

WHY ARE WE HERE?



TAN 8 POLICY

In 2005 the Welsh Assembly Government published Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8, their national policy statement on renewable energy, which includes an 800MW onshore wind target to be achieved by 2010.

It was recognised that onshore wind power offers the greatest potential for an increase in the generation of electricity from renewable energy in the short to medium term*, and in order to try to meet the onshore wind target the Welsh Assembly Government identified seven Strategic Search Areas (SSA's) suitable for large scale projects.

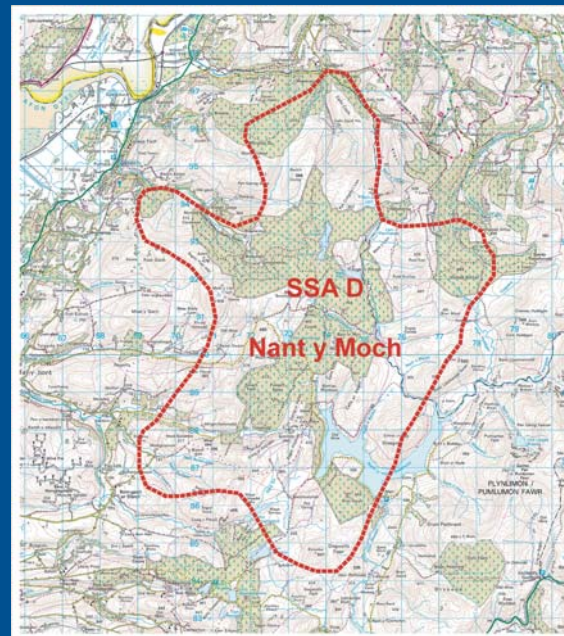
Strategic Search Area (SSA)	Capacity Target
A Clocaenog Forest	140MW
B Carno North	290MW
C Newtown South	70MW
D Nant y Moch	140MW
E Pontardawe	100MW
F Coed Morgannwg	290MW
G Brechfa Forest	90MW
TOTAL	1,120MW



STRATEGIC SEARCH AREAS (SSA's)

The SSA's were selected by the Welsh Assembly Government as being ideally suitable for the development of onshore wind power projects as they have a good wind resource, are sparsely populated, have no aviation conflicts, have the ability to visually absorb large wind farms and are generally free of high level designations (e.g. National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, ecological designations such as SSSI's and military low flying zones).

This year the Welsh Assembly Government is reviewing TAN 8 with a view to revising the renewable energy targets upwards. This might conceivably be achieved by: (a) increasing indicative targets for each TAN 8 area, including Area D, (b) extending TAN 8 areas, or (c) identifying new, additional TAN 8 areas.



Map showing SSA D boundary taken from Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Planning for Renewable Energy, July 2005

THE EXHIBITION AND ITS PURPOSE

In October 2007 Airtricity was selected as preferred bidder by the Forestry Commission Wales to develop a wind farm on Forestry Commission managed land in the area known as Strategic Search Area (SSA) D.

The area now covered by the proposed Nant y Moch wind farm is within the boundary defined by the Strategic Search Area (SSA), which is made up of commercial forestry managed by Forestry Commission Wales and neighbouring areas of privately owned agricultural grazing land. The project involves over 20 private landowners, the majority of which are local hill farmers whose income from the project will support farming diversification and will represent a substantial investment into the local economy.



This exhibition is the public launch of the Nant y Moch wind farm project and provides:

- Information on the potential layout of the wind farm, which is currently within an iterative design process and not yet finalised
- How the development will progress
- An opportunity for you to comment on the development

There will be a further public exhibition towards the end of 2009 when the proposed layout is finalised and before a planning application is submitted.

* Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Planning for Renewable Energy, July 2005