

South Cowal Community Council

PO Box 3437
Dunoon
PA23 7RW

Mr Angus Gilmore
Head of Planning
Argyll and Bute Council
Kilmory
PA31 8RT

31 October 2007

Dear Mr Gilmore,

The Community Council would like to register its views on the proposed Corlarach Hills Windfarm.

There has been considerable interest in this matter raised locally and the Community Council has striven assiduously to gauge and reflect public opinion.

We have done this by means of a direct face to face questionnaire administered by volunteers, by an online questionnaire and by hosting a number of public meetings at one of which the developer made a presentation to members of the public which was followed by a question and answer session.

All of these are a matter of public record and are accessible on our website www.southcowal.org. This website is also accessible via the Council website.

Although there is a considerable and vocal section of the community who are implacably opposed to any form of windfarm development their views do not appear to reflect that of the wider community. We understand, respect and recognize their views.

92 people responded to our face to face survey. The majority of those were either supportive of windfarms or neutrally disposed to them. Our online survey elicited 10 responses despite a letter in the local paper inviting participation. The pattern of responses was similar to the face to face questionnaire with more respondents being in favour or neutral.

We have little evidence to suggest that the wider community is greatly vexed by this matter whose attitude seems to either be indifference or acquiescence.

Overall South Cowal Community Council has formed the view that we are broadly in favour of renewable initiatives in general and this development in particular. We are re-assured that it will not be visible from the shoreline at Innellan and as such the loss of visual amenity will be minimal to most of our residents.

We have reservations about the possible disruption that may ensue during construction but understand that this will be time limited and kept to a minimum. It is conceivable that this will be further reduced if access to the site can be achieved by the forestry road.

We trust that if planning permission is granted stipulation to this effect will be made.

Yours sincerely

Dr Christopher Valentine
Chairman