

Press Statement

Save Our Common Mountain Environment

Release Date: 19 January 2010

Save our Common Mountain Environment (SOCME) welcome Swansea Planning's Report for planning application 2008/1781, and urge Councillors to support their Officers recommendations to OBJECT.

Planning application 2008/1781 seeks planning permission to erect 19 industrial wind turbines, which are taller than Meridian Quay, on scenic common land, a candidate Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, at Mynydd y Gwair. The common can be seen from the centre of Swansea, and the Gower AONB, and is an important green space for the City and County alike.

Save our Common Mountain Environment (SOCME) was set up in 2003 to do exactly as the name implies. It is a community group made up principally of people who live and work around Mynydd y Gwair. It has gathered tremendous support in the last six years, locally, nationally, and internationally, as it tries to give the argument to save these beautiful surroundings and preserve them for posterity. Those already familiar with our campaign will recall the protest walk in 2004, attended by hundreds of objectors, who were addressed by Professor David Bellamy, and which made headline television news in Wales. More information can be found on: www.socme.org

SOCME welcomes Swansea Planning's Report, which recommends objection, on multiple grounds, to the planning application. The report is Item 5 within:
<http://www.swansea.gov.uk/media/pdf/m/9/:agendapack.pdf>

City and County of Swansea Councillors will debate and vote on the planning application on **Thursday this week**, 21st January 2010. Councillors are unable to reject the planning application, as the applicants have already lodged an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate Wales, which is why the

recommendation from Swansea Planning is termed an objection, rather than a refusal. SOCME hopes that the Councillors will follow the advice of their Officers, and OBJECT in the strongest possible terms to the planning application.

Local concern has been so strong that Mawr Community Council are laying on minibuses to help those who wish to witness the proceedings this Thursday to attend the meeting in the public gallery at the Civic Centre, Oystermouth Road, in Swansea.

SOCME supporters will meet for a short rally outside the Civic Centre at 1pm on Thursday 21st January 2010, prior to the start of the meeting at 2pm.



For further details email:
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