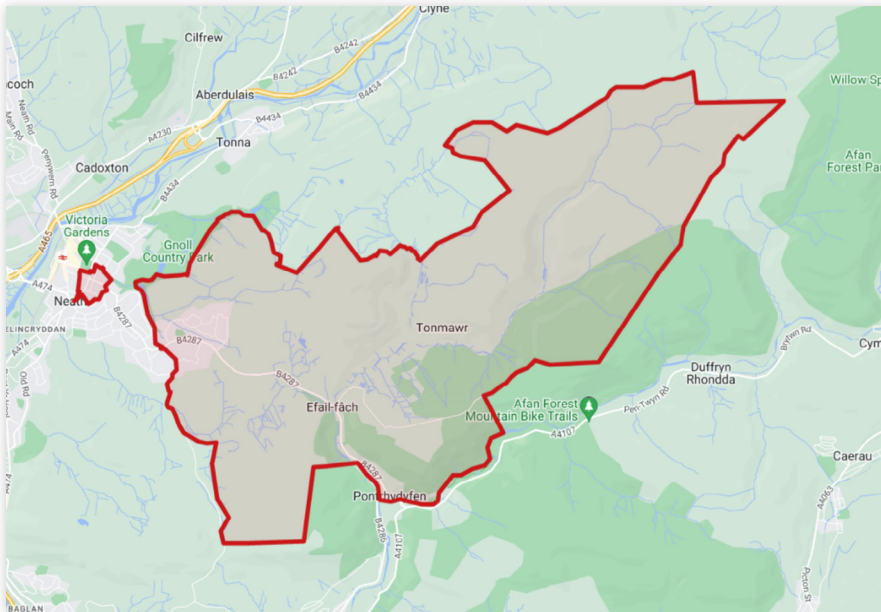
- Newsletters and leaflets were issued to 2,675 addresses across Cimla & Pelenna ward and on the transport route in Neath;
- A total of six advertisements were published in the South Wales Evening Post, with an average daily circulation of 7,223;
- A total of ten weeks of social media advertising was carried out, to a potential audience of 27,100 users.

Following the PAC process, the proposal was amended once more in response to further feedback from stakeholders, so that the final application involved removing turbine 2 and siting the solar element further up the hill. The two turbines nearest to Pen Y Cymoedd Wind Farm were also reduced to 200m.

Following the submission of the planning application, stakeholders will continue to be engaged with in relation to certain aspects of the proposal. Residents and stakeholders will be kept updated on the progress of the application going forward.

5. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Consultation Zone



Appendix 2 – Email to Pelenna Community Council

APPENDIX 2 – Email to Pelenna Community Council

Dear [REDACTED]

I just wanted to drop you a line in your role as Pelenna Community Council Clerk with regards to our proposals for a wind farm at Mynydd Hforch Darn above the village of Tonmawr. We are holding a public exhibition at the rugby club next week on Thursday afternoon and will also hold one around lunchtime in Neath at the Little Theatre on Cymra Rd and a virtual village hall meeting the evening before.

I have attached a newsletter that should be dropping on around 3000 local people's door mats today and the newspaper advert that will be in the South Wales Evening Post on 3 days.

I met with the local Ward Councillors, Jeremy Hurley and Tim Bowen last month and they have posted the poster on their Facebook pages and we have also had separate Facebook advertising across the local area.

I know the local community has been aware of a potential wind farm for a little while as I have been in the area talking to various landowners regarding grid and access and I know how fast news travels around a village but I have held back 'going public' until such time as we have a clearer picture of what we are looking at and how we would access the site and have answers to the sorts of questions the local community will inevitably have.

We have now submitted a scoping request to PEDW (Planning and Environment Decisions Wales) and have had a formal scoping response with regards to our approach to assessing any environmental impact and submitting a planning application and so we are now in a much better position to present the proposals to the public. The documents will be going onto our website <https://mldwindfarm.co.uk/> on Monday but you can also see the request and responses on the PEDW website (<https://planningcasework.service.gov.wales/>) by using the case reference DNS/3255801.

I would encourage members of the Community Council to attend the exhibitions themselves but I would of course also be happy to attend a future Community Council meeting to brief them further on the project and where we are as the process moves forward. Perhaps you could let me know when you hold the council meetings and we can get something scheduled?

