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----- May 2022

Dear Planner,

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.

Therefore, I am glad that Council finally intends to place some restraint on turbines. I am in favour of your map 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 It seems to me to be common sense to allow outdated low power turbines be replaced, on the same site, with a far smaller number of more powerful turbines.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.

There should be no turbines in boglands. Is that not the simple solution to the disastrous Meenbog bog burst which has caused huge environmental damage and destroyed fish life in the Mourne river? I wholly support the five key provisions:

- No turbines in Glenveagh National Park area
- No turbines in the stunning Gweebarra river valley
- No turbines in areas of EHSA
- No turbines in fresh water pearl mussel catchments
- No turbines in St John's Point

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

Signature: Paul O'Connor

Name: (block caps) PAUL O'CONNOR