

# OBJECTION COMPRISING SOME WILDLIFE CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO THE CARNEDD WEN, AND LLANBRYNMAIR WINDFARM APPLICATIONS

I am a local resident and am especially concerned about the proposed wind "farms" - already proven to have disastrous effects on wildlife. They will have an even worse impact than isolated wind "farms" because of the way they will stretch "shoulder to shoulder" across this landscape.

Worse than this, is my conviction that once permission is granted for these generating stations, the region will then be considered to be so contaminated with them, that it will no longer be considered a valued landscape and the floodgates will open, and even spaces seemingly left unsullied by these particular applications will the get filled in.

The central Welsh plateau will then be forever an industrial landscape. All the experience of windfarm development for decades has provided unequivocal evidence that the companies **always** apply for extensions and size increases.

## BIRDS:

Recent research in Spain, one of the world's most wind-farmed nations, has concluded that between **six and eight million** birds and bats are killed there **annually. That is just one country!**

When we see the blades rotating in what looks like a lazy fashion, the wing tips of modern wind-turbines are travelling at over 150m.p.h.

The wing tips are up to 80 or 90 yards apart from one another! That sounds like a lot of separation, with plenty of space for birds or bats to pass between.

**In fact**, typically each tip passes a given point in less than 1.5 seconds. In the case of the V80 machine it is down to 1.2 seconds. So if a bird arrives just too early for tip number one to strike it, 1.2 seconds later the machine will have another go at it with tip number 2.

Empirical "reality on the ground" experience from countries with long term experience of

windfarms - Germany, Denmark, Norway, and the USA lead to published actual bird deaths.



**Red Kite - icon of mid-Wales**

The most vulnerable birds are some of the rarest. They typically inhabit **precisely** the types of landscape which wind-generator companies and policies such as TAN 8 seek out.

**Ranked in order of the most killed** one research survey's findings showed :-

**99 Red Kite**

**95 Buzzard** (including Honey Buzzard, and Rough-Legged Buzzard)

**32 White Tailed Sea Eagles**

**75+ Golden Eagle**

**1,300 every year of Other**

**Raptors** - such as the Peregrine; Marsh Harrier, Hen Harrier, Sparrow Hawk, GosHawk. Barn Owls, Tawny Owls. The list goes on.

Most of these birds are relatively slow flying. They fly quite low. They quarter the ground repeatedly and so present themselves repeatedly to the whirling blades.

The RSPB's position is even more invidious. It tries to have its cake and eat it. It has chosen corporately to unquestioningly believe in global warming and says that wind farms will be so effective in combating it that the wind-kills are

all justified because without the hilltop generating stations the world will overheat and kill all the birds anyway.

So-called Friends of the Earth and C.A.T. make the same claim. It is very highly unlikely to be true, and they offer no evidence in support of their claim; they merely repeat it.

The RSPB in its leaflets announces "it is an offence to use traps or similar items to kill, injure or take wild birds." Are wind turbines a "similar item"?

### BATS.

Bats - again a typical genus of the land areas involved. They are highly protected, vulnerable, and falling in numbers.

Millions are dying every year in the race for wind energy profits, and yet UK law makes it a statutory **offence** "To knowingly set and use articles capable of .... injuring or killing a bat.

Bats suffer in worse ways than birds. Actual autopsies on dead bats beneath wind turbines evidence severe trauma damage to their lungs consistent with their having been, not hit by a blade, but merely caught too near the trailing vortex of a blade tip. This is how a diver would die if he suddenly bubbled up to the surface from deep below the waves. A horrible death.

A recent paper by qualified scientists suggests that bats may be **attracted towards the blades** from considerable distances, so that kills are not randomly distributed by to some extent induced.

So the removal of the Carnedd Wen forest, and with it a source of succour and food for bats, may realistically be expected to drive the bats into the windfarm.

Many bats appear to have died simply from shock, or pressure wave.

Natural England takes cognisance of the fact that European experience has been logged with respect to bats and confirms huge kills. It says that research in the UK as yet is still

sparse. There seems no reason to believe that European bats will behave differently to UK ones, or that UK ones will die less frequently.

### OTHER SPECIES.

The projects under discussion are simply immense. In total between the two wind-farms the anticipated clearing, road building, quarrying, and other civil engineering is expected to be seven years long for one, and three years long for the other. By the end of which the entire huge habitat will have been irretrievably destroyed.

One of the most telling episodes in Water-ship Down, the story of the Rabbits, is when the key characters wake up one morning and cannot believe their eyes - "The field has gone. Someone has taken the field", said one.

When these giant industrialisations are completed, not only will the habitat have gone, but so will the Badgers, the Great Crested Newts, the Polecats, the Pine Martens, and all the other wildlife creatures that help make up the bio-diversity that other parts of our deranged government say it is essential to retain.

These increasingly rare and endangered species value this land with their lives. Like the Welsh in the times of the Angles and the Saxons and the Conquering Normans, they have been driven further and further into what little is left of our wilderness, and now even that is to be destroyed.

Are we really going to tolerate seeing their last havens comprehensively destroyed, and all so fruitlessly? But oh so profitably....

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