I would also be delighted to meet with yourself and the current Chair or any other members in advance of the exhibitions if that would be considered helpful. I will be in the area on Wednesday so could potentially meet between 1pm and 5pm if that was preferred.

Please do feel free to give me a ring on the number below should you have any immediate queries or indeed should you like to arrange a meeting in advance.

Kind Regards,

Tim Mockridge

Appendix 3 – Website homepage (Welsh and English)



Mynydd Fforch Dwm
WIND FARM


 English | Cymraeg



Introducing Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm

0:00 / 3:15

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm is a proposal by Naturalis Energy to provide clean, carbon-free energy to homes and businesses across South Wales, with a new renewable energy park near to the village of Tonmawr in Neath Port Talbot.

Naturalis is a joint venture between Falck Renewables and REG Windpower, two leading renewable energy companies powering millions of homes across the UK and Europe.

THE SITE

PLANNING PROCESS

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

CONSULTATION LIBRARY

HAVE YOUR SAY
CLICK HERE

KEY FACTS

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm could provide:



7
turbines



35MW
Approx. capacity



25,882
homes served*

*Based on 2021 UK average household consumption of 3740 kWh pa.

STAY UP TO DATE

Subscribe to our emails to stay updated as our plans take shape.

Name

Email

☐ Please tick this box to confirm you would like to receive occasional email updates about proposals for Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm.*

SIGN UP


 hello@mfdwindfarm.co.uk

 0330 363 6229


 Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm

 @MFDWind

Privacy Policy
 Contact us
 ©Naturalis 2020

Dyma Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm

0:00 / 3:15

Cynnig gan Naturalis Energy yw Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm i ddarparu ynni glân, di-garbon i gartrefi a busnesau ledled De Cymru, gyda pharc ynni adnewyddadwy ger pentref Ton-mawr yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot.

Mae Naturalis yn fenter ar y cyd rhwng Falck Renewables ac REG Windpower, dau gwmni ynni adnewyddadwy blaenllaw sy'n pweru miliynau o gartrefi ar draws y DU ac Ewrop.

Y SAFLE

Y BROSES GYNLLUNIO

BUDDSODDI YN Y
GYMUNED

LLYFRGELL
YMGYNGHORI

DWEUD EICH DWEUD
CLICIWCH YMA

FFEITHIAU ALLWEDDOL

Gallai Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm ddarparu:



7
tyrbin



35MW
o gapasiti yn fras ar ôl
eu gosod



25,882
o gartrefi yn cael eu
gwasanaethu*

*Swyddog ar ddiwedd cyfnewtyn aerodydd yn y DU yn 2021 sef 3748/000 y Ffeydd.

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF

Tanysgrifwch i geel y newyddion diweddaraf drwy e-bost am ein cynlluniau wrth iddynt ddatblygu.

Enw

Enw

E-bost

E-bost

☐ Ticlech y bleich i gadarnhau eich bod am dderbyn e-byst achlysurol am y cynigion ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm.

TANYSGRIFIWCH

hello@mfdwindfarm.co.uk
0330 363 6229

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm
@MFDWind

Polisi preifatrwydd

Cysylltu â ni
©Naturalis 2020

Appendix 4 – Advert for consultation events (July 2022)

Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm, wedi datblygu a'i hyswysu gan REG Windpower

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm, developed and constructed by REG Windpower

FFERM WYNT Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM

Hoffai Naturalis eich gwahodd i fynychu ei ddigwyddiadau ymgynghori ar y cynnig ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm, a fydd yn cael ei lleoli ger Ton-mawr. Yn y digwyddiadau hyn, cewch gyfle i ddisgu mwy am y prosiect, cyfarfod aelodau o'r tîm, a rhoi adborth. Mae'r digwyddiadau yn cynnwys:

Naturalis would like to invite you to attend their consultation events on the proposal for the Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm, located near Tonmawr. At these events, you will be able to learn more about the project, meet members of the team, and provide feedback. The events include:

Neusdd Bantref 10thwyl
www.crowdcast.io/mfd
Nos Fercher 13
Gorffennaf, 7pm-8pm

Ardangofnfa Gyhoeddus
Theatr Fach Castell-nedd,
SA11 1BQ
Dydd Iau, 14
Gorffennaf, 10am-2pm

