



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

The Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
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William Egan
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Dear William Egan,

16 November 2014

Thank you for your letter of 7 August informing me of the publication of a set of six Supplementary Guidance Notes to the Good Practice Guide and the formation of a new IOA working group that will be reviewing the latest research on amplitude modulation (AM) in relation to wind farms.

Officials in my and other interested departments are considering the content of the Supplementary Guidance Notes and I will confirm shortly whether or not we consider that they represent latest industry good practice.

Your letter also explained that the AM working group is taking forward a preferred methodology for quantifying and assessing the level of AM, for which I am grateful as this will represent further real progress on what has been an intractable issue.

You have also encouraged us to commission research on an appropriate 'penalty scheme' in tandem to that work. I agree that understanding of the causes, occurrence and control of AM has advanced significantly, not least as a result of the Renewable UK research published in 2013, and we have now reached the point where, although we still won't have a way of predicting at the planning stage if AM will occur at any proposed wind farm site, it would be appropriate to provide guidance to planning authorities and developers on using a suitable planning condition to protect residential amenity against the possibility of AM. Your offer to work closely with my department on this is therefore welcome. My officials are currently in the process of pulling together an Invitation to Tender for this work and will be in touch with the Chair of your working group in due course.

Yours,

Edward Davey
EDWARD DAVEY