

Recent news

1 German experience

German's do not like the countryside littered with wind turbines (with lights) for which they pay a heavy price. See the article at

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2004/0505/p01s04-woeu.htm>



You don't need to speak German to understand what they are saying



2 Update on the wind turbine blade failure at Conisholme in Lincolnshire: The failure which caused a 65ft blade to fly off was not caused by a UFO or a flying cow after all. An official investigation has revealed that fatigue caused the bolts holding the blade to the hub to fail. Dangerous things these wind turbines!

3 Natural England in controversy

Natural England, an independent public body whose purpose is "to conserve and enhance the natural environment, for its intrinsic value, the well-being and enjoyment of people and the economic prosperity that it brings" is involved in controversy again. Natural England originally objected to the proposed 4 turbine wind farm at Reeves Hill on the Herefordshire/Wales border. Natural England changes its mind and

withdrew its objection following the developer agreed to pay £120,000 over 14 years into a landscape enhancement fund. The wind farm is adjacent to Offa's Dyke, a Scheduled Ancient Monument acknowledged to be "one of the most important archaeological monuments in western Europe" and is adjacent to the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The £120,000 represents a minute fraction of the subsidy the developers will receive from electricity consumers over the lifetime of the turbines.

How £120,000 can enhance the landscape in respect of 4 gigantic wind turbines is beyond comprehension. If Natural England is prepared to condone this environmental vandalism on payment of a tiny compensation sum, then who is left to defend the natural environment against greedy developers?