

From: [REDACTED] Personal information redacted
To: [PLANNING CPU](#)
Subject: Variation to the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 (As Varied) in respect of a Wind Energy Policy Framework (WEPP)
Date: Monday 30 May 2022 10:16:02

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Variation on Wind Policy in 2018-2024 CDP

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to submit the following,

I am writing in support of crucial changes Council propose to make on wind energy policies in the 2018 - 2024 County Development Plan.

I am firmly of the belief that Donegal has done more than its fair share in the rollout of turbines. Compared to many counties we are at saturation point. We need to protect our beautiful landscapes and conserve our valuable peatlands – after all they are planet earth’s main carbon store. The disastrous Meenbog bog burst has caused huge environmental damage and destroyed fish life in the Mourne river. We have an obligation to our children to learn from these grave mistakes.

Donegal and Inishowen over the years has more wind turbines than most Counties in Ireland and this is reflected in the landscape where any approach to Buncrana is dominated by turbines surrounding the town in the landscape and on the skyline. Therefore, I am glad that Council finally intends to place some restraint on turbines.

Recently the County has become a popular location for film makers and visitors due to the natural landscape and also the Wild Atlantic Way. This is reflected in the good reviews and high ratings people give Donegal in travel Guides. Lonely Planet, British royals, cruise ship goers, Hollywood film crews, hikers and hill walkers all have Donegal on their must-visit bucket list. This generates a very favorable image of the County at home and abroad.

The safeguard of 10 Times Tip Height from homes is welcome especially as the height of turbines is increasing, scenic areas should be protected.

Therefore, I am glad that Council finally intends to place some restraint on turbines. I am in favour of your Map 8.2.1 that shows most of the county as not normally permissible. However, I accept the logic that areas already despoiled by turbines can be considered for upgrade works. It seems to me to be common sense to allow outdated low power turbines be replaced, on the same site, with a far smaller number of more powerful turbines. Thus, Donegal can still be committed to wind power without destroying other greenfield, often peatland sites.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this public consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Crumlish

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