

Planning Services
Rochdale Borough Council
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OL16 1XU

FAO: Melanie Hale (Head of Planning Services)

BY EMAIL development.management@rochdale.gov.uk

Your Ref: **25/00680/FUL**

Our Ref: **MO798**

8th September 2025

Dear Melanie

Scout Moor Wind Farm, Rochdale – Construction & Operation of 17 wind turbines with a max height to tip of 180m and associated infrastructure

We refer to your email of 26th August 2025 in respect of the above application given the proximity of the Met Office weather radar at Hameldon Hill.

I am writing to confirm that Met Office OBJECT to the proposal.

A key requirement for the Hameldon Hill weather radar is to provide advance warning of severe weather and real-time information which is vital to the continued operation of military and civilian aviation as well as to forecasters in UK (as part of the UK Weather Radar Network).

Wind turbines have been shown to have detrimental effects on the performance of Met Office weather radars. These effects include the blocking of radar data in the vicinity of the turbines and the creation of false 'clutter' returns which can imitate or obscure real precipitation signals.

Our assessment on this specific proposal has been carried out on the basis that there will be 17 wind turbines with a maximum height from ground level to the blade tip of 180m. The turbines will cause unacceptable interference and degradation to data derived from the Hameldon Hill radar particularly where the turbines extend into the 2nd beam of the radar.

The Met Office wishes to be consulted and notified about the progress of any submissions relating to this proposal.

FitzRoy Road, Exeter
Devon, EX1 3PB
United Kingdom

enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk
www.metoffice.gov.uk

I hope this adequately explains our position on the matter. Further information about the effects of wind turbines on Met Office interests can be obtained from the following website:

[Protecting our observing capability - Met Office](#)

Met Office Safeguarding

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Email: metofficesafeguarding@metoffice.gov.uk

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