Dear Øystein

Trump International Golf Links, Scotland

We act for the Trump Organisation in relation to their ongoing development of a world class golf resort at the Menie Estate in Aberdeenshire.

The Trump Organisation fully supports efforts being made by the Scottish Government and the Scottish renewable energy industry to achieve ambitious national targets to meet 20% of Scotland's energy demand from renewable sources by 2020. Our clients support proposals for appropriately located wind farms and ultimately wish your projects every success.

The Menie site was chosen by Mr Trump because of the outstanding coastal landscape and expansive views to the sea. The development was approved by the Scottish Ministers in 2008 following a public inquiry. The national economic importance of the Trump Golf Resort was endorsed by the Aberdeenshire Council and the Scottish Ministers. Our clients have relied upon that planning permission in carrying out masterplanning and detailed design. In July 2010, work started on the championship golf course as the first phase of the development.

There has been extensive worldwide media coverage of our clients' project in recent years so your project team must have been fully aware of Mr Trump's interest in the Menie Estate when planning their stakeholder and community engagement. Indeed we understand that your team carried out detailed pre-application consultation with other leading stakeholders, who were given the opportunity to comment on the proposed location of your development to avoid compromising other important services and developments in the region. Yet no attempt was made to engage properly with one of the most high profile and nationally important developments in Scotland in recent history. When my clients made attempts to question your team on the location, scale and visual impact of the proposed wind farm, the answers were evasive and lacking in substance. This led our clients to believe that the proposed wind farm would have no adverse impact on the golf resort so they were alarmed to receive diagrams on 3 December which illustrate a significantly adverse visual impact on a tourist development of national importance.

You will be well aware that landscape and seascape impacts are crucial determining factors in the assessment of the acceptability or otherwise of wind farms. The importance of the individual and cumulative visual impact of wind farm developments is enshrined in national
and local planning policy. The adverse visual impact of your proposals to develop an offshore wind deployment centre is therefore of the utmost concern to our clients.

We have now reviewed your wire frame diagrams showing the expected visual impact of the proposed wind turbines from various points across the championship golf course and the hotel site. These impacts are completely unacceptable to our clients.

During your public consultation exercise in 2006, our clients made it very clear to your project team that Mr Trump regarded this adverse visual impact as a deal breaker for the golf resort. Since then Mr Trump's vision has been endorsed by the Scottish Government and is supported by the local planning authorities, national and local enterprise companies and local businesses.

As a significant and well known stakeholder, your project team could and should have made greater efforts to engage with our clients. It is particularly surprising and disappointing that they did not include our clients as a consultee in your EIA Scoping Opinion request in August 2010.

Although our clients support the principle of your development, they oppose, in the strongest possible terms, the proposed siting of the wind turbines and will take all necessary steps, including legal proceedings in the UK and elsewhere, to protect their continuing investment in their development, which is of national economic importance.

Yours sincerely

Ann Faulds
Partner, For and on behalf of Dundas & Wilson CS LLP

cc Lars Westerberg, Chairman of the Board of Vattenfall
The First Minister, Scottish Government
The Chief Planner, Scottish Government
Chief Executive, Aberdeenshire Council
Director of Planning and Environmental Services, Aberdeenshire Council
Chief Executive, City of Aberdeen Council
Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure, City of Aberdeen Council
The Energy Consents Unit
David Rodger, Vattenfall Wind Power Limited
Ian Todd, AREG