

Summary of Wind Farm Appeals by Paul Griffiths

Our Ref	Decision Date	Appeal ref	Description	Location	Developer	Decision	Key	
							Impacts	Comments
1	11-May-09	APP/G0908/A/08/2073524	4 x 121m Turbines	Silloth, Cumbria, CA7 4PZ	NPower Renewables	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, nearby Solway AONB, Residential, Cumulative, Ecology, Tourism	PG agreed the proposal would be seen juxtaposed with other wind farms, yet would not accept adverse cumulative impact. PG agreed the WF would be detrimental to the living conditions of those residents closest to the site, some of which already viewed multiple WFs.
2	27-Jul-09	APP/X4725/A/09/2101190	2 x 24m Turbines	Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 6EZ	A & E Hughes	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Residential, Green Belt	Nearest home within 100m
3	19-Nov-09	APP/P1560/A/08/2088548	5 x 125m Turbines	Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO16 8BP	NPower Renewables	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, Residential, Recreational	317 homes within 1km, 167 within 800m, nearest 600m
4	28-Jan-10	APP/E2001/A/09/2097720	3 x 111m Turbines	Roos, East Yorkshire, HU12 0HN	EON	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, Cumulative, Heritage, Conservation Area, Residential	Impacted Heritage includes 2 Grade 1 listed churches. Holiday park homes within 600-700m of turbines
5	03-Feb-10	APP/C3430/A/09/2111073	1 x Turbine (height not given)	Brewood, Staffordshire, ST19 9DJ	J Goodreid	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Green Belt, Heritage, Residential, 2 Conservation Areas	
6	15-Mar-10	APP/E0915/A/09/2101659	3 x 115m Turbines	Cumwhinton, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA4	Bolsterstone Innovative Energy (Carlisle) Ltd	<b>DISMISSED</b>	Landscape, Cumulative, Residential	Near to M6. PG agreed harm would be caused to landscape. Homes within 420m. Appeal dismissed over two homes that would "suffer significant detrimental effect on living conditions"
7	29-Mar-10	APP/F2415/A/09/2109745	4 x 125m Turbines	Ashby Magna, Leicestershire, LE17 5NB	Broadview Energy Developments	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, Residential	This is very attractive countryside yet PG described it as "This is not, in my view, an intimate landscape. I consider that, in this context, very tall manmade objects like wind turbines would not appear wholly incongruous". Since being built the turbines have proved him very wrong
8	06-Sep-10	APP/Z4718/A/10/2128426	1 x 126m Turbine	Birstall, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 9LU	Mars Complementary Petcare	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Character and Appearance of Local Area, Residential	Cited on industrial park adjacent to M62
9	11-Feb-11	APP/Z4718/A/10/2138246	2 x 25m Turbines.	Nettleton Hill, Golcar, West Yorkshire, HP7 4PD	Mr & Mrs Kevin Charlesworth	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Green Belt, Character and Appearance of Surrounding Countryside, Heritage, Residential	PG states that turbines can "attain a degree of intrinsic elegance".

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10	22-Mar-11	APP/X1355/A/10/2136431	2 x 105m Turbines	Hawthorn, County Durham, SR7	Sea & Land Power and Energy	DISMISSED	Residential, Protected Species	Appeal dismissed over two homes 390m & 395m from Turbines, plus a housing estate 435m from Turbines
11	19-Dec-11	APP/Y2810/A/11/2154375	5 x 126m & 2 x 121m Turbines	Kelmarsh, Northants, NN6 (site of Naseby Battlefield)	EON	ALLOWED	Setting of Heritage Assets, Residential, Landscape	This and the below appeal represent two of the most contentious and perceived perverse WF decisions. It raised serious mention in Parliament by the local MP Chris Heaton-Harris and the House of Lords via Lord Naseby. PG admitted "There are many heritage assets in the surrounding area, including listed buildings, SAMs, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens, and a Registered Battlefield (Naseby), that the wind turbines proposed would be seen from and in juxtaposition with"
12	12-Mar-12	APP/G2815/A/11/2156757	4 x 126m Turbines	Sudborough, Northants, PE8 5AT (Lyveden New Bield)	Barnwell Manor Wind Energy	ALLOWED	Heritage, Landscape, Leisure Amenity	The area has a high concentration of Heritage assets the most noted being Lyveden New Build, which with others would be seriously impacted by the WF. The National Trust & English Heritage challenged the appeal decision in the High Court which ruled against Griffiths. The developer is taking the matter to the Appeal Court early 2014. The appeal decision attracted a great deal of media coverage including The Times who referred to Griffiths as 'Inspector Blight'
13	29-Jun-12	APP/K0235/A/11/2160077	4 x 125m Turbines	Chelveston Airfield, Chelveston, Northants, NN9 6AR	Chelveston Renewable Energy	ALLOWED	Landscape, Heritage, Residential, Cumulative Impact	This should be seen in conjunction with the below appeal; there being two applications amounting to a total of 9 turbines. The area is rich in Heritage assets, including Grade 1's. There is also the issue of many other wind farms in the area leading to adverse cumulative impact
14	29-Jun-12	APP/G2815/A/11/2160078	5 x 125m Turbines	Chelveston Airfield, Chelveston, Northants, NN9 6AR	Chelveston Renewable Energy	ALLOWED	See Above	See Above

