



## **DORSET AGAINST RURAL TURBINES**

[www.dartdorset.org](http://www.dartdorset.org)

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **LOCAL GROUP SUBMIT FURTHER EVIDENCE ON COST OF WIND POWER AND UNCERTAINTY OVER THE LOCAL DEVELOPER'S STATUS**

DART (Dorset Against Rural Turbines), a growing community-based organisation representing local inhabitants struggling against the attempt by Your Energy Ltd (which is controlled by Bahamas registered Mistral Invest Ltd), to build an industrial wind power station comprising nine (9) industrial turbines on land near Winterborne Zelston, today pointed to further evidence from Germany on the potential costs of wind-power versus the expected results.

In the last week the German Energy Authority, DENA, has issued a report strongly critical of the country's current wind policy. Germany knows more about managing large scale wind power than any other country, and now confirms that the difficulties and costs, including grid balancing and massive pylon building programs, are extremely high yet the CO2 savings are at best modest. DENA concludes that there are better, cheaper, ways to reduce CO2 emissions, and as a consequence Wolfgang Clement, the Federal Economics Minister, has, in Der Spiegel, suggested that wind power is unaffordable.

DART calls for the government to learn from this experience and claims that it is becoming increasingly evident that Your Energy Ltd has chosen the Winterborne Zelston site purely 'for the financial gain due to the large tax payer subsidies available from Government to Developers & the Landowners'.

They draw supporting evidence from the recent National Audit Office (NAO) report, which claims that onshore wind is over-subsidised by 33%. The Dorset proposal could make many thousands of pounds a year for the Landowners, 70% of which would come from an indirect subsidy on consumers' electricity bills. The NAO estimates that by 2010 this subsidy will cause all electricity bills to rise by 5.7%. This is only a price even potentially worth paying, if the power were to be reliable and making a real contribution to climate change.

The Dorset application by Your Energy Ltd has already been turned down by North Dorset District Council last October but could yet go to Appeal or be resubmitted in modified form. DART suggest that any further application would have to proceed with caution as Your Energy's current financial status is unclear. Companies House confirmed last week that Your Energy has failed to file accounts and has not responded to statutory



reminders. Consequently, Companies House is currently taking the standard procedural action to remove Your Energy Ltd. from the companies register.

DART spokesman, Julien Turner, says “the blight caused by this application has been a nightmare for the local communities for almost 2 years. Now, to add insult to injury, we seem to have further concerns in regard to the company’s status, mindful also that 3 senior Directors have recently left - the Chairman (Bill Richmond), Company Secretary (Richard Ward) and from the Bournemouth office, the key local Director & Spokesman (Charles Sandham).

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