

July 30<sup>th</sup> 2016

Dear Sirs

**Re-determination of applications made by RWE and RES in respect of wind turbine generating stations at Carnedd Wen and Llanbrynmair as set out in Mr Giles Scott's letter of 6th July 2016**

I write to you with regard to the re-determination of the above applications as the elected representative of the Banwy ward of Powys County Council, a ward which would be directly and adversely affected by these developments. I am aware that you may have received other representations with regard to these applications and I am certain that many of these will have concerned themselves with the technical aspects of these developments therefore I propose to concentrate on the issue of localism or as it might be more widely framed, democracy.

1. All levels of government in the area, from community council upwards, have overwhelmingly and consistently rejected these schemes. Local plebiscites have been held by community councils which revealed opposition at time levels (80% plus on turnouts exceeding 75%). Community councils have made their views clear as have the County Council, the local Member of the Welsh Assembly and our Member of Parliament. Election were held at all levels at which these developments were a crucial, if not the crucial factor: in every case, opponents of these developments were elected to faithfully represent the opinions of their areas. Residents in my ward have many concerns, from the impact of the construction on transport to the deleterious impact on a local tourism businesses but they all agree on the overriding objection: the catastrophic and irreparable impact on the landscape. My residents, who live in properties near to the sites, utterly reject the subjective notion posited by the developers that a turbine landscape is preferable to one featuring large-scale conifer plantations: why should the subjective aesthetic opinion of the Inspector, who concurred with the opinion, for it is nothing more, of the developers? Who knows more about the nature of a landscape than those who live within it?
2. The manifesto issued by the Welsh Conservatives prior to the General Election in 2015 stated clearly that no support would be given for further onshore windfarms and that local people should have the final say on such developments. The Welsh Conservatives' Assembly Election by Manifesto added to this commitment promising the abolition of planning guidelines which favour large-scale on-shore wind and also noted the deleterious cumulative impact of concentrating such schemes in designated areas. Clearly, Labour remains in control of policy in Wales but I hereby call upon the government in Westminster to honour their commitment to the people of Mid Wales and reject these developments on the grounds of their impact on the visual environment.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Myfanwy Alexander