

SG Rural Development 3: Other renewable energy developments

We will approve renewable energy development, subject to other policies, if it is located, sited and designed in accordance with the following criteria. The applicant must demonstrate that:

- 1) any new facilities are well related to the source of the primary renewable resources that are needed for operation; AND**
- 2) the proposal will not compromise public health, safety or amenity; AND**
- 3) satisfactory steps will be taken to mitigate any negative development impacts on occupiers of nearby properties (in or outwith a settlement boundary).**

In all cases, if consent is granted, we will approve appropriate conditions (along with a legal agreement under Section 75, where necessary), relating to the removal of the development and associated equipment and to the restoration of the site, whenever the consent expires or the project ceases to operate for a specific period.

Reasoned Justification

The aim of this policy is to encourage the sensitive development of renewable energy resources. Particular attention will therefore be given to other policies that relate to ensuring protection of the landscape, nature conservation interests and amenity of the area, as well as transportation considerations.

Renewable energy development could potentially have an impact on occupiers of neighbouring properties, such as noise, visual intrusion, or traffic movement. The developer should demonstrate that satisfactory steps have been taken to mitigate negative development impacts. Likewise such developments may have a landscape impact and this will require to be assessed in the context of Policy 12: Landscape conservation.