

## Petition to The National Assembly of Wales The Senedd Cardiff Bay

We the undersigned, representing the Residents and the Tourism business community of Llandudno, Rhos-on-Sea and Colwyn Bay request that the National Assembly, as a matter of extreme urgency, seek ways to halt **Npower's** activities in and around the Constable Bank, off Rhos-Point, where they propose to locate an Off-shore Wind Farm (4-5 miles off-shore) and fully investigate the actions of **Npower**, over their involvement in the 'Rhyl Flats' Wind Farm project.

We consider that there has been a grave planning blunder in the decision to grant a licence to construct this off shore wind farm.

The planning licence granted to **COWL** in November 2002 was granted in haste, the said Licence was later sold on to **Npower**.

This we believe gave rise to insufficient consideration being given to the potential that the Rhyl Flats Wind Farm project would have upon;

1. The damage to the marine environment
2. The detrimental impact on the tourism business of North Wales provoking an economic downturn and with it the costly social consequences attendant upon such a downturn.
3. Industrialisation of this area of natural beauty which is listed as an area for Special Conservation – a Heritage Coast.

The licence was granted by the Dti, but we assert that this issue should be dealt with by the National Assembly, under the extended powers, recently granted to the Assembly.

The Assembly should be charged with requesting planning control powers over **All** Wind Farm developments, both on and off-shore, in order that the people of Wales have control over developments which impact on their communities.

The National Assembly of Wales would have been responsible for the granting of a licence under Section 5 of the Food & Environmental Protection Act 1985 relating to this project and we question whether such a licence would have been granted if they had been made fully aware of the destructive potential of this project.

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Presently, **Npower**, are depositing tonnes of waste slate material on the 'Constable Bank', which is situated off the Little Orme in Llandudno Bay.

The Constable Bank was so named by the Victorian Engineers who built our original sea defences when Llandudno the 'Queen of Welsh Resorts' was first planned. The name was chosen because it means, watchman, a guardian, one who protects. This massive natural sand and shingle bank protects the communities of Llandudno, Rhos-on-Sea and Colwyn Bay from the worst of our seasonal high tides.

Since 2002, awareness and understanding of flood risks has grown. The consequences of interfering with natural flood protection are now better understood and we would urge the National Assembly to review this flood risk as a matter of urgency.

We are calling upon the National Assembly of Wales to seek ways to halt any further damage to the Constable Bank. We believe that the evidence presented by the developers regarding the potential environmental and economic and social impacts of their plans offers insufficient guarantees to this local community.

We believe the National Assembly of Wales should invoke the "Precautionary Principle" and as a matter of urgency seek to halt any further damage to the Constable Bank

In the meantime, the activities off Rhos Point and Llandudno Bay should be halted until the Assembly have completed their investigations.

**This Petition : Dated 28<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

**And Signed by :**

Alun Barrett -

*Alun Barrett*  
Mayor of Llandudno  
on behalf of **Llandudno Town Council**

Janet Haworth -

*Janet Haworth*  
Director of North Wales Tourism