

Appendix A: JCS Policy 26 (Renewable & Low Carbon Energy)

POLICY 26 – RENEWABLE AND LOW CARBON ENERGY

Proposals for sensitively located renewable and low carbon energy generation will be supported where it can be demonstrated that the proposal meets all of the following criteria:

- a) The landscape impact of the development is minimised and mitigated against;
- b) The development links to a specific demand through a decentralised energy network or where this is not possible, the necessary infrastructure is provided to supply power to the National Grid;
- c) The siting of development avoids harm to the significance of a heritage asset and its setting in accordance with the provisions of the NPPF;
- d) The siting of development does not significantly adversely affect the amenity of existing, or proposed, residential dwellings and/or businesses, either in isolation or cumulatively, by reason of noise, odour intrusion, dust, traffic generation, visual impact or shadow flicker;
- e) The development does not result in an adverse impact on the capacity and safety of the highways network and of public rights of way;
- f) The development includes a managed programme of measures to mitigate against any adverse impacts on the built and natural environment resulting from the construction, operation and decommissioning of any equipment/infrastructure;
- g) The development does not create a significant adverse cumulative noise or visual impact when considered in conjunction with other developments planned within North Northamptonshire and adjoining local authority areas;
- h) The development retains and enhances on-site biodiversity and supports the enlargement of, and/or connection to, existing biodiversity assets such as wildlife corridors, where possible;
- i) Proposals for Solar Photovoltaic farms avoid the best and most versatile agricultural land.

Provision will be made for the removal of apparatus and reinstatement of the site to an acceptable condition, should the scheme become redundant and/or at the end of the permitted period for time limited planning permissions.

Land at Burton Wold is identified for an Energy Park to add to the range of renewable energy technologies already present. The development will serve as a decentralised energy network which will link the energy production to existing and new developments.

Proposals within the Energy Park should meet criteria a) to i) above and should also be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan which will be prepared in consultation with the local community and stakeholders and agreed by the local planning authority;

This will:

1. Define development boundaries and also the renewable/low carbon technologies and land uses to be developed on the site;
2. Make provision for a mix of complimentary employment uses to facilitate development of local knowledge, expertise and research and development;
3. Demonstrate how the proposal will contribute towards meeting the energy needs of existing and planned development, including East Kettering SUE, strategic development at Junction 10 of the A14 and employment uses associated with the site;
4. Create a model for zero carbon energy through the installation of exemplary energy efficiency standards in buildings which use energy produced on-site in their operation.