



Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm Life Extension

Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm is located between the Afan and Neath Valleys in South Wales, approximately 10 km east of the town of Neath. The wind farm which comprises 16 wind turbines has a total installed capacity of 32 MW and has been operating since 2006. It was previously expected that the wind farm would generate until July 2026. Nadara intends to request a variation of the existing planning consent for Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm to allow for the continued operation of the wind farm for an additional ten years. Nadara do not intend to change any physical elements of the wind farm, all of which would continue to operate as they have done since 2006.

Why would Ventient like to extend the wind farm life?

Technical assessment across many of Nadara's sites has demonstrated that if wind farms are operated and maintained in line with best practice, they can continue to operate safely and efficiently beyond their originally consented lifespan.

What are the benefits of an extended period of operation?

In a typical year, the wind farm generates approximately 49.9 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity, enough to power around 26,673 homes¹. As well as continuing to provide clean electricity, the continued operation of Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm supports a number of technicians and contributes to the local economy within which the wind farm operates by using local firms where possible and through use of local accommodation and services.

Will the community fund continue to be provided?

The community fund would continue throughout the proposed extended period of operation. The community benefit fund amount paid in 2024 (including a 10 % administration fee) was £1,946.54 / installed MW (totalling just over £62,000 for that year), which will continue to track inflation under the current community benefit agreement until July 2026. The fund will then be increased by 25 % in the first year of the 10-year extension period increasing annually in line with inflation.

In recent years, support has been provided to a wide variety of projects via the Afan Valley and Neath Valley Community Benefit Funds including the renovation of a kitchen in a community library, food supplies and extended opening hours for a warm hub, regeneration of allotment plots and equipment and clothing for various sports clubs.

When will the application be submitted?

The application to vary the consent to extend the life of the wind farm is targeted to be submitted to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) this Winter.

¹ RenewableUK

**Will traffic levels increase during the life extension period?**

An increase in the level of traffic associated with the ongoing operation and maintenance of the wind farm is not expected. Condition monitoring systems are fitted to all wind turbines at Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm which provide monitoring of all major components 24/7, 365 days of the year. Together with best practice maintenance improvements, this helps reduce the number of defects which may form and site visits required.

Is there a risk of increased noise as the turbines age?

The wind turbines will continue to be operated and maintained to Nadara's high standards as well as the noise limits dictated by the planning consent, therefore there is no reason why the level of noise from the turbines will increase.

Are you considering repowering the wind farm in the future?

Repowering may be an option which is considered in the future and will be entirely separate to this life extension application. Any repowering application would be discussed with community councils and local residents if pursued.

For further enquiries please contact:

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