



Janet Wood

1 Drakestone View

Harbottle

Morpeth

NE65 7DF

6 Oct 2022

Planning Department Northumberland National Park

I actually can't believe that in 2022 the upper Coquet valley from Barrow Mill up over still do not have mains electricity.

Do we want to keep the valley alive and encourage young families to live and work from home? So many farms are now run by only one man /woman, many of the farms had two or three people employed but due to cut backs and affordability the working population is declining.

Luckily we do have a relatively young generation up the valley, many mums working from home "online" also a healthy number of children who again need access to internet. We really MUST MUST ensure that the valley moves with the times and has mains electricity. Fuel costs for running the generators is horrendous as is the maintenance of them.

Also having mains electricity would enable locals to have access to mobile phone reception (masts) things that people in towns and villages and probably yourselves take for granted .

I was born at Shillmoor, my grandparents farmed at Battlesfield my father till he retired was a shepherd at Quickening Cote as was my husband till he retired. My son now a shepherd at Shillmoor My grandson 14 attends King Edwards school Morpeth looks like he may follow in his fathers footsteps.....I have a certificate presented to my grandmother by Mr Blythe a teacher that went round the valley staying at the homes of valley people. Sadly we've lost both the old and new school at Windyhaugh. Please don't let us lose our families.

We need the young generation to follow on (if they so wish)working the land and producing beef and lamb for our country. Caring for our "Garden of Eden" THE COQUET VALLEY takes a special type of person dedicated to their work.

It's about time they were appreciated.

Yours sincerely

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: ROSS ANDERSON: Installation of electricity in Upper Coquet valley
Date: 16 January 2023 19:29:58

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As the resistant of the furthest out lying farm in the upper Coquet valley (which will be unable to get mains electricity), I fully support the plans to put mains electric to the other properties in the valley.

Having mains electricity will increase the quality of life to all that live here and reduce the cost of living considerably.

In the environment we now live in, where everyone is aware of the environmental impact and their carbon foot print. It seems like we are getting left behind having houses powered by diseal generators. Especially when we live within national park, who are striving to be net zero by 2030.

Also in terms of getting power to the masts, then enabling mobile signal to cover the area....this will increase safety no end to ALL that work, live and enjoy the national park, which in my opinion is much needed and would be much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Megan Byatt

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Mains power in the coquet valley
Date: 17 January 2023 09:32:52

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Dear Ross

Here is an email from Mark and Laura Day offering support and really wanting the proposed mains electricity to go ahead.

We have 2 children one of which is 12 the other 8. The 8 year old has autism and requires much help from electronic machines and some machines we can't offer because they require too much power from the generator. Being on mains power would help enormously in contributing in helping our 8 year old care. Also to the environment with the carbon footprint. We are a family's and working farm and the generator is running constantly keeping up with the demands for electricity and therefore burns alot of diesel creating alot of co2 waste. Our farm would be enormously cleaner to the environment and alot quieter. It costs us over £7000 per year to run the generator. It will be alot more economic from mains power.

We hope this email is positive to encourage the electricity proposal.

Kind regards

Mark and Laura Day

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Cc: ross.anderson@northernpowergrid.com
Subject: Coquet Valley Mains Electricity
Date: 24 January 2023 16:02:49

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Dear National Park Planning Authority

I am writing to support the application for mains electricity to be installed up the Coquet Valley.

We have children in our school who live up the Coquet Valley and we know how difficult it can be for the families at times running on generators. Also if we revert to remote learning i.e., bad weather or during the covid pandemic then the children up the valley are at a disadvantage as their internet connections can be very poor.

To encourage young families to remain in such remote areas they need to have access to mains electricity and better broadband/communication facilities. More work is expected to be done online nowadays, especially when they progress to Middle and High School age.

You acknowledge in your "Thriving Communities" policy that 10% of properties in NNP are still off-grid and rely on separate power generation, which is something that could be reduced by the installation of electricity up the Coquet Valley.

The children are very aware of the climate crisis we currently find ourselves in and they do a lot of work on various aspects of it in school and as a Trust we are committed to be Zero Carbon by 2030. For the children living up the valley they know that using generators for their electricity is also not helping the environment.

Kind regards
Nikki Buckley-Feiven
Headteacher

--

Susan Rogerson
Office Manager
Harbottle C of E (Aided) First School
Harbottle

**Morpeth
NE65 7DG**



**Our school values are -
Hope ... Love ... Resilience ... Truthfulness ... Teamwork**



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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Electricity Upper Coquet Valley
Date: 16 January 2023 22:04:47

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F.A.O Ross Anderson

We write to support the mains electricity proposed for the Upper Coquet valley. We have 3 dwellings and 2 farms in this area off grid.

The cost and maintenance of diesel generators is unsustainable, the impact they are having on the environment needs to be considered too.

There would be many benefits to the residents and visitors to the valley, in terms of owning/charging an electric car ,having mobile phone coverage ,access to a reliable internet connection, and keeping up with technology as it moves forward, for example we recently had a problem with sky television which is the only TV we can get as cannot access good internet, while the engineer was here he pointed out that Sky no longer erect dishes on houses and all future TV will be through the internet.

