

From: [REDACTED] Personal Information redacted
To: [PLANNING CPU](#)
Subject: Wind energy policy framework
Date: Friday 3 June 2022 11:35:59

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I Martin Ferry, [REDACTED] [Personal Information redacted](#) make this submission to Donegal County Council in respect to the proposed variation on the wind energy policy framework plan 2018-2024.

As a small farmer I feel that the need for wind energy in Donegal is at a time of greater need due to the rising cost on our energy sector is at an all time high and rising sharply in price I feel that we as a county need to look at wind energy in a positive way. I feel that with wind energy the infrastructure needed to harvest wind power can easily be constructed in our county to meet the demands of our rising cost of energy as we are one of the counties with one of the greatest wind potentials to harvest our greener renewable energy as we move forward to meet our targets of 2030. As a small farmer I feel that the time has come to use our mountains to harvest this wind energy to help reduce our carbon footprint in our fight against climate change and to help our society become less dependent on fossil fuels as we move forward to a low carbon and climate resilient society.

As a nation that will become more dependent on electric with talk of 2025 of having more electric cars, buses and houses fitted with heat pumps etc the demand for electricity will be of greater need and where will this extra supply of electricity ever be found if not from onshore wind power which can easily be constructed in times of rising energy bills. As I have attended the Donegal development plan and wind variation meeting I have come to be made aware that with the proposed ten times tip height I ask where in Donegal is there going to be any place to harvest wind energy at the set back distance, so as a county how do we as a county ensure a transition to a low carbon and climate society with this recommendation????.

As a person living close to a small scale windfarm I can honestly say that I do not see the need for ten times the tip height restriction for windfarm development. It has also been pointed out that with almost all areas now classed as moderate high and moderate low landslide susceptibility areas I don't see any places left in our county for wind energy to move forward to replace fossil fuels when our government push for a greener energy policy so I ask the question will Donegal be a county that won't move with the times and harvest wind energy which will generate dividends to our local council through rates from wind farm development in which this money can be of greater use to our local community???

As a farmer in this time of rising costs I think that we should be given this opportunity to use our mountains as a means of extra revenue from wind development because as a farmer I know that this money will go back into our local economy..

I do believe farmers should have a role in developing wind farms due to their vast knowledge of their mountains and landscapes due to their livelihood of farming which would prevent landslide rather than a person in an office looking at the lay of the land on a screen. Local knowledge is often hard to beat when moving forward in life. We need a renewable energy policy to help meet our transition to a low carbon and climate society but from the new wind energy map I don't see anywhere in Donegal to make this work when you factor in all the restrictions so I ask how do we achieve our low carbon climate society if you do not lift these restrictions????.

As I have read the wind energy policy framework booklet and see amendments made due

to the meenbog landslide it comes to my attention why should all of donegal be placed under moderate high and moderate low areas of landslide due to meenbog landslide. As a machine driver who has worked on different wind farms across Northern Ireland with a reputable contractor I do believe that the meenbog landslide could and should have been prevented if the proper protocol had been followed in the construction off meenbog windfarm with the proper use of low ground pressure machines to excavate the bog as work progressed to minimise ground damage. I do firmly believe that meenbog landslide was preventable if the proper contractor had been assigned to carry out the development off meenbog windfarm.

With the rising cost of living and rising cost off energy I ask you how do we help reduce our depends on fossil fuels in donegal if its not through wind energy ???. As donegal is no blanket with restriction as regards to tip hight and landslide susceptibility I ask where is there left to have a wind energy plan as we move forward to a low carbon and climate resilient society ?????.

Kind regards

Martin Ferry