

Personal Information redacted

Co Donegal

1st June 2022

Dear Planner.

RE County Development Plan – Changes to Wind Energy Policies

I am writing in support of crucial changes which Council propose to make on Wind Energy Policies contained in the 2018 - 2024 County Development Plan.

Donegal has committed more than its fair share in the rollout of turbines across the county, we are at saturation point and need protect our beautiful landscape, conserve our valuable peatlands/bogs this is the main carbon store.

I wholeheartedly am both delighted and relieved 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 It seems to me to be common sense to allow outdated low power turbines to be replaced, on the same site, with a far smaller number of more powerful turbines. Donegal can still be committed to wind power without destroying other greenfield and often peatland sites.

I believe wind farms should not be permitted in bogland areas and those susceptible to peat slides, this would be a simple solution to prevent any further disastrous bog bursts like we witnessed in Meenbog on the 13th of November 2020. This has caused huge environmental damage, both on the land and in the rivers, destroying the fish and aquatic life in the rivers; Mourne Beg, Derg and the Foyle. The disaster in Meenbog, was in a medium to low-risk landslide susceptibility area yet this massive bog slide still occurred and therefore no further development of this type should be considered in this area. Furthermore, Cashelnavern LCA contains many areas susceptible to peat slippage risks therefore no wind development should be permissible in this area in the future.

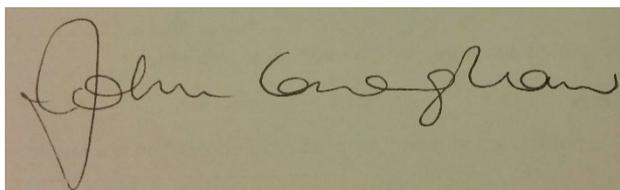
I also welcome the separation distance proposal of the ten times tip height from homes. This gives homeowners some confidence and protection from the known negative health factors namely noise pollution, shadow flicker and electro magnetic frequencies.

I wish to voice my concerns supporting the following:

- No turbines on areas deemed of high, medium or low susceptibility to Landslides.
- No further wind turbine developments in the Cashelnavern LCA 40
- No turbines within the Glenveagh National Park, and surrounding area.
- No turbines in the Gweebarra river valley.
- No turbines in areas of EHSA.
- No turbines in freshwater pearl mussel catchments
- No turbines in St John's Point

I Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this public consultation, I hope that my views are taken into consideration.

Signature:

A photograph of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "John Conaghan".

Name: JOHN CONAGHAN