

## Notes of Meeting

### Noise Working Group (NWG)

DTI Conference Centre, 1 Victoria Street  
19 October 2006

**Present:** Kristian Armstrong (DTI)  
Zoe Keeton (DTI)  
Jonathan Perks (FES)  
Mark Dorrington (FES)  
Sue Ellis (DEFRA)  
Richard Perkins (DEFRA)  
Alan Purdue (Castle Morpeth LA)  
David Spode (Shrewsbury LA)  
Andy McKenzie (Hayes McKenzie Partnership Ltd)  
Malcolm Hayes (Hayes McKenzie Partnership Ltd)  
Bob Davis (RD Associates)  
Dick Bowdler (New Acoustics)  
Geoff Leventhall (Consultant)  
Mark Legerton (npower)  
Mark Jiggins (Hoare Lea Acoustics)  
Andrew Bullmore (Hoare Lea Acoustics)  
Mike Anderson (RES)  
Chris Tomlinson (BWEA)

**Apologies:** Sarah Kydd (DTI)  
Bernard Berry (Consultant)  
Marcus Trinick (Bond Pearce)  
Huw Thomas (Anglesey LA)  
Jeremy Bass (RES)  
Mike Raw (Scottish Borders LA)  
Helen Matthews (DEFRA)  
Douglas Crockett (DCLG)

#### 1. Introduction by Kristian Armstrong

Kristian Armstrong welcomed those present. Kristian briefed the NWG on the DTI's aspirations in meeting 2010 and 2020 renewable energy targets and the role that wind energy played in helping to meet these targets.

Kristian then reviewed the role of the NWG (Ref. Annex 1) and explained that the NWG was an advisory Group to DTI, solely to provide clear expert technical advice and guidance on the issue surrounding Amplitude Modulation of Aerodynamic Noise (AM). This was agreed by the NWG.

Kristian informed the NWG that a statement prepared by DTI, DEFRA and DCLG will be released soon (date tbc). This statement seeks to clarify the position with regard to the

LFN<sup>1</sup> report and the action being taken by the NWG in the area on AM. Its aim is to give clear guidance to local authorities and inspectors when considering wind farm applications.

**2. Agree minute of last meeting**

Minutes from the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2006 were agreed by the NWG.

**3. Proposal for an Investigation into AM of Windfarm Noise Immissions**

It was agreed at the NWG meeting, held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2006, that the NWG should commission a study to gather empirical data from existing sites to better understand the extent and cause of AM (Ref. NWG Minutes of 2 August 2006). In line with this action an outline proposal was submitted to the NWG for discussion and agreement.

Following a detailed discussion the NWG agreed on the scope of work and approach to be undertaken. A revised proposal will be submitted to the NWG and DTI/DEFRA will discuss contractual and funding matters. It was the aspiration of the NWG that this work be undertaken at the earliest opportunity.

**4. Recommendations / Review of Actions**

- DTI, DEFRA and DCLG to release statement to local authorities and inspectors (release date tbc).
  
- Revised proposal, "Investigation into AM of Windfarm Noise Immissions", to be prepared and circulated to the NWG. DTI and DEFRA to investigate contractual matters and funding.

**5. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**6. Date of Next Meeting**

Provisional date March 2007 (tbc).

Future Energy Solutions  
20 October 2006

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**Annex 1.**

Terms of Reference

**The NWG will address issues specifically relating to the Hayes McKenzie report:**

- Consider and agree, if thought appropriate, the main conclusions of the report
- Consider the report's findings relating to AM
- If appropriate, provide a means to assess and apply a correction where AM is predicted to be a clearly audible feature
- Make clear recommendations to advise Government

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<sup>1</sup> Hayes McKenzie report on Low Frequency Noise (The Measurement of Low Frequency Noise at Three UK Wind Farms, W/45/00656/00/00, URN No. 06/1412)