

PRESS RELEASE

(For immediate release)

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Paul Bloomer, WINDFARM 2, woodcut, 2008, a/p, 93x66cm

2 Lge 4 ZE / 2 Small 4 the PLANET

Vaila Fine Art in Lerwick, Shetland has opened its doors to artists who wish to make work in response to the Viking Energy Partnership's proposal to build 154 145 metre (476 feet) wind turbines on Shetland. There are also plans for associated infrastructure, including an interconnector cable, quarries and a converter station.

The exhibition is entitled **2 Lge 4 ZE / 2 Small 4 the PLANET**. The title refers to the belief that the windfarm is an inappropriate scale for Shetland (ZE being the Shetland postal code) and that the project will make no difference to climate change.

The true inspiration for the exhibition was a letter written by artist Paul Bloomer, called *Bad Dream* that was originally published in *The Shetland Times* and on *The Shetland News* website. Vaila Fine Art, enjoying its truly independent commercial status in Shetland, offered to exhibit a painting of the dream in the gallery window.

Before long, an *Open Letter to Banksy* published in the *Shetland Times* and its companion *Open Letter to Andy Goldsworthy* published on the *Shetland News* website, as well as Paul Bloomer's spirited writing, had most artists with conscience working on their personal responses. Artists who have submitted work to date include names well-known both locally and internationally.

Vaila Fine Art waved the usual commission on the sales of the items from this exhibition, encouraging the artists to spend the proceeds ethically. The contents and quality are not censored or curated by the Gallery, merely enthusiastically received and presented. Work is arriving all the time.

New work from across the UK and further afield is welcome from any artist who wishes to respond, including work previously unshown and unheard at the Gallery. Polite language is preferred. The exhibition in the panelled front room of the gallery will continue until the need for it ceases to exist. An online [gallery of the work](#) and further information, including the '[Open Letters](#)', Paul Bloomer's '[Bad Dream](#)' and artists' statements, can be found at www.vailafineart.co.uk/ **ENDS**

A GALLERY OF THE ARTWORK CAN BE SEEN AT:

<http://www.vailafineart.co.uk/Windfarms/>

NOTE: High resolution images of any of the artwork can be emailed to you directly for publication.

Please select which images you would like and contact:

karen@burntcandle.co.uk

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHIES CAN BE FOUND AT:

http://www.vailafineart.co.uk/VAILA%20FINE%20ART_ArtistBiogs.pdf

About Vailla Fine Art

Vailla Fine Art, 61 Commercial Street, Lerwick, ZE1 0AB, Shetland

Vailla Fine Art, an independent and commercial gallery, was opened in July 1999 by Dorota Rychlik. Vailla Fine Art shows well-documented artists from 19th-21st Centuries, including Shetland contemporary landscapes and British marine artists. All media are represented, including wood engravings, etchings, watercolours, oils, acrylics, drawings, sculptures and constructions in wood and bronze. Vailla Fine Art runs exhibitions and plays an active part in the life of local community.

About the Viking Energy Partnership proposal

Viking Energy: info@vikingenergy.co.uk

Sustainable Shetland <http://www.sustainableshetland.org/>