

Local resident 1

You are very much in favour of the wind farm.

You live in the area and own some of the land needed for the wind farm. You represent a number of farmers. You will receive money because the wind farm will be built on your land.

You think:

- wind farms are beautiful structures.
 - the wind farm will attract visitors to the area. It will be the biggest in the country.
 - the wind farm will provide cheap power for the local community.
 - building the wind farm will create jobs for local people.
 - the wind farm will attract international interest and publicity.
- You want to know what the disadvantages of the wind farm would be.

Local resident 2

You are completely opposed to the wind farm.

You live in the local area and run a hotel. The area is popular with tourists who want relaxing walking holidays.

You think:

- the wind farm will damage the tourist industry and affect local property prices.
 - the machinery used creates a lot of noise pollution and wind farms are not as efficient as other ways of producing electricity.
 - wind farms are ugly and ruin the landscape.
 - the flashing lights on the towers and the shadows from the blades can disturb and upset people.
 - it will take five years to build the wind farm. There are certain to be traffic problems.
- You want to know what the advantages of the wind farm would be.

Wildlife group representative

You are very hostile to the wind farm.

You are a member of a radical wildlife group: Flora and Fauna Protection (FFP). You are strongly against the building of wind farms in areas of natural beauty.

You think:

- wind farms are dangerous to all wildlife.
 - birds and bats are often killed when they fly into the blades of wind turbines.
 - the habitat of many birds, animals and plants will be destroyed during the building of the farm.
 - the proposed site is home to several rare species of butterfly.
 - the area currently attracts a large number of scientists and naturalists who study the wildlife of the area.
 - wind farms are an expensive and wasteful way of producing electricity.
- You want to know what the advantages of wind farms are.

Environmentalist

You want the wind farm to go ahead as soon as possible.

You are a member of an environmental pressure group 'Lovers of the Land' (LoL). Your group is keen on renewable energy sources and supports the building of wind farms.

You think:

- there is an urgent need for sources of renewable energy.
 - nuclear power is dangerous.
 - the wind has been used as a clean and efficient source of power for centuries.
 - the latest wind farms are much more efficient.
 - the proposed wind farm is environmentally friendly.
 - the wind farm sets a good example for other areas and countries.
- You want to know what the disadvantages of wind farms are.

Government representative

You are a government minister in the Energy Department. You will welcome people to the meeting and lead the meeting.

You think:

- wind farms are a good idea and building new ones is a government policy.
 - it is important, however, to listen to the opinions of local people. There is an election next year and you do not want to upset too many potential voters. As Sparrow-Hill would be a very big wind farm it is important to make the right decision.
- You want to know what the feelings of local people about the proposed wind farm are.