**MOSSDALE SHOP & CRAFTS**

Mossdale, Castle Douglas, DG7 2NF

We live, according to European statistics, in a deprived area and as such we rely heavily on tourism for our trade. A small shop like ours, within a rural community of less than twenty houses, is highly dependent on people who use the Galloway Forest Park. The “Forest Drive” with its equally well known “Otter Pool” has one of its entrances just down the road. The ten mile drive through virgin forest, forest that is forever changing due to felling, clearing and re-planting is a drive to “get away from it all” and to de-stress. With nothing man-made to mar their view visitors would certainly be brought back to reality should they suddenly come across the proposed scaring – a line of pylons!

Man-made is what they are trying to escape from, for at least an hour or two. `quite a few of these tourists will not return, preferring instead to go elsewhere, possibly outwith the area to find equal peace and tranquillity. Fewer people means less footfall within the shop and as such would deprive us of any profit we might make resulting in shop closure and the loss of a convenience store not only to the tourist but also to the local community.

So please, NO PYLONS, no scaring and preserve all the benefits we have now. An underground cable would achieve this.

Jamie Blore

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