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15	13-Aug-12	APP/K0235/A/09/2108506	3 x 126m Turbines	Airfield Farm, Podington, Northants, NN29 7JQ	Chelveston Renewable Energy Ltd	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Settings of Heritage Assets, Landscape, Cumulative Impact	This appeal was as a result of High Court JR that quashed the previously dismissed appeal. Numerous other wind farms, operational and on-stream in the area. The 9 turbines permitted by Griffiths at Chelverston (see above) are only 8.8kms away but he does not see this and others closer as being adverse cumulative impact! Chelveston and Podington stand on high plateaus. This appeal decision was taken to HCJR on just one strange argument in respect of Heritage; whilst being critical of Griffiths the Judge did not quash the appeal decision.
16	12-Mar-13	APP/Q3305/A/12/2181741	1 x 54m Turbine	Masbury, Wells, Somerset, BA5 3HB	Windberry Energy Operations	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Setting of Scheduled Ancient Maesbury Castle	PG states "Multivallate hill forts are relatively rare and their importance, in understanding the nature of settlement and social organisation in the Iron Age, means that all examples, with surviving archaeological remains, like Maesbury Castle, are regarded as nationally important". Turbine just 600m from SAM and PG agreed it would be clearly seen from it
17	23-Apr-13	APP/V0728/A/12/2184942	1x 89m Turbine	Lingdale, Saltburn, Cleveland, TS12 3HJ	GHF Energy Ltd	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, Residential	Previous appeal rejected due to impact on residential amenity 730m away. PG accepted the residents would see the turbine as unwelcome, and detrimental to their living conditions but the renewable benefits outweighed this. PG also accepted impact on the landscape

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18	23-May-13	APP/Q3305/A/12/2185032	1 x 34m Turbine	Hillgrove, Wells, Somerset, BA5 3EL	Aspire Planning Ltd	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Nearby AONB, Landscape, Heritage, Residential	Near to a number of SAMs, two being 170m and 330m distant, plus listed building. PG agreed "the wind turbine proposed would be clearly visible from, and in juxtaposition with, all these heritage assets. Also close to border of Mendip Hills AONB from which it will be visible
19	16-Jul-13	APP/P0119/A/12/2184201	1 x 55m Turbine	Dyrham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 8HA	Distributed Generation Ltd	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Impact on AONB, Green Belt, Cotswold Way, Heritage Assets	Located on top of escarpment within AONB and Green Belt, near to M4. The new Planning Guidance was considered by Griffiths but his response was "As the WMS helpfully confirms, the need for renewable energy does not automatically override environmental protections. Furthermore, substantial weight must be given to harm to the Green Belt and great weight to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in AONBs. Nevertheless, in my judgement, the important public benefits that would flow from the proposal clearly outweigh the harm by reason of inappropriateness, and the other harm identified".

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20	17-Oct-13	APP/W3520/A/13/2193966	3 x 20m Turbines	Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7PA	Mr C Havers	DISMISSED	Bats, Cumulative	Dismissed purely on the risks to bats. Whilst he accepted that "There are a number of wind turbines in place in the area around the site, most notably the widely visible, 130 metre tall wind turbines at the Airfield Industrial Estate, Eye9 , the single turbine, approximately 15 metres tall, at Mill Farm, and six wind turbines of a similar height at Poplar Hall Farm. As I observed during the site visits, the nature of the landscape is such that there are many locations around the appeal site where the wind turbines at issue in this appeal would be seen juxtaposed with others". He failed to conclude that this would result in adverse cumulative impact.
21	21-Oct-13	APP/X1118/A/12/2186312	1 x 34m Turbine	West Catkill Farm, Rose Ash, South Molton EX36 4RQ	Mr K J Manley	ALLOWED	Landscape, Cumulative, Residential, Residential	Clearly set within a beautiful area. A number of wind farms and turbines approved locally. Griffiths dismisses the latest Planning Guidance by stating "As the WMS and subsequent guidance make clear, the need for renewable energy does not automatically override environmental protections. Nevertheless, in my judgement, the important and significant benefits that would flow from the proposal at issue in this case clearly outweigh the limited, transient and reversible harm that would be caused to the landscape"

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22	29-Oct-13	APP/R4408/A/12/2187208	1 x 50kw Turbine (no height given)	Penistone, South Yorkshire, S36 7GF	W H Brook & Sons	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Green Belt, Cumulative, Landscape	Griffith accepted that there were already a large number of wind turbines in the area by describing as follows "there are many other wind turbines visible in the area ranging from very large ones grouped in wind farms to the west, and other single turbines, smaller in scale, to the north. While these existing installations are prominent, the views of and across the landscape are wide-ranging and grand in scale" He concluded however this was not adverse cumulative impact!!
23	03-Dec-13	APP/E2001/A/13/2194987	1 x 86m Turbine	Manor Farm, Dunnington, Driffeld YO25 8EG	Mr M G Kirkwood	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Radar (withdrawn)	In an area already saturated with wind farms and turbines - a point not mentioned by any party
24	18-Dec-13	APP/D0840/A/13/2190707	1 x 77m Turbine	Tresarrow Park Farm, Trelights, Port Isaac, Cornwall, PL29 3TW	Murex Energy Ltd	<b>DISMISSED</b>	Landscape and Heritage	Stunning part of Cornwall and the site would be sandwiched between two AONBs, the nearest being 400m, plus Heritage coastline.
25	18-Dec-13	APP/D0840/A/13/2189954	1 x 76m Turbine	Chapel Amble, Wadebridge, Cornwall, PL27 6ET	Mr Andrew Hawkey	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Close to two AONBs (1.4km & 2.5km), only 450m & 490m from homes, close to and within the setting of several heritage assets, including two Grade 1 churches	This is stunning part of Cornwall sandwiched between two AONBs and rich in heritage assets - the very place a large turbine should not be placed. Griffiths' report makes most disturbing reading as it appears quite clear that nowhere would warrant a dismissal from him on landscape or the settings of heritage assets.
26	02-Jan-14	APP/D0840/A/12/2189483	1 X 67m Turbine	Summercourt, Cornwall, TR8 5AD		<b>DISMISSED</b>		Impact on residential amenity
27	02-Jan-14	APP/P1615/A/12/2184035	1 X 86.5m Turbine	Poolway Farm, Coleford, Gloucestershire, GL16 8BW	Mr Ronald Kear	<b>DISMISSED</b>	Landscape and visual residential amenity	Griffiths agreed it would have significantly detrimental impact on the receiving landscape, leisure amenity and residential amenity
28	08-Jan-14	APP/D0515/A/12/2187342	1 X 35m Turbine	Coneywood South Farm, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0SA	Mr Adrian Lawson	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape and safety of airfield, parachute drop zone	
29	08-Jan-14	APP/D0515/A/13/2194993	1 X 47m Turbine	Potash Farm, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0AH	Mr M Mottram	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape and visual residential	
30	09-Jan-14	APP/D0121/A/12/2189597	1 X 79m Turbine	Smart Systems Ltd., Arnolds Way, Yatton BS49 4QN	Smart Systems Ltd.	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Refused at a previous appeal	Located in an industrial and residential area

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31	10-Jan-14	APP/D0515/A/13/2196193	1 X 45m Turbine	Wypemere Farm, 257 Benwick Road, Whittlesey PE7 2HG	E C Brown & Son	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, visual residential amenity	This turbine is in conjunction with the one below
32	15-Jan-14	APP/D0515/A/13/2197903	1 X 45m Turbine	Model Farm, 144 Cock Bank, Turves PE7 2HN	E C Brown & Son	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, visual residential amenity	Turbine would sit squarely in front of the principle windows of a dwelling 440m away
33	17-Jan-14	APP/E2001/A/13/2196322	1 X 45m Turbine	Burton Fleming Grange, Burton Fleming YO25 3HP	Mr Stephen Wells	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Yorkshire Wolds Landscape Area, residential visual amenity, significant harm to ancient monuments	Located in stunning landscape which is being taken over by turbines
34	27-Jan-14	APP/D0515/A/13/2197996	1 X 47m Turbine	Willow Farm, Whittlesey Road, March PE15 0AP	Mr M Mottram	<b>DISMISSED</b>	Landscape and birds	Dismissed due to it not being shown there would be no impact on important species of birds
35	30-Jan-14	APP/D0840/A/13/2190692	1 X 67m Turbine	Bake Sawmill, Trerulefoot, Saltash PL12 5BW	Murex Energy Ltd	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, heritage (this was a joint application with the below)	Located within an Area of Great Landscape Value and prominent on top of a plateau. Opposite to the Tamar Valley AONB and listed gardens
36	30-Jan-14	APP/D0840/A/13/2190702	1 X 67m Turbine	Wilton Farm, Trerulefoot, Saltash PL12 5BX	Murex Energy Ltd	<b>ALLOWED</b>	Landscape, heritage	Located within an Area of Great Landscape Value and prominent on top of a plateau. Opposite to the Tamar Valley AONB and listed gardens