

From: [Richard Bonfield](#)
To: [NDE](#)
Subject: Draft National Development Framework - consultation
Date: 29 October 2019 12:32:30

I am writing to express my utter disapproval to the Draft NDF proposals for Wales but more particularly for Mid Wales re on shore-wind and solar energy developments. Further I cannot believe the Welsh Government should resurrect proposals similar if not worse than those in the 2005 "The Technical Advice Note" (Tan 8) proposals. Under the Tan 8 proposals the Mid Wales landscape was to have been vandalised by huge on shore wind farms. Once the people of Mid Wales realised what the Labour controlled Welsh Government plans were they rose up to defend their superb landscapes. Each village & town formed their own groups to fight these proposals which culminated in a mass protest at the Senedd in May 2011. Nearly 2000 attended transported by over 40 coaches from Mid Wales & beyond.

I was the organiser of the protest and it certainly caught the attention of the media and shocked so many to what the Labour Welsh government was planning. This hardened Powys Council to an historic vote where they objected in June to 5 major wind farm applications and a powerline application – which culminated in a Public Inquiry.

The Public Inquiry which started in 2013 and finished in 2014 was I understand the longest one ever held in Wales. All the groups came together to form the Alliance to help fund a barrister (operating from a distance) and with a number of us questioning and leading for the Alliance We fought tooth and nail against 6 sets of Barristers and achieved an historic victory with only one application approved – the re-powering of Llandinam which was of little use to Scottish Power as their application for a new power line to get the electricity to the grid was rejected by the Secretary of State.

It was a magnificent effort and what is the reward people of Mid Wales receive is another set of proposals even worse than Tan 8.

Is there no longer any democracy in Wales – the people have spoken that they do not want on any on shore windfarms any longer – this is the case in England with the emphasis NOW on off shore farms.

To summarise

The Mid Wales landscapes should be protected and the acceptance of change in the proposals is entirely unacceptable

The rural economy supports huge number of jobs through tourism and other activities dependant on the scenic mid Wales landscapes

In England, local councils are able to determine Wind Energy applications WHERE THE applications MUST HAVE THE BACKING OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO BE APPROVED.

The proposals allow applications in Wales to be determined through a decision by Welsh Government Ministers AND NOT LOCAL AUTHORITIES. This is totally unacceptable and smacks of the state deciding everything for its people – Just like the communist countries before the fall of the Berlin Wall

Please confirm by email that my objections are recorded and acknowledged

Whilst I now live in Portishead I return to Mid Wales regularly (like many thousands of visitors each year) and the draft proposals will negatively impact on people far and wide
Richard Bonfield

