



22 December 2025

Sent electronically

Dear Georgina Wright,

[PL/2025/06175 High Post Salt Store, High Post, Amesbury, SP4 6AS](#)

Thank you for consulting the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site (WHS) Coordination Unit on this application for the installation of an 18-metre high, 11kW horizontal axis wind turbine (HAWT). The wind turbine will be freestanding tower-mounted with two blades. The total height of the structure including blades will be 24m. The WHS Coordination Unit, like the Historic England response of 08.12.25, has concerns regarding this proposal on heritage grounds.

This application introduces a tall structure on a prominent ridgeline c. 2km southeast of the boundary of the Stonehenge part of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS. The role of the WHS Coordination Unit is to monitor the impact of all development on the Attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) as inscribed by UNESCO to maintain the Integrity and Authenticity of the WHS and its setting. For full details of OUV please refer to the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS Management Plan (2015)¹.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) recognises at paragraph 202 that WHS are among assets of the highest significance and Policy 59 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy underlines that precedence should be given to the protection of the WHS and its setting.

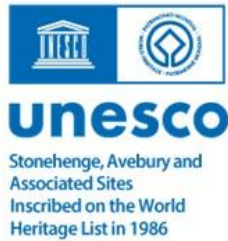
A description of setting can be found in Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 'Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site'², adopted by Wiltshire Council in October 2025. The Setting Study SPD describes how all applications for tall structures in Wiltshire, including wind turbines, require screening by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on impact to the WHS.

The proposed turbine has the potential to harm the WHS through introducing change within its setting. The application is not supported by a Heritage Impact Assessment, and therefore it is not possible to advise the LPA as to the level of harm. However, it is likely that a tall structure in this location could pose substantial harm to the WHS and its Attributes of OUV. In order for the LPA to make an informed assessment of the level of harm as described in the NPPF, this proposal will require a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA). This should include photomontages from a number of visual receptors within the WHS, and consideration of factors including lighting and materials.

The WHS Coordination Unit advises the applicant is required follow the HIA processes detailed in Section 3 of the Setting Study SPD to allow for a full and iterative assessment of impact to the WHS and its individual Attributes of OUV. This HIA process reflects both the process set out in the UNESCO HIA Guidance (2022) and the process set out in Historic England's The Setting of Heritage Assets, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (Second Edition – Dec. 2017).

¹ [Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan 2015](#)

² [Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site Supplementary Planning Document \(2025\)](#)



It may be that, during this process, alternative renewable energy sources are explored to achieve the renewable energy needs for the site which have less of a visual impact.

In Summary

Our comments relate solely to the impact of the proposal to Stonehenge and Avebury WHS and it's setting to inform the LPA's decision making. The WHS Coordination Unit has concerns regarding this proposal on heritage grounds. In order to make an informed assessment, a Heritage Impact Assessment is required.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Selman

Partnership Manager

Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site Coordination Unit

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