

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to object to the Viking Energy proposal. The scale and location of this project is not fit for purpose due to the small size of the islands vs the size of the project and the type of land they propose to build on. We are lucky as a family to have a small single 6kw wind turbine and are very much in support of renewable energy. However unlike our wind turbine that can cope with all weathers these gigantic turbines will have to be braked during high winds which is very common in Shetland which really makes me also question the efficiency of the whole project.

My second issue is the peat land these are to be built on. The construction phases and operational phases are going to cause catastrophic and irreversible land, flora and fauna changes to these hills. I have walked through these hills my father used to make agricultural roads in hills across Shetland, many of them peat and I have witnessed first hand the erosion, the carbon release, the flora and fauna change both at the site of construction and further downhill. The effects of their work was little known in the 1980's. It takes decades for the vegetation to recover and often the wildlife never does.

The Shetland peatlands are unique to the British isles surely there is a more economical and environmentally conscious alternative to producing green energy than to go ahead with this project hundreds of miles and huge amounts of copper from the mainland of Britain?

Also with the number of high wind days even during summer I cannot see how the construction phase could stick to schedule. These are huge and time consuming engineering giants that require careful and precise weather conditions to construct. This needs to be carefully looked at alongside the budget and workforce availability.

Please consider rejecting the Shetland Transmission Project, for the reasons setout above. I speak on behalf of my own family my parents, brother, sister and their families. We all think, living and understanding this landscape that there are other more economical and equally environmental projects to persue that do not scar or unduly harm the natural landscape and wildlife. Indeed these hills are one of only 2 places I have seen mountain hair in Shetland. Now a protected species.

I urge you in the strongest possible but respectful way to reject this project. For the Shetland people, for the Shetland landscape and for the unique Shetland wildlife.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards