

Committee Clerk

Environment & Sustainability Com..

Cardiff Bay

17th September 2011

Dear Sir

TAN 8

We are appalled with our Assembly Government turning their backs on what others may do to our country. Westminster will be handed the misguided political expediency of the TAN 8 policy on expendable energy. The latter is flawed and gives us many reasons to object. The unacceptable visual impact to the countryside by dint of wind farms and associated pylons, the long term detrimental effects on tourism, road infrastructures, flora and fauna are just for starters.

However, our main thrust is directed towards the unbelievable economic thinking which underpins the policy. The inefficiency of wind farms, having to be supplemented by conventional energy, is clothed in the grey mist of financial subsidies. How many of these wind farm proposals will be tabled without the concomitant subsidies? Not many, if any.

The 'green ticket' does not stand up to any meaningful investigation. Latest thinking on CO₂ savings is built on shaky ground at best, whilst the Renewable Industry does its utmost to bury the truth as it hopes to pocket the subsidies for the shareholders.

What about the whole life costs of wind farms?. Again, there is a scarcity of fact regarding the costs of maintenance, both with regards to turbines and the infrastructure needed to support them. We have yet to unearth any structured case made available to the public regarding these costings. The reliability of turbines is understood to be low and require considerable maintenance which means the running costs will be high and will presumably be passed on to the consumers

The time has come, long overdue by the vacillating governments past and present, to grip the issue of a national energy policy based on scientific and economic fact and not driven by ill informed 'green' issues and dreaded subsidies. The WAG can at least start by binning TAN 8 and start afresh using a wide cross section of people who understand the real issues and not blinded by the political imperative.

Listen to the people from the front line. Please.

Yans Sinenley

