

### **Capacity and output table of proposed wind farms**

At page 1632 Dr Chapman requests that we update our project table with the “likely capacity” of the proposed projects, in terms of both MW and GWh. A modified “revision A” of that table is attached accordingly.

### **Copy of Imperial College London report on expected cost of wind integration in NZ**

This report, that identifies the expected costs of integrating approximately 2000 MW of wind, is discussed on pages 1655 to 1657 and concludes with my offering to provide them with a copy. A copy is attached (and may also have been provided already by Meridian).

### **Copy of NZWEA submission on draft NZCPS**

This was requested on page 1718, and is attached (together with a copy of our further submission to the Board of Inquiry hearing).

### **Status of 2013 continuation of supply legislation**

This is requested at page 1729. The Electricity (Continuance of Supply) Amendment Bill has had its first reading and the Commerce Select Committee reported back on 28 July 2009. The Bill (296-2) is now in the parliamentary order papers ready for its second hearing. As I understand it, the Bill will continue the obligation on lines companies to provide an electricity supply to rural locations at a reasonable cost, but provides greater opportunity for them to provide that service via “alternative sources” (i.e. remote generation instead of lines connected to the main network). The Select Committee’s report is available here:

[http://www.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/5170D5A9-CFB7-4127-808E-E898E5353C3A/109867/DBSCH\\_SCR\\_4463\\_ElectricityContinuanceofSupplyAmend.pdf](http://www.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/5170D5A9-CFB7-4127-808E-E898E5353C3A/109867/DBSCH_SCR_4463_ElectricityContinuanceofSupplyAmend.pdf)

### **Scottish landscape guidelines**

These guidelines were requested at page 1738. They had also come up elsewhere in the discussion and I had identified that they actually sit as a layer on top of some other layers of guidance and mapping – a lot of ground work had been undertaken in a more general landscape assessment and mapping sense before the wind farm guidelines were established.

The statutory purposes of Scottish National Heritage are set out in the Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act 1991. They are to secure the conservation and enhancement of Scotland’s natural heritage; foster understanding and facilitate enjoyment of it; and encourage its sustainable use (see <http://www.snh.org.uk/about/ab-main2007a.asp#4>). SNH has developed ‘Landscape Character Assessment Guidance’ that provides a consistent framework for the assessment of landscape character, i.e. the underlying character, before any consideration of the impact of development on that character. Discussion on this guidance is available at <http://www.snh.org.uk/ww/sharinggoodpractice/landscape.asp>. Landscape Character Assessments (LCA’s) have subsequently been completed across the entire country and mapped in a GIS format. SNH have subsequently gone on to develop ‘Strategic Locational Guidance for Onshore Wind farms in respect of the natural Heritage’, a policy statement that sets out a number of principles that should guide the location of onshore wind farm projects so as to minimise effects on the natural heritage. The guidance includes maps that identify areas with three different levels of sensitivity to wind farm development (low/medium/high). The maps are however not prescriptive and serve only as a guideline. Individual projects are assessed on a case-by-case basis (for which some further guidance also exists) and it can be possible for developers to build wind farms in high sensitivity areas (i.e. there are no absolute exclusion zones). The intent is to help developers and communities identify where wind farm development is most likely to be acceptable. More information is available here: <http://www.snh.org.uk/strategy/pd02b.asp>.

A key aspect for the Board to keep in mind when considering this guidance is that it has only been possible because a consistent landscape character assessment approach has been agreed and applied, and it has been used to map the entire country. A reasonable amount of supporting guidance has also been developed. In the NZ context we have no such consistent assessment framework, and so insufficient and inadequate landscape maps with which to develop strategic

locational guidance of this type. This framework and the subsequent mapping would be required before any such locational guidance could be established for NZ.