

Commentary on Example GIS Output 28/6/08

The map is an output of the south east corner of Wiltshire with Salisbury near the centre of the map.

The black line is the approximate county boundary. We hope to improve the base mapping in due course, but this will require further investment.

The dots over the plan represent average wind speed estimates 45m above ground level. This information is available from the Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) at

<http://www.berr.gov.uk/energy/sources/renewables/explained/wind/windspeed-database/page27326.html>.

Broadly speaking average wind speeds below 6m/s are almost certainly uneconomic (at least today). So the blue dots represent average speeds at or above 6m/s, green dots at or above 6.2m/s and red spots at or above 6.5m/s. A quick look at any ordnance survey map will show how closely the height of a site corresponds to the wind speed. So broadly speaking the more red the better! Each dot is 1km apart. Where there are no dots the wind is less than 6m/s. There are significant inaccuracies in this data, and local impacts (e.g. high trees) are not included.

The orange area on the west of the plot represents the Cranbourne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Wind Turbines are not usually acceptable in AONBs.

The area in purple is the Stonehenge world heritage site.

The small airplane symbols represent airfields (such as Boscombe Down) .

The small crosses (+ for example the one just east of Salisbury) represent historic windmill sites, there were many in the past.

Many other features have been mapped but hopefully this gives a taste of the information available. The GIS tool allows quick assessment of many issues (such as how far potential sites are from airfields for example).

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact info@wiltshirewind.org.uk

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