

FUL/MAL/10/00004

Construction of nine wind turbine generators with an overall height to tip of 125m, and associated crane hardstanding areas, access tracks, substation building, 80m meteorological mast, hardstanding area for marine access, temporary lay-down area, temporary construction compound and associated electrical infrastructure.

Land between Middlewick Farm and Wraywick Farm The Marshes Southminster
Essex

REASONS FOR REFUSAL

1. The proposed wind farm development has received a high level of objection from the local community and is considered inappropriate in this setting due to the scale of the turbines and their visual intrusion upon this unique countryside and coastal landscape. As such the proposed is contrary to Government policy as set out in Open Source Planning Green Paper, the emerging Devolution and Localism Bill and policies CC6, CC7, BE1 and PU6 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan.
2. The proposed wind farm development would have a detrimental impact upon the character and quality of the local landscape which is recognised for its natural beauty and tranquillity as a Special Landscape Area. The landscape is also recognised for its ecological and conservational importance. The proposal is therefore contrary to policies CC6, CC7, BE1 and PU6 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan.
3. The proposed development would have a detrimental impact on the living conditions of nearby residents and the wider area resulting in a loss of outlook to the detriment of visual amenity and potential noise and disturbance arising from the wind turbines and associated infrastructure. The proposal is therefore contrary to policies BE1 and PU6 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan
4. The proposed development would lead to vibrations, noise and disruption from the construction traffic using the local road networks to and from the site, particularly in the village of Southminster. The local road network would be subjected to an excessive increase in vehicle movements, particularly from heavy goods vehicles where the local road network to the site is narrow and restricted. As a result of the proposal would have a detrimental impact upon the residential amenities of properties along the construction route and would be detrimental to highway safety for pedestrian and vehicle users of the public highway. The proposal is therefore contrary to policies BE1, T2 and PU6 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan