

T: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Orkney Islands Council

planning@orkney.gov.uk

Your ref: 20/037/TPMAJ  
Our ref: CIN/ORK/001  
24 March 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION TO ERECT 6 WIND TURBINES  
(MAXIMUM HEIGHT 149.9 METRES, MAXIMUM WIND FARM CAPACITY 50MW), ERECT  
A METEOROLOGICAL MAST (MAXIMUM HEIGHT 90 METRES) AND A SUBSTATION,  
CREATE AN ACCESS AND CONSTRUCT ACCESS TRACKS, AND ASSOCIATED  
INFRASTRUCTURE AT QUANTERNESS (LAND NEAR), ST OLA, ORKNEY**

Scottish Ministers have decided to require the planning application noted above to be referred to them for determination in terms of Section 46 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Accordingly, a Direction, given in terms of Section 46 is enclosed.

This Direction is given in view of the proposal raising matters which are of national importance in the context of expectations set out in National Planning Framework 3 for the Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters area and the need for an enhanced high voltage energy transmission network, and to avoid any conflict of interest that could have arisen in the event that Orkney Islands Council determined this planning application.

Regulation 35 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 requires the planning authority to serve notice on the applicant for planning permission of the terms of the Direction, of the reasons for issuing it, that the application has been referred to Scottish Ministers and that the decision of Ministers will be final. In connection with the service of notice, your attention is drawn to section 271 of the 1997 Act. I should be glad if your Council would serve the required notice and let me have a copy.

The application will be forwarded to the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA), for an examination by a reporter in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Appeals) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. I would therefore be grateful if you would prepare all



**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY (REFERENCE OF APPLICATION) (ORKNEY ISLANDS  
COUNCIL) (PLANNING PERMISSION TO ERECT 6 WIND TURBINES (MAXIMUM  
HEIGHT 149.9 METRES, MAXIMUM WIND FARM CAPACITY 50MW), ERECT A  
METEOROLOGICAL MAST (MAXIMUM HEIGHT 90 METRES) AND A SUBSTATION,  
CREATE AN ACCESS AND CONSTRUCT ACCESS TRACKS, AND ASSOCIATED  
INFRASTRUCTURE AT QUANTERNESS (LAND NEAR), ST OLA, ORKNEY) DIRECTION  
2020**

The Scottish Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 46 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby direct that Orkney Islands Council refer to them for determination the application for full planning permission under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 received by them from Mr Sweyn Johnston, on behalf of Orkney Islands Council, to erect 6 wind turbines (maximum height 149.9 metres, maximum wind farm capacity 50MW), erect a meteorological mast (maximum height 90 metres) and a substation, create an access and construct access tracks, and associated infrastructure at Quanterness (land near), St Ola, Orkney.

This Direction is given in view of the proposal raising matters which are of national importance in the context of expectations set out in National Planning Framework 3 for the Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters area and the need for an enhanced high voltage energy transmission network, and to avoid any conflict of interest that could have arisen in the event that Orkney Islands Council determined this planning application.

This Direction may be cited as the Town and Country Planning (Reference of Application) (Orkney Islands Council) (Planning permission to erect 6 wind turbines (maximum height 149.9 metres, maximum wind farm capacity 50MW), erect a meteorological mast (maximum height 90 metres) and a substation, create an access and construct access tracks, and associated infrastructure at Quanterness (land near), St Ola, Orkney) Direction 2020.

  
Assistant Planning Decisions Manager

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24 March 2020