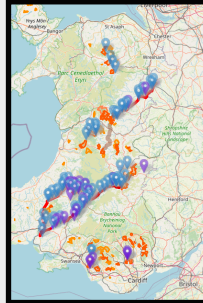
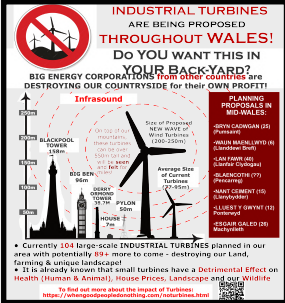




CARU TEIFI

SHEER SIZE AND SCALE



The sheer physical size and impact to our landscape of Green Gen and Bute Energy's plans to build pylon lines and Wind Farms is not just from the actual structures themselves, but also the chaos and devastation right across the Cambrian communities caused by the development process, which according to Green Gen themselves could last up to TWO YEARS.

In order to construct the turbines and pylons, land will need to be cleared and access tracks/roads laid. Construction compounds (office space, materials receipt and storage, site parking, etc.) will also need to be set-up along the line of the pylons. This will require not only the clearance of large tracts of vegetation such as trees and hedgerows but also new drainage works. Although this will be a 'temporary phase', the damage will have been done, arguably the site will never be able to be returned to its original condition, and the delicate balance supporting plant and animal life will have been violently disrupted – perhaps some species will never recover.

Left: Diagram showing actual size and number of the turbines and pylons proposed for the various wind farms (thanks to Alistair at whenpeopledonothing.com)
Right: Map showing all proposed wind farms and routes of Pylons. The map can be seen in full here (Link) (Thanks to TowyValleyNo Pylons group)

Transportation of the materials will also be disruptive. We can only imagine the amounts of building materials and equipment which will be required to be shipped into the area, all by road. Hundreds, perhaps thousands of lorries (diesel of course) making journeys through our landscape, necessitating the construction of new roads, the taking down of inconvenient trees to allow the larger consignments to pass. Then there is the transportation of the pylons and turbines themselves...

To get an idea of what we might expect here in our fields, forests and moorland, view this report from the BBC .

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4n1y4d63jxo>

and these webpages from EDF renewables and Viking Energy ..

<https://www.edf-re.uk/news-and-views/the-logistics-of-delivering-a-wind-turbine-to-a-new-site/>

<https://www.vikingenergy.co.uk/construction/foundations>

All this before a single pylon or turbine is up and running!



Above: The Heron Building in London which is the same size as the proposed turbines right across the Cambrians... Note the size of the red London bus at the bottom of the photo for scale..

MP & MS Demand urgent meet with BUTE Chairman

Following a number of complaints about GreenGen continually trying to access lands illegally, Craig Williams MP & Russell George MS (both for Montgomeryshire) have had to write again to Bute to demand a meeting with it's chairman Oliver Millican. Full story here (link)



Above: The concrete & steel base of a Turbine. These structures are the same as are being proposed in all the Bute Energy Cambrian Mountains Wind Farms.

General Election. This is a huge opportunity for everyone to raise their issues and concerns about the pylon and/or wind farm proposals with party candidates for the forthcoming General elections. We still do not know exactly how each party will deal with these issues, and we hope it will be mapped out clearly in their manifestos. But now is the time to let them know how you feel, and engage them in the discussion. It's your vote and your community.

We are not 'NIMBY's'

Ceredigion is already 'pulling its weight' for the environment. The Welsh Governments Energy in Wales Report 2022 shows **we produced 118% of our local energy consumption from local renewable electricity generation**. This is second only to Denbighshire who produced 120%, whilst Powys (also the target of Bute Energy) reaches 106%.

(For the source of this data go to)

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2023-11/energy-generation-in-wales-2022.pdf>

Looking at the figures for total Welsh renewable generation; in 2022 Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire both generated 8% of all Welsh renewable energy behind only Flintshire (10%) and Powys and Neath Port Talbot (both on 13%). **With a combined output of 16%, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire regions were the largest generators of renewable energy in Wales in 2022.**

We do understand Global warming and the Climate crises. As Ben Lake started his speech in the Westminster debate on Pylons earlier this month; *"...these are communities that are not blind to the need and the effort to address climate change and the efforts to decarbonise their economies.."*

We also understand that whilst the developments proposed here are deemed by the Senedd as Developments of National Significance (DNS), Food Security and Farming are also of National Significance and that future planning should not destroy today what we will need tomorrow.

Offshore?

For those who question why more is not being done offshore, closer to already established links to the national grid (and a few west county Power Stations) it might be interesting to note that Port Talbot, still only produces 70% of its own local energy production from renewable sources. Perhaps there is scope for re-using 'brown field' sites before resorting to precious green spaces and prime farming land?

CARU TEIFI... will be hosting a stall at the forthcoming Lampeter Show on the 6th July 2024. Please come and say hello. We would love to meet and hear your own views on this issue.

Why Wales Why Now?

There have been ZERO wind farms built in England since 2015! This is because since 2015, all such new onshore wind developments in England must take into account local objections, and the planning decision lies with the local planning authorities (LPA's). In Wales however, the Welsh government have created a situation where, if a development is classed as a 'Development of National Significance (DNS), there is no challenging the impact on Landscape Change & there is a 'presumption in favour' of wind farm development. Effectively local objections are not taken into account. The entire planning process for each wind farm currently being proposed will be decided in the Senedd by just one Minister.

With the governments commitment to Net Zero by 2035 companies such as Bute & GreenGen see a clear opportunity to make huge profits by gaining planning for wind farms and pylon routes across the various pre-designated areas. Bute and GreenGen themselves do not appear to have direct experience of building these, which raises the question, 'is their sole aim to sell on the asset'? It is also recognised that GreenGen could be holding out for the use of overhead lines with pylons. This is because overhead lines require formal consent, which if granted provides in itself a saleable asset. Whereas underground cables could be considered as permitted development and as such do not require consent and therefore do not provide a saleable Asset. Even if undergrounding cables is a more satisfactory and a better longer term option.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

Llandrindrod Wells Town Council held a public meeting on 30th April 2024 in the Pavilion Theatre.

It was most encouraging to see Llandrindrod Wells and Builth Wells Town Councils working in unison and putting so much effort into supporting their constituents in protests against Bute Energy and Green Gen's completely unnecessary and ecologically damaging wind farms and transmission lines.

It is easy to feel isolated in our small rural idyll when faced with large businesses and vested interests seeking to profit from desecrating our beautiful Welsh countryside with no benefit to local communities and negligible effect on global climate change. But, it is comforting to know that there is now a large groundswell of opposition from other affected areas of Wales.

Welsh Pension Partnership investment in Bute Energy

A Councillor's Concern over the investment arrangements of the Welsh Pension Partnership is the subject of an open letter written by Cllr. Alun Lenny. For those who have not heard, WPP invested £68million in Bute Energy and its related companies (*from which there are many to choose, but more of that another time*). If you are interested in reading why Cllr Lenny is extremely concerned, here is the ([link](#)) .

We note that Cllr Lenny is the CC Employer Representative of Carmarthenshire County Council .. we wonder if the concern will spread to Ceredigion County Council? Ofgem are now considering their final decision for the distribution license and the consultation period is closed. Our thanks to all who responded to our call to raise objections or concerns.

Don't forget..... Even with the forthcoming election you can continue to write to your MP: Ben Lake & Member of Senedd: Elin Jones voicing your concerns. And if you would like to see more views, facts and opinions, and take part in the discussions please visit our CARU TEIFI Facebook page here: ([link](#))