

MAEVE MC ELROY

From: Michael Ward [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 May 2022 11:08
To: PLANNING CPU
Subject: donegaldevplan
Attachments: Re proposed Count Development Plan for Co.doc

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Donegal County Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

Donegaldevplan

The war in Ukraine has generated a new urgency for energy in Europe including Ireland. The eventual ban on imported Russian oil and gas will have to be compensated for in Ireland by speeding up the introduction of electric and hydrogen powered vehicles coupled with the generation of electricity from renewable sources.

It is clearly obvious that there is an urgent need for the development of wind farms and solar panel systems to eliminate the future dependence on unreliable imported fuels. Renewable energy is also essential for combating the scourge of global warming. Now, more than at any past point in time, it is unwise and not prudent to introduce draconian restrictions on the development of wind farms.

The proposed ban on the use of turf, coal and wood is a further indicator that adequate clean energy must be made available to compensate for the loss of these energy sources. Green hydrogen gas can be generated cheaply from electricity from wind turbines. Hydrogen can be injected into existing gas pipelines for general use. It is also used to manufacture fertilisers. Both commodities rendered scarce for some years to come by the war in Ukraine.

Co. Donegal has the best wind speeds in Europe with off shore wind speeds available on land. Wind farms are much cheaper to construct and maintain on land.

Architects of the County Donegal Development Plan must not overlook the fact that the Minister for the Environment has recently stated that there is serious concern regarding global warming and that Ireland must speedily reduce the use of fossil fuels by developing green energy from wind turbines. Wind farms also generate substantial income for involved landowners, for local development groups and for the Council.

When all of the pros and cons of wind farms are considered it is clearly obvious that there are more advantages than disadvantages to having energy from clean non polluting wind turbines.

Each proposed future wind farm for Co Donegal should be examined on an individual basis application and not be excluded as a result of the type of blanket ban that is being proposed by the new County Development Plan for Co. Donegal. The Ukrainian war effort will have repercussions for some considerable time to come, probably a number of years. Therefore the section of this plan relating to unsuitable areas for wind turbines will have to be reviewed with a view to increasing the areas in Donegal deemed suitable for the construction of wind turbines in order to prepare for the preservation of energy supply.

Michael Ward, [REDACTED]

Donegaldevplan

The war in Ukraine has generated a new urgency for energy in Europe including Ireland. The eventual ban on imported Russian oil and gas will have to be compensated for in Ireland by speeding up the introduction of electric and hydrogen powered vehicles coupled with the generation of electricity from renewable sources.

It is clearly obvious that there is an urgent need for the development of wind farms and solar panel systems to eliminate the future dependence on unreliable imported fuels. Renewable energy is also essential for combating the scourge of global warming. Now, more than at any past point in time, it is unwise and not prudent to introduce draconian restrictions on the development of wind farms.

The proposed ban on the use of turf, coal and wood is a further indicator that adequate clean energy must be made available to compensate for the loss of these energy sources. Green hydrogen gas can be generated cheaply from electricity from wind turbines. Hydrogen can be injected into existing gas pipelines for general use. It is also used to manufacture fertilisers. Both commodities rendered scarce for some years to come by the war in Ukraine.

Co. Donegal has the best wind speeds in Europe with off shore wind speeds available on land. Wind farms are much cheaper to construct and maintain on land.

Architects of the County Donegal Development Plan must not overlook the fact that the Minister for the Environment has recently stated that there is serious concern regarding global warming and that Ireland must speedily reduce the use of fossil fuels by developing green energy from wind turbines. Wind farms also generate substantial income for involved landowners, for local development groups and for the Council.

When all of the pros and cons of wind farms are considered it is clearly obvious that there are more advantages than disadvantages to having energy from clean non polluting wind turbines.

Each proposed future wind farm for Co Donegal should be examined on an individual basis application and not be excluded as a result of the type of blanket ban that is being proposed by the new County Development Plan for Co. Donegal. The Ukrainian war effort will have repercussions for some considerable time to come, probably a number of years.

Therefore the section of this plan relating to unsuitable areas for wind turbines will have to be reviewed with a view to increasing the areas in Donegal deemed suitable for the construction of wind turbines in order to prepare for the preservation of energy supply.

Michael Ward, [REDACTED]