

28 July 2016

Redetermination of applications for Llanbrynmair and Carnedd Wen Wind Farms

To The Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change,

I am writing in connection with the above redetermination of the applications for the development of wind farms at Llanbrynmair and Carnedd Wen.

I continue to object to both wind farms on the grounds of cumulative visual impact. If these two wind farms are granted approval a great swathe of the mid-Wales landscape will be dominated by wind turbines. The effect will not just be confined to Strategic Search Area B but it will also affect the southern part of the nearby Snowdonia National Park, one of the Nation's cherished landscapes. The views from the south eastern part of the National Park will be spoiled and those from the mountains of Cadair Idris and Aran Fawddwy will be considerably degraded. The distant views of landscape are as special and important as the close ones and it is these distant views that make the mountains and hills so special. Whatever the distance to a wind farm, a photomontage can never show the true picture as turbines are moving structures that catch the eye in real life. They are a visual interruption that industrializes the landscape. There is increasing realisation of the importance of the 'natural' landscape to peoples' mental as well as physical well-being.

The removal of five turbines from Carnedd Wen is irrelevant to the bigger landscape picture.

Glyndwr's Way (one of only two national trails in the whole of Wales) will be severely compromised if these two wind farms go ahead. This is not in keeping with the push for health and well-being being extolled by Welsh Government.

I live in Abercegir, just south of the National Park boundary and walk regularly in the Foel Fadian - Glaslyn area (just above the Wynford Vaughan Thomas Viewpoint). If these two wind factories go ahead, the hillscape to the north-east and to the east of the Pumlumon escarpment will be dominated by wind turbines. We already have Cemaes and Carno wind farms (the latter having recently got planning permission for more turbines). The addition of Llanbrynmair and Carnedd Wen in the landscape will be truly devastating.

Yours faithfully,