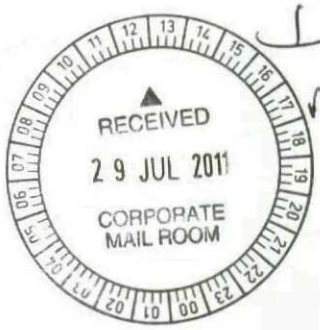
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27 July 2011
Our ref: 64220/PS002

DM
NO CHQ



Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
(Planning Department)
Development Management
Barnsley Council
Barnsley
PO Box 604
S70 7FE

Dear Mr Woodward,

Planning Application – Proposed 70m Meteorological Mast, Park Spring, Barnsley

Please find enclosed a planning application for the proposed development of a 70 m tall meteorological mast at Park Spring, Barnsley. We have included:

- Original and 3 completed copies of the planning application form
- 4 copies of the site location and site plan, and
- 4 copies of a drawing showing a representative elevation of a 70 m meteorological mast

The enclosed site plan shows the proposed nominal location of the meteorological mast, together with a 120 m diameter area within which it may be placed. This area has been highlighted, as a definitive mast location has yet to be identified. The exact location will be identified during the mast erection process, by a specialist mast erection company who will select the most suitable place within this area to erect the mast. Note that the plan also includes a section of 1:25,000 scale ordnance survey map, for the express purpose of highlighting the location of the site, within the context of the surrounding district.

The land take of the proposed meteorological mast is not considered to represent a significant area in terms of the entire landholding (0.1ha). The site is considered to be appropriate in this regard for the proposed (temporary) use. As the proposed application is temporary and has a relatively small footprint, landscaping is not considered necessary. In addition any landscaping could potentially interfere with the equipment housed on the mast and would not be desirable.

[redacted]

I trust this is satisfactory. Should you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself on the number above.

Yours sincerely
PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF LTD.

[redacted]

Aimée Nicholson
Wind Farm Development Engineer, Renewables

Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd
Registered in England and Wales No. 2554514
Registered Office:
Amber Court, William Armstrong Drive
Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7YQ

Design and Access Statement – Park Spring metrological mast

The design of the meteorological mast consists of a guyed pole tower held in place by metal guy wires anchored to ground anchors. The area taken up by the proposed mast includes a small area for a base plate, on top of which the 6" diameter mast will be located, and the area taken up by the mast's anchors. The land area taken up by the anchors (a maximum total of eight will be required) will be minimal. The footprint of the entire structure is less than 0.1 ha.

As a precaution, bird diverters will be attached to the outer guy wires, at intervals of 5 m. This will reduce the potential for bird collisions with the guy wires.

The land take of the proposed meteorological mast is not considered to represent a significant area in terms of the entire landholding. The site is considered to be appropriate in this regard for the proposed (temporary) use. As the proposed application is temporary and has a relatively small footprint it is not considered that landscaping is necessary. In addition any landscaping could potentially interfere with the equipment housed on the tower that would not be desirable.

The site is located within the Great Houghton Greenbelt to the east of Barnsley which will need to be given due consideration as part of any future EIA. It is considered that the site represents a good opportunity to develop a renewable energy project for a number of reasons. These reasons include:

- Availability of good wind resource;
- Location outside existing ecological designations;
- Location outside landscape designations;
- Location outside known areas of historical value;
- Location relatively well removed from existing settlements;
- Availability of large areas of land for the development;
- Availability of electrical connection.

We have assessed the relevant policies (CSP 34 from the BMBC LDF Core Strategy and DA5 from the Barnsley UDP) and believe that the temporary nature of this planning application will not have a negative impact upon the greenbelt. In the wider context we believe that the advantages of a wind farm and the contribution they make to reduce dependency on non-renewable sources justify the need to build within the greenbelt.

Access to the site is from the east of the site along Park Lane. The installation of the mast will not require the creation of additional access roads/tracks or entrance from a public highway. Installation of the mast will take 1-2 days, and the mast and equipment will be delivered to site using a pick-up truck and a van with a trailer. The installation will require 5 people to be on site for the duration of the installation. Decommissioning of the mast requires similar resources to the installation process and all equipment above ground will be removed leaving the site in a similar condition as before installation.

During the operational lifetime of the meteorological mast, there will be a need to access the equipment on an irregular basis (approximately every six months) to ensure that the instrumentation on the mast is functioning correctly and to carry out any necessary maintenance tasks. This will not require any special access arrangements and will be undertaken by an engineer familiar with process of meteorological data collection.