

Micro-turbine bat mortality incidents, received by the Bat Conservation Trust

- Devon A Rutland Windcharger Furlmatic FM910, diameter approx 900mm, was mounted on a 4m high pole; the top of the Windcharger was just above the top of an adjacent high hazel hedgeline. It provides power to a nearby motorhome.
August 2003, a bat was found decapitated adjacent to Windcharger.
Over the next month about **five more** dead bats were found in the garden, some with apparent injuries, others not.
September 2004, a stunned bat was found in the garden, then a dead bat found the next day (presumably the same one?) with an injury inside its ear.
September 2004, a pipistrelle bat was seen flying into the Windcharger blades; its wings were so badly injured that it had to be put down.
September 2004, the Windcharger was taken down when the owner noticed bat(s) swooping around Windcharger.
The owner has since constructed a cage around the Windcharger, but has found the energy generation severely compromised as a result.
- Moffat Early 2005 a small wind turbine was attached to a National Trust for Scotland visitor centre that is 10 miles from Moffat. The building is in the uplands, and the nearest woodland is 600 metres away. A male pipistrelle hibernated in the centre during the winter.
30th May 2005 a male Pipistrellus pygmaeus was found dead directly below the turbine. No obvious cause of death, the finder considers the bat must have hit the turbine.
- Kent A wind turbine was installed in the middle of Shorne Wood Country Park in Kent in March 2006. The site is within ancient woodland and is a SSSI. Rangers have surveyed underneath the turbine every day since the turbine's installation and up to October 2006 have only found one dead pipistrelle bat the night after particularly strong winds.
- Lancashire In June 2007 a dead bat (pipistrelle?) was found on a houseboat installed with a Rusland 918 mini turbine. The boat was moored on the Lancaster Canal. The mini turbine is now 'tethered' between dusk and dawn between April and September inclusive to avoid further mortality.
- (Durham 11th July 2006, bird observation, a pigeon was observed flying into a micro-turbine at Harehope Quarry. The bird's wing was cut off, it lost an eye and received other major trauma to its head and body. The bird was put down.)