

Onshore Wind Turbines (Proximity of Habitation) Bill

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B I L L

TO

Give powers to local planning authorities to specify the minimum distances permissible between onshore wind turbines of certain dimensions and the nearest habitation; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Local authority powers

Notwithstanding any existing statutory provision, local authorities may specify a “recommended best practice set-back distance” between onshore wind turbines and habitations in their neighbourhood development plans.

2 Interpretation

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In this Act—

“habitation” means any premises the main purpose of which is to provide residential accommodation, including farmhouses;

“neighbourhood development plans” has the same meaning as in the Localism Act 2011;

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“recommended best practice set-back distance” means the recommended minimum distance between the onshore wind turbine and habitations as set out in section 3.

3 Recommended best practice set-back distance

(1) The recommended best practice set-back distance shall be expressed as a multiple of the turbine rotor diameter, and in the absence of a decision under subsection (2), shall be ten times the turbine rotor diameter.

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(2) Local authorities wishing to increase or reduce the multiple will have the power to do so only following a debate and a vote in a full Council meeting.

4 Short title, commencement and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Onshore Wind Turbines (Proximity of Habitation) Act 2011.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act extends to England and Wales only.

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To give powers to local planning authorities to specify the minimum distances permissible between onshore wind turbines of certain dimensions and the nearest habitation; and for connected purposes.

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 17 November 2010.*

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