PRESS RELEASE

PEMBROKESHIRE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

January 10th 2012

GREEN GROUP CRITICISES ANTI-WIND LOBBY GROUP

A prominent environmental organisation has criticised the Save our Skylines group for its opposition to wind energy proposals in Pembrokeshire. The local branch of Friends of the Earth states that wind energy is essential in order to tackle the urgent problems of climate change and energy security, and to reap the benefits of the growing green economy.

Gordon James, campaigner with Pembrokeshire Friends of the Earth, said:

"Wind energy is a clean technology which does not directly emit carbon dioxide, the main cause of man-made climate change. It is expanding rapidly globally producing significant environmental and economic benefits. It's important that local businesses also have the opportunity to reap some of these benefits.

"The World Energy Outlook 2011, produced recently by the International Energy Agency, warns that urgent cuts in carbon dioxide emissions are necessary if we are to avoid catastrophic climate change. It states that renewable energy technologies, such as wind, have an important role to play in achieving this [1].

"And despite a flurry of opposition when wind farm proposals are announced, opinion polls consistently show overall public support for wind energy. It seems that most people recognise that saving our planet is more important than saving our skyline.

"Can we now expect the Save our Skylines group to call for the dismantling of the television masts on the beautiful Preseli Hills, the tall chimneys at the oil refineries which emit millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide and a cocktail of other pollutants each year, and the massive power lines straddling across South Pembrokeshire? Or is its agenda purely one of opposing one of the cleanest forms of energy available to us?"

ENDS

For further information please contact Gordon James on (01437) 563670 or 07579 964256

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1. The World Energy Outlook 2011

   http://www.iea.org/Textbase/npsum/weo2011sum.pdf