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**Our ref:** SC/2013/0003  
**Date:** 21/06/2013  
**If calling ask for:**  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)  
(ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 1999**

**SCOPING OPINION REFERENCE: SC/2013/0003**

**PROPOSED ACCESS TRACK TO REEVES HILL WIND FARM**

Thank you for your letter and attached Scoping Report dated 17/05/2013.

The Local Planning Authority hereby gives the following opinion as to what information should be included in the environmental statement. The matters are listed below in no particular order of merit:

1. Site Selection and Design Evolution

- An assessment of the main alternatives studied by the applicant (including reasons why alternatives were rejected) and justification of the reasons for the applicant's final choice of development, taking into account the environmental effects.

2. Landscape and Visual Assessment (including Cumulative Assessment)

- An assessment of the landscape and visual effects of the proposed development should be undertaken. This should include an assessment of cumulative impacts (Reeves Hill Wind Farm and associated grid connection).

- The assessment should fully assess the cumulative impacts on Stanage Park and Offas Dyke.
- The assessment should assess the cumulative impact on the public rights of way network, especially the National Trails.
- The assessment should assess whether and what mitigation measures are necessary to mitigate any adverse impacts.

### 3. Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Assessment (including Cumulative Assessment)

- The assessment should assess the potential impacts on the cultural heritage resources associated with the construction of the proposed development and the construction and operation of Reeves Hill Wind Farm development and associated grid connection.
- The assessment should comprise an appraisal of direct (physical) and indirect (Physical and setting) impacts on the cultural heritage resource of the area.
- Surveys should be conducted in the area to inform an assessment of the proposals impact on people visiting heritage features (Offas Dyke and Stanage Park). These surveys should assess cumulative impacts.
- The assessment should assess whether and what mitigation measures are necessary to mitigate any adverse impacts.
- Please see attached memorandum from the Powys County Council Built Heritage Conservation Officer dated 30/05/2013. Please take into consideration her comments.

### 4. Non-Avian Ecology Assessment (including Cumulative Assessment)

- The assessment should describe and evaluate the nature conservation interests of the proposed development area and immediate surrounding area, both in terms of habitats and species, and assess the potential impacts the proposed development would have on these habitats and species.
- The assessment should take into account cumulative impacts (Reeves Hill Wind Farm development and associated grid connection).
- The assessment should assess what mitigation measures are necessary to mitigate any adverse impacts.

### 5. Public Rights of Way Impact Assessment (Including Cumulative Assessment)

- The assessment should assess the developments direct (physical) and indirect (physical and setting) impact on the public rights of way network in the area.
- The assessment should assess cumulative impacts on the public rights of way network (Reeves Hill Wind Farm development and associated grid connection).
- Public Rights of Way: Surveys should be conducted in the area to inform an assessment of the developments impact on the users of the public rights of way network. These surveys should assess cumulative issues.
- The assessment should assess what mitigation measures are necessary to mitigate any adverse impacts.

### 6. Traffic, Transportation and Access Assessment

- The assessment should assess the traffic, transportation and access impacts of the proposed development and the Reeves Hill Wind Farm development.
- The assessment should assess impacts on local infrastructure and local community.
- The assessment should identify impacts and appropriate mitigation measures.

I trust this information is of assistance. If you have any further queries please don't hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely,

Gwilym Davies  
Principal Planning Officer  
Powys County Council