

## A REPORT BY THE HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

### DATE OF SITE VISITS

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the likely date of any Site Visits requested by the Planning Committee.

#### 2. DATE OF THE SITE VISITS

- 2.1 In consultation with Legal and Administration, it has been decided that the **Tuesday afternoon 3rd July 2001** is most suitable. This date has been provisionally booked.
- 2.2 You are advised, therefore that any site visits arranged today will take place **On Tuesday 3rd July 2001 (Afternoon - times to be advised).**

#### 3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SITE VISIT PANEL

- 3.1 This will depend on Political Balance and will include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee and the relevant Local Member(s)

#### 4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That Members agree to the Site Visits being held on Tuesday 3rd July 2001

**ENFORCEMENT MATTERS**

Copy available from Head of Planning Services  
ENF/466/00/N - Unauthorised Shop Front and Installation of  
2 No. unauthorised internally illuminated fascia signs

## REPORT BY THE HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES PROPOSED OFFSHORE WIND FARMS

### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To advise members of the current position with proposals for offshore wind farms off the North Wales coast.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As part of the government policy to increase the contribution of electricity supply from renewable sources the potential for offshore wind power has been explored. It has been accepted that the development of wind energy, both onshore and offshore, will be needed to meet government targets.
- 2.2 The government through the Crown Estates have granted options to a number of companies to investigate particular sites around the coast of Great Britain. Two of these sites are off the North Wales coast.

### 3. NORTH WALES SITES

- 3.1 The sites which have been identified for investigation are as follows:
- (i) The North Hoyle Offshore Wind Farm by National Wind Power (NWP)
  - (ii) Rhyl Flats by Celtic Offshore Wind Limited (COWL).
- 3.2 It is envisaged that both projects will consist of the construction and operation of around 30 wind turbines. **Attached** is a location plan indicating the likely location of the projects.

### 4. CONSENTS PROCEDURE

- 4.1 Consents procedure for offshore wind energy is currently under review. Traditional planning controls do not apply to offshore wind farms as they would be beyond the low water mark although any infrastructure onshore would of course require the normal planning permission. There is currently various legislation covering offshore works under environmental protection, coast protection, and electricity acts. The possibility of a single consents procedure is being considered.
- 4.2 Both sites will require environmental impact assessments and initial work has already been undertaken by the companies in consultation with the statutory bodies to consider the scope of such assessments.

### 5. FUTURE PROGRAMME

- 5.1 I understand that the likelihood is that formal applications for the offshore project will be submitted some time in 2002 with construction not planned until 2003 or 2004.
- 5.2 **This report is for Members information.** I will keep members informed as matters develop.