

18. 9. 11.

Dear Sir,

I write in respect of your Committee's review into energy policy and planning in Wales the autumn and in particular to TAN 8 planning guidance. The proposal to erect a windfarm or farms and a network of pylons in and across Powys is I believe fundamentally flawed for the following reasons

- 1) Wind turbines are uneconomic in view of their production at most I understand about 30% of the declared capability. Their contribution to reducing 'carbon footprint' is minimal in view of the necessity to keep coal fired power stations running to take up the slack when the turbines are not producing power — and other countries in Europe have dismantled wind farms already erected.

2) Both wind turbines and pylons would seriously disfigure the countryside and cause environmental damage

3). Such damage would cause economic distress in an area deriving income from tourism. Loss of such income could and in many cases probably would result in welfare benefit claims so providing no benefit by way of taxes to the country and simultaneously improving a drain upon its fiscal resources. The Committee should consider the economic damage done to Ireland's important tourism industry by the unchecked expansion of house building.

I believe the Taoiseach to be seriously flawed and that there should be a standstill on all applications until a comprehensive review has been completed.

Yours faithfully