Ardangofnfa Gyhoeddus
Clwb Rygbi Ton-mawr,
SA12 9UB
Dydd Iau, 14
Gorffennaf, 4pm-8pm

Virtual Village Hall
www.crowdcast.io/mfd
Wednesday 13th July,
7pm-8pm

Public Exhibition
Neath Little Theatre,
SA11 1BQ
Thursday 14th July,
10am-2pm

Public Exhibition
Tonmawr RFC,
SA12 9UB
Thursday 14th July,
4pm-8pm

Mae rhagor o wybodaeth am y cynnig ar gael ar ein gwefan yn www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

More information on the proposal can be found on our website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

naturalis

0330 363 6229
@MFDWind

hello@mfdwindfarm.co.uk
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Appendix 5 – Community newsletter, July 2022 (English version)

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm is a proposal by Naturalis Energy to provide clean, carbon-free energy to homes and businesses across South Wales, with a new renewable energy park near to the village of Tonmawr in Neath Port Talbot.

Situated in one of the Welsh Government's pre-assessed areas for Wind Energy, this is an ideal location for a new wind farm to provide clean, carbon-free electricity to thousands of homes and businesses across South Wales.

We will soon be holding consultation events on the proposal, which we would like to invite you to attend to hear more about the plans, meet the project team and ask any questions you may have. The events include:

Virtual Village Hall
www.crowdcast.io/mfd
Wednesday 13th
July, 7pm-8pm

Public Exhibition
Neath Little Theatre,
SA11 1BQ
Thursday 14th July,
10am-2pm

Public Exhibition
Tonmawr RFC,
SA12 9UB
Thursday 14th July,
4pm-8pm

More information on the proposal can be found on our website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

THE PROPOSAL

Our proposal has been shaped by a number of surveys and conversations with local stakeholders and representatives. Currently, the proposal for the Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm includes:

- Up to 7 wind turbines
- Approx. capacity of 35MW
- 25,882 Homes Equivalent Powered*
- Community Benefit equivalent to £175,000 per annum (BPS rates fixed)

As part of the proposal, we are also looking into the transport route for the delivery of turbine components and are considering a number of options. Currently, we are expecting abnormal loads to pass through Neath, and will provide more information on this at the consultation events.

THE SITE

* Based on 31.64% capacity factor (DUKES, 2021) and average household consumption of 3748 kWh (BEIS, 2021)
† Based on 304kW installed capacity and 65,000 per MWh installed, in line with Welsh Government guidance

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Tree planting scheme supported by Audubon Wind Farm

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Our wind farms support local communities in a diverse range of ways, from planting trees to improving energy efficiency.

We want to work with local residents to design an innovative approach to community investment. This could include community ownership of a portion of the wind farm, or investment to make homes more energy efficient, or tackling issues such as fuel poverty. Wherever possible, we will also use local suppliers and contractors during construction and operation, and hire workers from the local population.

ABOUT NATURALIS

Naturalis was formed as a Joint Venture by Falck Renewables and REG Wind Power to deliver 200MW of wind and solar energy projects across the UK. Naturalis combines the experience of the UK-based renewable energy developer REG with Falck's expertise in engineering, procurement, construction, financing, and sustainability. Falck and REG are pleased to be working together to contribute to the UK's important goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.

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Appendix 6 – Facebook advertising (Round 1)



Appendix 7 - Feedback form (Round 1, English version)

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM **HAVE YOUR SAY**

We are committed to consulting local residents, businesses, community groups and local elected representatives as we take our proposals through the planning process. Please share your views below.

Your details:

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

☐ Please tick this box to confirm you would like to receive occasional email updates about proposals for Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm.

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each of the statements below:

1. "Wales needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources"

Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither agree nor disagree Slightly disagree Strongly disagree

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

2. "Onshore wind farms in designated areas are a good way to generate renewable energy"

Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither agree nor disagree Slightly disagree Strongly disagree

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

3. "I support the principle of building a wind farm at Mynydd Fforch-Dwm"

Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither agree nor disagree Slightly disagree Strongly disagree

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

4. "Wherever possible, new wind farms should be located next to existing wind farms"

Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither agree nor disagree Slightly disagree Strongly disagree

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Please see further questions overleaf.

