

OBJ/416/002a

Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council Survey

Methodology

Residents were informed by means of the regular newsletters that a community survey would be taking place and survey forms delivered with the newsletters. This took place during June and July 2013 to coincide with normal newsletter distribution dates. This delivery covers a high proportion of the community and 650 forms were distributed.

Residents were asked to leave completed forms on their doorsteps on a certain date and a small team of community councillors collected these forms.

Response forms had a tear off strip for respondents to put their address. These were removed before collation of responses and retained as a check that forms were legitimately from residencies in the area, there was no double counting and validity of the survey could be checked.

The form provided brief, factual information on the survey and why the council were seeking local views and the following information on the proposals: a tick box survey and space for any comments

Responses received: 329

	No	Yes	Don't know
Do you support proposals to construct further large numbers of wind turbines in upland Powys ?	322 97.9%	7 2.1%	0 0%
Do you approve NG's plan to construct a 400kV steel tower pylon line from a sub-station at Cefn Coch running 30 miles down the Meifod valley and through North Shropshire to West Felton ?	324 98.5%	1 0.3%	4 1.2%
Do you approve SPEN's proposal for a double wooden transmission line from Llandinam to Welshpool via the Kerry Hills, Cefn y Coed Hills, Llandyssil and the Vale of Montgomery ?	311 94.5%	14 4.3%	4 1.2%

In terms of additional comments received these could be broadly categorised for ease of analysis:

Topic	Number of related comments
Inadequacy of on-shore wind as an economic power source (including reference to cost / benefit generally; vested interests; limited power generation; unreliability; fuel poverty)	26
Enough windfarms already	9
Negative effects on economy / tourism	8
Negative impact on environment	7
Transmission lines only acceptable if underground	18
Adverse landscape impacts	29
Concerns at general wind energy policies	10
Need to explore other / better alternatives for energy production (inc. more emphasis on small scale community renewables)	19
Health issues	3
Need to produce 20% of UK energy from renewables	1

Some respondents made comments which relate to more than one category and this has been represented.

A representative sample of comments is given including the one comment supporting the proposals.

Out of date policies. Each village / town should generate their own power not cross the countryside with poles and wires.

Need to produce 20% of UK's energy from renewables. Upland Powys has the wind capacity to help reach that. All powerlines should be built underground.

This would be a disaster for Mid Wales

The community council should not accept any offers made to it in the form of community compensation...they do it only for publicity and to suggest the community has come round to accept the idea

Outrageous destruction of our inherited countryside

The whole idea of going green is to save the environment not destroy it. There are better forms of green energy available

Windfarms are inefficient

Good idea in principle but at what cost ??

Let the electricity generation take place where it is most needed and used in the cities and towns

If we all had solar panels we would not need windfarms

Terrible destruction

The destruction of our countryside is too high a price to pay for a woefully inadequate source of power