

Submission 138

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**To:** forwardplan  
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**Attachments:** dev plan 1.docx

Development Plan Review

Wind Strategy



To Whom it May Concern

We are very alarmed at the rush of Wind farm applications in the West Clare area recently .There seems to be a national policy that wind energy is the only way to reduce our emissions and they are being foisted on rural communities regardless of the negative effects on the communities in these areas. Future planning should take the following into account

- Genuine consultation take place with communities in areas targeted for wind developments at least 2 years in advance of planning.
- That visual impact of wind farms be consistent with usual considerations for all planning application and same rules apply
- That guidelines on distances from dwellings be reconsidered and extended to 2km in rural areas.
- That quality of life issues raised by communities impacted by wind farm developments be taken seriously by our public representatives and incorporated into the strategy
- That EU and National Directives on Habitats Water and Groundwater be strictly followed and the potential for landsides in peatland be taken seriously
- Other renewables like solar , wave energy, biomass be seriously looked at and look at ways to reduce our energy usage through retro fitting houses etc.