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Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM **HAVE YOUR SAY**

5. "Local people should have the opportunity to share part of the ownership of Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm, so that the wealth generated by renewable energy is shared with local people."

Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither agree nor disagree Slightly disagree Strongly disagree

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

6. Please tell us your ideas for how Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm's Community Investment Package could be used to support local people and the community.

We will not share your details with external parties. Information stored and used according to the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. Please note: The feedback and comments on this form will not be a formal representation on the application. This can be made to Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) after an application has been submitted. This information is compiled by Quattro Public Relations Ltd. on behalf of Naturalis Energy Developments Ltd.; it will be treated in strict confidence and will not be used to identify you personally. The feedback you provide will be analysed on an anonymous basis and your details will not be passed on to any other third parties.

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Appendix 8 – Public exhibition banners (Round 1)

FFERM WYNT

Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn

Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn

WIND FARM

Craeo

Craeo is a subcategory of agri-ecology (amongst Naturalists & Ecologists). Here, we promote the idea of a grassland for its own sake.

Higher altitudes, or higher soils, can offer an alternative landscape as a grassy expanse, (although this is not always the case).

Grassland ecology can be very productive and sustainable in the long term, and can provide a range of habitats.

Welcome

Welcome to the exhibition for **Naturalists** prepared for the **Annual Meeting** from **20th March** to **2nd April**, near to the **Office of Education**.

The exhibition is open to the public to see and to learn about the site. Meet the project leads and project members.

You can learn more about our plans for our website and exhibition on our project website.

Photo: Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn Wind Farm

Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn

Introduction: Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales.

Background: Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales.

Project: Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales.

Conclusion: Mynydd Ffarch-Dwfn is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales. It is a small, isolated, and remote area of land, situated in the north of Wales.

About Naturalists

Naturalists are those who are interested in the study of the natural world, and who are concerned with the conservation of the natural world. They are interested in the study of the natural world, and who are concerned with the conservation of the natural world.

Naturalists are interested in the study of the natural world, and who are concerned with the conservation of the natural world. They are interested in the study of the natural world, and who are concerned with the conservation of the natural world.

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naturalists

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#FFWIND

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[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Appendix 9 – Adverts for consultation events (December 2022 / January 2023)

FFERM WYNT Mynydd Fforch-Dwm

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM

Hoffai Naturalis eich gwahodd i fynychu ei ddigwyddiadau ymgynghori ar y cynnig ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm, a fydd yn cael ei lleoli ger Ton-mawr. Yn y digwyddiadau hyn, cewch gyflwyno gwybodaeth am sut mae'r cynlluniau wedi newid, cyfarfod aelodau o'r tîm, a rhoi adborth. Mae'r digwyddiadau yn cynnwys:

Nesudd Bontref Rithwic
Cofrestrwch yn:
crowdcast.io/e/mfdformal
Nos Fercher 14 Rhagfyr,
7pm-8pm

Arddangosfa Gyhoeddus
Theatr Fach Castell-nedd,
SA11 1BQ
Dydd Iau 15 Rhagfyr,
10am-2pm

Arddangosfa Gyhoeddus
Clwb Rygbi Ton-mawr,
SA12 9UB
Dydd Iau 15 Rhagfyr,
4pm-8pm

Virtual Village Hall
Register at:
crowdcast.io/e/mfdformal
Wednesday 14th
December, 7pm-8pm

Public Exhibition
Neath Little Theatre,
SA11 1BQ
Thursday 15th
December, 10am-2pm

Public Exhibition
Tonmawr RFC,
SA12 9UB
Thursday 15th
December, 4pm-8pm

Rhagor o wybodaeth am y cynnig, yn cynnwys y dogfennau cais cynllunio drafft, y gallir eu gweld ar ein gwefan yn www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

More information on the proposal, including the draft planning application documents, can be found on our website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

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FFERM WYNT Mynydd Fforch-Dwm

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM

Hoffai Naturalis eich gwahodd i fynychu ei ddigwyddiadau ymgynghori ar y cynnig ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Mynydd Fforch-Dwm, a fydd yn cael ei lleoli ger Ton-mawr. Yn y digwyddiadau hyn, cewch gyflwyno gwybodaeth am sut mae'r cynlluniau wedi newid, cyfarfod aelodau o'r tîm, a rhoi adborth.

