

The answer is not blowing in the wind

REGARDING the recent debate on wind power, there still seems to be a perception that if we have enough wind turbines we can dispense with some or all nuclear power stations.

Unfortunately this is not true. At present wind turbines contribute such a tiny percentage of the power we need, that when the wind does not blow, their trivial contribution is easily covered by the spare capacity in the generating system.

If however, enough of these were built to contribute say 10, 15 or even 20 per cent this would not be the case, hence the power stations would still have to be there,

fully manned even if running light, so they could instantly cater for the occasions when the wind speed was either too low or too high for the turbines. Unless, of course, we are happy for the power to fail on a regular basis.

So we end up with the nuclear power stations plus these heavily subsidised, monstrous structures, devastating the landscape.

Not an ideal solution but with the rush to seem green no doubt our political masters will continue to subsidise this folly.

After all, it's not their money they are spending.

**M Ward,
Main Street, Foxton.**