

PRESS RELEASE

STIRLING BEFORE PYLONS

BEAULY TO DENNY POWERLINE

IMPACT OF POWERLINE CAMPAIGN RECOGNISED

The impact of the campaign against the giant pylons on the Beauly to Denny Powerline was recognised at the weekend. Peter Pearson, Secretary of Stirling Before Pylons and a member of Scotland Before Pylons was listed in Scotland on Sundays 'Power 100' 2006. This publication lists those with the power or influence to make a difference, and the judging panel is chaired by Magnus Linklater.

Peter Pearson came in at number 71, behind Kirsty Wark (66) but ahead of Walter Smith (84). It said he 'had done more than anyone to stop the plan to upgrade the 137 mile transmission line from Beauly to Denny... He helped to persuade Stirling Council to object and other local authorities along the route are now falling into line. A public inquiry is the most likely outcome'.

This recognition of the campaign reflects the 18,000 objections which were made to the proposal by members of the public on a variety of landscape, health, tourism, visual and the impact on historic sites such as the Wallace Monument.

As a result the Scottish Parliament and MSPs are taking the issue seriously :

- A briefing on undergrounding by an Italian expert, Ernesto Zaconne, has been arranged for MSPs in June by Scotland Before Pylons.
- Last week the Cross Party Group on Electromagnetic Radiation and Health, heard from scientific experts Professor Denis Henshaw and Dr John Swanson on the health implications.
- A Parliamentary Debate was held on the impacts of the line in February this year.
- The Petitions Committee has been looking into the health implications of the line over the last 18 months

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