Arddangosfa Gyhoeddus
Clwb Rygbi Ton-mawr,
SA12 9UB
Dydd Mercher 18 Ionawr, 4pm-8pm

Public Exhibition
Tonmawr RFC,
SA12 9UB
Wednesday 18th
January, 4pm-8pm

Rhagor o wybodaeth am y cynnig, yn cynnwys y dogfennau cais cynllunio drafft, y gallir eu gweld ar ein gwefan yn www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

More information on the proposal, including the draft planning application documents, can be found on our website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

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Appendix 10 – Leaflet, December 2022 (English version)

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm WIND FARM

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm is a proposal by Naturalis Energy to provide clean, carbon-free energy to homes and businesses across South Wales, with a new renewable energy park near to the village of Tonmawr in Neath Port Talbot.

Situated in a pre-assessed area for the development of new renewable energy, this is an ideal location for a new wind farm to provide clean, carbon-free electricity to thousands of homes and businesses across South Wales.

As part of the statutory consultation process, the full draft planning application documents are available for viewing on our website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk/consultation-library/ from 5th December 2022 until 23rd January 2023. It is strongly recommended that these documents are read prior to submitting any feedback.

We will soon be holding formal consultation events on the proposal, which we would like to invite you to attend to hear more about how the plans have changed, meet the project team and ask any questions you may have. The events include:

Virtual Village Hall
Register at:
crowdcast.io/e/mfdformal
Wednesday
14th December,
7pm-8pm

Public Exhibition
Neath Little Theatre,
SA11 1BQ
Thursday
15th December,
10am-2pm

Public Exhibition
Tonmawr RFC,
SA12 9UB
Thursday
15th December,
4pm-8pm

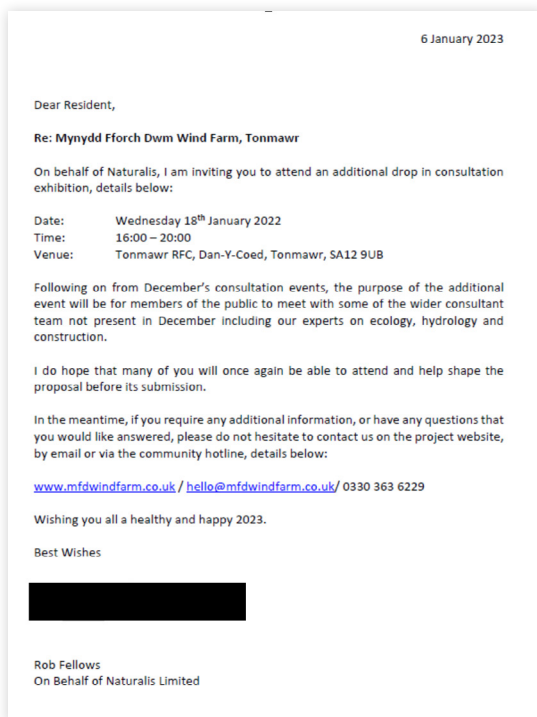
More information on the proposal can be found on our website at www.mfdwindfarm.co.uk

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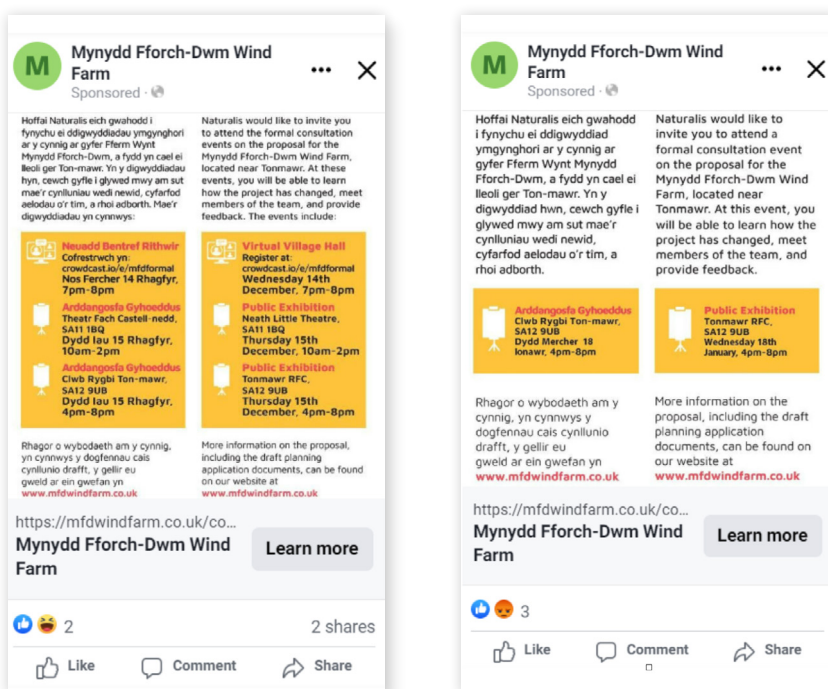
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Appendix 11 – Letter to residents regarding additional event (January 2023)



