

The answer is (not always) blowing in the wind.....

Wind turbines create noise problems. It is a fact which should never have been in dispute. It only ever was because a rapacious wind power industry, often buoyed by generous subsidies, claimed there was no problem. There is no point mincing our words. It was a lie.

The World Health Organisation in its latest report (1) has shown quite convincingly that wind turbines cause noise problems. In fact people start to get annoyed at lower levels by wind turbine noise than by any other noise - see chart which follows this blog. This is almost certainly down to the high-level of low-frequency in wind turbine noise.

As early as 2006 we wrote in *Location, Location, Location (2)* about the serious impact wind turbine noise was having on some people. The industry has reluctantly admitted there may be noise problems and is talking about mitigation measures or offering people money who live beside turbines. And some governments are now insisting that turbines can only be built within so many miles from the nearest residential property. Distance can deal with the noise but not always. Low-frequency noise can travel further and can penetrate buildings. In any noise audit of new energy sources wind turbines would come close to the bottom of the list.

Governments need to think whether onshore wind has a future.

In the immediate term all wind turbines which cause people problems should be demolished forthwith (with companies compensated if necessary) in to allow people who have been damaged by turbines to try and get their life back together again.

References:

(1). http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/383921/noise-guidelines-eng.pdf?ua=1

(2). http://www.ukna.org.uk/uploads/4/1/4/5/41458009/wind_farm_report.pdf

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