

Stirling Before Pylons



Press Release – immediate release

Scottish Government to respond to health concerns raised by *Stirling Before Pylons* and supporting MSPs at latest review of PE812.

PE812 on power lines and adverse healthy effects was reviewed by the Scottish Parliament's Public Petitions Committee on Tuesday December 1st. Details included in Press Release sent on Nov 29th.

Christopher Harvie MSP (SNP) made a strong supporting statement which again asked the Scottish Government to address the last 5 years of scientific evidence and not rely on the Health Protection Agency's (HPA) advice in this area. He also called on the precautionary principle to be applied with specific reference to the Beaully to Denny line. Statement attached.

Richard Simpson MSP (Lab) raised the latest Japanese study by the National Research Institute for Child Health and Development (Journal of Epidemiology Nov 14th 2009) showing an eleven-fold increased risk of brain tumour for children living in close proximity to power line magnetic fields. Although the numbers involved were small, Japan is now co-operating with other countries to broaden the scope of this study. He then made detailed reference to the latest XLPE undergrounding projects being carried out in Europe as a means of removing the health threat posed by high-voltage overhead power lines through populated areas. I attach *Stirling Before Pylons'* latest briefing note on this topic for reference. He outlined the enormous health and landscape benefits that would be achieved should 23km of the Beaully to Denny 400kV proposal be undergrounded through the Stirling area.

Nanette Milne MSP (Con) from the Committee concluded that PE812 should be kept open and that the above two statements, together with *Stirling Before Pylons'* latest response to correspondence from the Health Protection Agency and the Scottish Government (SG) be forwarded to the SG. A response is required by January 6th 2010. There were suggestions that the announcement from the Scottish Government to the Beaully to Denny proposal could now be delayed.

For further information contact:

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