Appendix 12 – Facebook advertising (Round 2)



Appendix 13 - Feedback form (Round 2, English version)

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm
WIND FARM

HAVE YOUR SAY

We are committed to consulting local residents, businesses, community groups and local elected representatives as we take our proposals through the planning process. Please share your views below.

Your details:

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms/Miss) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

☐ Please tick this box to confirm you would like to receive occasional email updates about proposals for Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm.

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each of the statements below:

- "We are currently in a climate emergency"**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
- "Wales needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources"**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
- "Onshore wind farms in designated areas are a good way to generate renewable energy"**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
- "I support the principle of building a wind farm at Mynydd Fforch-Dwm"**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
- "The adjustments made to the plans for Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm are an improvement on the original proposal"**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
- "Wherever possible, new wind farms should be located next to existing wind farms"**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please see further questions overleaf.

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Mynydd Fforch-Dwm
WIND FARM

HAVE YOUR SAY

- "Local people should have the opportunity to share part of the ownership of Mynydd Fforch-Dwm Wind Farm, so that the wealth generated by renewable energy is shared with local people."**

Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
- Welsh Government policy supports the inclusion of local ownership in all new energy projects. If this project went ahead and should you have an interest in this aspect, how would you invest?**

☐ As an individual	☐ As a local group	☐ Unsure	☐ Not at all
---	---	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------
- If granted consent, the project would deliver a Community Investment Package. Please select the three areas of benefit that are most important to you:**

☐ Apprenticeships and training	☐ Promoting Welsh culture and heritage
☐ Sustainability / energy grants for community buildings and local homes	☐ Business expansion and job creation
☐ Improving access to sport and leisure activities	☐ Local infrastructure improvements (transport, broadband, etc.)
☐ Environmental initiatives	☐ A fund for local organisations and charities to apply
- If you have any other ideas or comments on the Community Investment Package, write them below:**
- Do you have any other concerns about or aspirations for the proposals?**

We will not share your details with external parties. Information stored and used according to the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. Please note: The feedback and comments on this form will not be a formal representation on the application. This can be made to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) after an application has been submitted.

This information is compiled by Quattro Public Relations Ltd. on behalf of Naturalis Energy Developments Ltd.; it will be treated in strict confidence and will not be used to identify you personally. The feedback you provide will be analysed on an anonymous basis and your details will not be passed on to any other third parties.

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Appendix 14 - Public exhibition banners (Round 2)

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Mynydd Fforch-Dwm

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm
WIND FARM

Ecoleg, Adareg a Mwyn

For this site, which is a well established forest of mature trees, the proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Ecology, Ornithology and Peat

As part of the application, we have carried out an environmental impact assessment (EIA). We have conducted a detailed survey of the site and its surroundings, including a peat survey. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Crynodol Sŵn a Chysgod

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Noise and Shadow Flicker

We have completed noise assessments, taking into account the proposed wind farm. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

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FFERM WYNT
Mynydd Fforch-Dwm

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm
WIND FARM

Y Proiect

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

The Project

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Y Proiect

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

The Project

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

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FFERM WYNT
Mynydd Fforch-Dwm

Mynydd Fforch-Dwm
WIND FARM

Y Broses Gynllunio

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Planning Process

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Y Broses Gynllunio

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

Planning Process

The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape. The proposed wind farm is a significant addition to the landscape.

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