

## UKOPA GUIDANCE FOR THE SITING OF WIND TURBINES CLOSE TO HIGH PRESSURE PIPELINES

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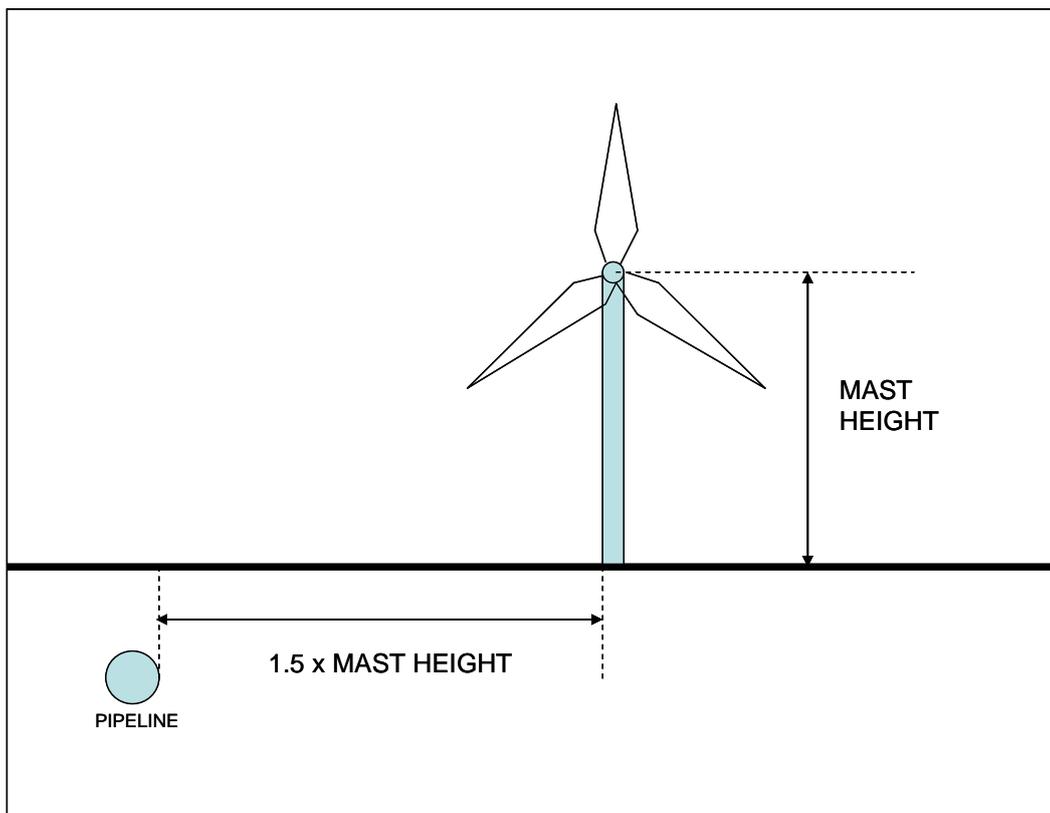
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## GUIDANCE FOR THE SITING OF WIND TURBINES CLOSE TO HIGH PRESSURE PIPELINES

Pipeline Operators are receiving increasing numbers of applications from developers to site wind turbines in the vicinity of high pressure pipelines. In response to this, a detailed technical study has been undertaken to identify the potential risks to these pipelines from wind turbines.

The study was based on data collected for wind farms in the UK and used a methodology that has been developed in the Netherlands. The study assessed all the potential failure modes that could be a potential threat to the integrity of a pipeline, including blade failure; fall of the nacelle or rotor and toppling of the mast. UKOPA have published the details of the technical study in Reference 1. A copy of this document is available on the UKOPA website.



Based on the study, the recommended distance from the nearest part of the mast of the wind turbine at ground level to the nearest part of the pipeline has been identified as a minimum of 1.5 times the turbine mast height. The mast height is defined as the height from the ground level up to the centre line of the wind turbine axle.

**REFERENCE 1:** *Ensuring an Adequate Separation Distance Between Wind Turbines and Buried Energy Infrastructure*, N Jackson, P Baldwin, R Andrews, Hazards XXIII, November 2012

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