



Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Kathe Kirimaa
Ministry of Defence
Safeguarding Department
DIO Head Office
St George's House
DMS Whittington
Lichfield
Staffordshire WS14 9PY

Your reference: 4/26/2085/DOC

E-mail: DIO-safeguarding-wind@mod.gov.uk

Our reference: DIO18339

www.mod.uk/DIO

Heather Morrison
Cumberland Council
The Market Hall
Market Place
Whitehaven
Cumbria
CA28 7JG

27 April 2026

By email only

Dear Heather,

Application Reference: **4/26/2085/DOC**
Site Name: **Highfield Farm Wind Turbine Repowering**
Proposal: **Discharge of Conditions 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 of
Planning Application 4/24/2334/0F1**
Site address: **Highfield Farm, Bigrigg, Egremont.**

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on the information submitted in support of the above application to discharge Conditions 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16.

Planning permission was granted on 16 October 2025 subject to conditions for the 'removal of existing wind turbine and erection of replacement wind turbine, up to 76m blade tip height, with associated development' following an application with reference number 4/24/2334/0F1.

MOD responded to consultation on application with reference 4/24/2334/0F1 with a letter dated 19 March 2025 offering no objection subject to conditions being applied to any consent issued. The conditions stipulated in that response are designed to minimise the impact of the development on aviation safety by requiring the submission of sufficient data to allow the turbine to be accurately charted and requiring that the turbine is fitted with infrared lighting which would be displayed at the highest practicable point of the wind turbine.

Through the current application, the applicant seeks to discharge the following conditions attached to the planning permission issued in response to application with reference 4/24/2334/0F1:

Condition 6

No development shall commence until detailed plans, specifications and drawings of the wind turbine generator to be installed shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason

For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of amenity and visual impact in accordance with Policies DS4 and N6 of the Copeland Local Plan 2021-2039.

Condition 10

No building or use hereby permitted shall be occupied or use commenced until a protocol for the management of shadow flicker on sensitive receptors has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason

In order to safeguard the amenities of adjoining residential occupiers in accordance with Policy DS4 of the Copeland Local Plan 2021-2039.

Condition 11

Prior to commencing construction of any wind turbine generators, or deploying any construction equipment or temporal structure(s) 50 metres or more in height (above ground level) the undertaker must submit an aviation lighting scheme for the approval of the Cumberland Council in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence defining how the development will be lit throughout its life to maintain civil and military aviation safety requirements as determined necessary for aviation safety by the Ministry of Defence. This should set out:

- a) details of any construction equipment and temporal structures with a total height of 50 metres or greater (above ground level) that will be deployed during the construction of wind turbine generators and details of any aviation warning lighting that they will be fitted with; and
- b) the locations and heights of all wind turbine generators and any anemometry mast featured in the development identifying those that will be fitted with aviation warning lighting identifying the position of the lights on the wind turbine generators; the type(s) of lights that will be fitted and the performance specification(s) of the lighting type(s) to be used.

Thereafter, the undertaker must exhibit such lights as detailed in the approved aviation lighting scheme. The lighting installed will remain operational for the lifetime of the development.

Reason

To maintain aviation safety.

Condition 12

The undertaker must notify the Ministry of Defence, at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the works, in writing of the following information:

- a) the date of the commencement of the erection of wind turbine generators;

- b) the maximum height of any construction equipment to be used in the erection of the wind turbines;
- c) the date any wind turbine generators are brought into use;
- d) the latitude and longitude and maximum heights of each wind turbine generator, and any anemometer mast(s).

The Ministry of Defence must be notified of any changes to the information supplied in accordance with these requirements and of the completion of the construction of the development.

Reason

To maintain aviation safety.

Condition 14

No development shall commence until a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

The CTMP shall include details of:

- pre-construction road condition established by a detailed survey for accommodation works within the highways boundary conducted with a Highway Authority representative; with all post repairs carried out to the satisfaction of the Local Highway Authority at the applicants expense;
 - details of proposed crossings of the highway verge;
 - retained areas for vehicle parking, manoeuvring, loading and unloading for their specific purpose during the development;
 - cleaning of site entrances and the adjacent public highway;
 - details of proposed wheel washing facilities;
 - the sheeting of all HGVs taking spoil to/from the site to prevent spillage or deposit of any materials on the highway;
 - construction vehicle routing;
 - the management of junctions to and crossings of the public highway and other public rights of way/footway;
 - details of any proposed temporary access points (vehicular / pedestrian)
 - surface water management details during the construction phase
- The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the approved CTMP.

Reason

To ensure the undertaking of the development does not adversely impact upon the fabric or operation of the local highway network and in the interests of highway and pedestrian safety in accordance with the provisions of Policy CO4 of the Copeland Local Plan 2021-2039.

Condition 15

No development shall take place until a site-specific Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The plan must demonstrate the adoption and use of the best practicable means to reduce the effects of noise, vibration, dust and effects on the local ecological environment during the demolition and construction phase of the works.

The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the approved CEMP.

Reason

To protect amenity and to protect the environment from pollution in accordance with Policy DS9 of the Copeland Local Plan 2021-2039.

Condition 16

The development shall implement all of the recommendations and mitigation measures contained in Highfield Farm Wind Turbine Repowering on behalf of Axis PED Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Report Ref. AxisL-043-8710.

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved document thereafter.

Reason

To protect the ecological interests of the site and surrounding area in accordance with Policy N1 of the Copeland Local Plan 2021-2039.

Whilst the MOD has no comments to make on the information submitted in response to conditions 6, 10, 14, 15 and 16, conditions 11 and 12 have been applied in response to MOD requirements.

After reviewing the submitted documents, I can confirm that the MOD has no objection to the discharge of condition 11, subject to the turbine being fitted with a MB17UK-IR aviation obstruction light located on the nacelle. The lighting specified is to be installed as the development is implemented and thereafter be maintained for the life of the development. There should be no departure or variation from the light specified by the applicant, a MB17-UK-IR without the express written consent of the which should only be given following consultation with the MOD.

The information provided in response to Condition 12 is sufficient and has been passed to the relevant department, the MOD would have no objection to the discharge of conditions 11 and 12.

MOD Safeguarding wishes to be consulted and notified about the progress of any further applications and/or submissions relating to this proposal to verify that it will not adversely affect defence interests.

I hope this adequately explains our position on the matter. Further information about the effects of wind turbines on MOD interests can be obtained from the following website:

MOD: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wind-farms-ministry-of-defence-safeguarding>

Yours sincerely,

Kathe Kirimaa

Kathe Kirimaa
Assistant Safeguarding Manager