



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Michael W Russell MSP
Argyll and Bute

Paul Wheelhouse MSP
Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy

By email: ministerBIE@gov.scot

10th Feb 2017

Dear Paul,

Bachan Burn Wind Farm

I write in connection with a renewed application for the above which I understand is being brought forward by the developer of land which is owned by the Forestry Commission.

I remain very concerned about this proposal and spoke against it at a public meeting in Dunoon when it was first mooted. The proposal has little if any public support within the area and there is a very strong concern about the landscape impact from the development.

I am also concerned that the developers appear to be operating in a less than transparent manner. I understand that there are meetings taking place with some small community groups to endeavour to persuade them to back the proposal but that there is no transparency in this process and accordingly the much larger groups of people who are opposed to it are being excluded from any open debate and discussion. This is contrary to best practice and should not be encouraged.

Given that there have been two previous proposals for this site which were turned down I do think that the community's objection should be taken very seriously before the proposal even goes in to its formal stage and I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Michael W. Russell MSP
Argyll and Bute

Cc: Douglas McCallum, Save Cowal's Hills, mccallumdouglas@hotmail.com

81 Argyll Street, Dunoon, PA23 7DH

Tel: 01369 702011 | Email: michael.russell.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Facebook: Michael Russel MSP Argyll and Bute | Twitter: @feorlean