

Lochluichart Wind Farm Ballot Press Statement

The planning process allows for consultation to take account of the views of a wide range of organisations including community councils as well as from members of the public. It is for the Scottish Executive to take account of all the representations it receives before deciding whether the Lochluichart wind farm should be approved.

The ballot result is very interesting. It seems to us that the inclusion of holiday home owners has clearly had an effect on the result. Infinergy has always been keen to understand how the true local residents feel and we believe that it's a shame that the ballot result has been distorted by the inclusion of occasional visitors.

From the questionnaires completed by visitors to our exhibitions we believe that a majority of the permanent local residents support the wind farm, 66% expressed support. This was reinforced by the support of local businesses who attended our Meet the Buyer forum – a total of 60 Highland businesses employing over 3000 local people have expressed an interest.

Nearly 5,000 people have written Lochluichart support letters to the Scottish Executive compared to just over 1,000 letters from opponents.

Over 80% of the support letters are from Scotland many from close to Lochluichart. By comparison nearly 70% of opposition letters are from outside Scotland reflecting, we believe, an orchestrated campaign by an anti-wind farm lobby that will target any similar renewable project.

Infinergy continues to support the Lochluichart wind farm as part of the fight against climate change which is now accepted by the majority of the scientific community as the biggest threat facing mankind.

Infinergy would like to thank everyone who voted for the wind farm and their many expressions of support.

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