



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Notice of Determination of the Need for Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Proposed Variation to the County Donegal Development Plan, 2018-2024 (As Varied) in respect of a Wind Energy Policy Framework (Variation No.2)

Donegal County Council has commenced the preparation of a Proposed Variation to the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024, (As Varied) in respect of a Wind Energy Policy Framework (Variation No.2).

In accordance with Section 177U(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (As Amended) the Planning Authority screened the Proposed Variation for Appropriate Assessment to assess whether, in view of best scientific knowledge, the Proposed Variation, individually or in combination with another plan or project, is likely to have a significant effect on European/Natura 2000 sites.

On the basis of that screening, and in accordance with Section 177U(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (As Amended), the Planning Authority determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the Proposed Variation was required as it could not be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Proposed Variation, individually or in combination with other plans or projects would have a significant effect on European/Natura 2000 sites. Consequently a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment of the Proposed Variation is required and shall be undertaken. A copy of said Determination, as contained in a Chief Executive's Order, has been made available for public inspection at the offices of the Planning Authority and in public libraries (subject to Covid restrictions) and has also been uploaded to the Council's website (www.donegalcoco.ie) in accordance with Section 177U(7) of said Act.

Furthermore, a detailed report entitled, "Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report of the Proposed Variation to the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 (As Varied) in respect of the Proposed Wind Energy Policy Framework (Variation No. 2)" has also been uploaded to the Council's website (www.donegalcoco.ie).

Paul Christy
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