

Dear Sirs

I am writing with reference to the above inquiry.

My husband and I live in the Highlands of Scotland, UK and believe the issues here are relevant worldwide.

We are witnessing, with increasing despair, the building of windfarms across our stunning landscapes. We are not opposed to renewable energy but we object in the strongest possible terms to being made to pay through our taxes and electricity bills for inefficient, uneconomic turbines. We are also aware of the huge impact on the health of the people of China who mine or live near the rare earth mines that produce the huge quantity of Neodymium that is required in modern turbines. The pollution from these mines is enormous with radio-active waste and secret toxic dumps - that get larger with every turbine that is built.

We want to live in a caring society that does not blight the lives of others whether here or in China.

We have seen the distress caused to people who are forced to live near wind farms. The knowledge that their existence is for our government to show the world they are doing something and to line the pockets of landowners and developers is quite honestly disgraceful.

Despite what the developers tell you property prices do fall - quite significantly and they don't recover. Depending on where the wind farms are some people cannot even sell their homes because of them. This can create real hardship to people wishing to downsize as they get older and had hoped their property would give them some financial benefit in later life.

Use the subsidies paid to the developers and landowners to research other forms of renewables that will not have such a severe impact on our and others' lives, health, tourism, wildlife, environment, property values etc etc

Yours faithfully

Nick & Lyndsey Ward