Electricity in the Upper Coquet would be live changing and essential for our business to keep up with modern requirements and be sustainable into the future.

Yours Sincerely

Neil and Poppy Hindmarsh

Rowhope and Bygate Farms

Harbottle

Morpeth

NE65 7BT and NE65 7BW

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Supporting the mains Electricity up the Coquet Valley.
Date: 05 October 2022 19:29:00

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We are tenants of Linshiels Farm and we are sending this email to support the supply of mains electricity being brought up the Coquet Valley. The benefits of having mains Electricity for the future of the business and getting people to live in these remote locations far out way any of the negative points people may have with it. The cost of running and maintaining the generators, these cost include red diesel and the prices have trippled over the last year. oil and filters being changed. Getting them serviced. There isn't a lot of people who can do this service and it costs to call them out from over the border for this service. If the generator breaks down and needs repaired it can leave you for weeks without any supply till they can come out and then the ordering of the parts before it can be fixed. There is also a battery and inverter system which also costs to maintain, batteries to replace every 7 years at a cost of £4000. Distilled water to top up the battery packs. With the cost of living going up its going to be even harder for families to live in rural expensive locations. The benefits to the environment too without the diesel engines running. The supply of electricity to the mast to enable a mobile signal is very beneficial for the safety to the farmers who go out on the very rough and expanding hills who have no way to contact anyone should there be a accident or problem. The many tourists and walkers who visit the area and can get lost or be injured and have no way to raise the alarm. The farmers maintain the land and stock grazing the land, without them there would be more fires and things left to go wild so having the electricity would make it more viable and appealing to families to come and live and work these rural and sometimes difficult locations. It is a very lovely place and can look very idilic but unless you have lived and experienced it you won't fully understand the difficulties the families and farmers face living in beautiful but challenging situations we need to encourage and support future generations so they will want to live and work these farms. Hope this helps and gives you a little in sight to the challenges we face running a buisness and bringing up a family in a modern world without all the modern benefits.

If you would like to speak to me further on any points raised I am more than happy for you to contact me on anything.

Many thanks Mrs S Anderson.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Upper Coquet Electricity Connection
Date: 16 January 2023 20:06:47

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my support for the proposed electricity connection to the Upper Coquet Valley. I believe this application will be made shortly and I will write again once I have seen the details of the proposal, but I wanted to make a few observations in the pre-planning stage:

Firstly, the environmental impact of running diesel generators to power our community is not appropriate as we all strive to reduce carbon emissions. We (in our household), have looked at alternative renewable sources, but the upfront costs have been beyond our means.

Secondly, the economic strain on our farming community is particularly acute at the moment, and despite high energy costs nationally, our community is still being forced to pay a significant premium for our power; as we maintain batteries, inverters and generator systems while also being exposed to volatile diesel prices. Budgeting for the unexpected and substantial costs of breakdowns and replacements is a psychological as well as economic strain.

Thirdly, I personally find that due to our remote location it is very difficult to get qualified professionals to come to service and fix our system when breakdowns occur. Often-times I find myself working to repair live 240V electrical systems that I don't understand. The health and safety implications of this are profound and sometimes frightening.

As a resident, I would appeal to NNPA to look favourably on this planning application. While I understand that the visual impact of the power lines will be felt by everybody who visits this valley, I also feel that the voices of those who actually live here and derive their livelihoods from this landscape should be prioritised.

Kind regards,

Scott Iley,
Barrowburn Farm,
Harbottle,
NE65 7BP.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Upper Coquet Mains Electricity
Date: 17 January 2023 08:48:37

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FAO Ross Anderson

Re Upper Coquet Mains Electricity

I understand that a planning application will shortly be submitted to provide mains electricity to the Upper Coquet Valley. I would like you to register my support for this application which will provide a much needed basic service to the residents of the Upper Coquet Valley and prevent their reliance on unreliable diesel generators for their basic power supply.

Yours sincerely

Sam Wood
2 Shillmoor
Harbottle
Morpeth
NE65 7BN

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning](#)
Subject: Letter of support for electricity in the coquet valley.
Date: 17 January 2023 10:06:04

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Sender
Tanya and Robert Mackay
Quickening Cote
Harbottle
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE657BL

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the mains electric supply been implemented into houses of the coquet Valley.

There is a number of reasons why this would benefit not only us but other residents within the valley.

The cost of running a generator is unbelievably expensive, diesel and the cost of maintaining the generator can be crippling on a farm business, environmental factors should also be taken into consideration, the pollutants produced by generators emit highly toxic gases that can effect the health of humans, animals and plant life, not to mention some of the pollutants are considered carcinogens.

Other benefits with having electricity in the coquet Valley is communication, at current WiFi extremely slow and with electricity the masts could be used, which will encourage mobile service providers, this could also bring down cost as the providers would have to compete too provide Wi-Fi.

On a number of occasions we have been cut off, when Our generator fails to work and if we are unable to get anyone out to fix it, we could be cut off for potentially weeks, generate are not a reliable source of Electricity and with the amount of appliances that are used nowadays it's not practical.

Please consider this letter of support and if you need any more information please do not hesitate to contact me on the above email.

Tanya and Robert Mackay

Sent from my iPhone