

Committee Clerk, EPP 113 - D J Bispham

Environment & Sustainability Committee.

19<sup>th</sup> September, 2011

Dear Sir

TAN 8 - Mid Wales Commercial Project

This project should be stopped in its entirety.

It is of very little benefit at a disproportionate cost. The amount of electricity it would produce would be insubstantial - ignoring its unreliability. It really represents a 'hide lux' exercise for emission reduction, without consideration for its economic and environmental damage.

The economy of mid-Wales would be affected if the scheme proceeded. Tourism would suffer. Those who come here, come for the peace and unspoiled countryside. Tourism income is important for the area. Businesses will suffer as a consequence.

Employment is another factor. If a home-owner loses his or her employment and has to move, the impact on the value of the property will be very damaging. The property will either not sell or sell at a substantially reduced price. This will have a knock on effect if the vendor seeks to buy another home, whether in Wales or England particularly. If the vendor has a mortgage he or she may not be able to afford to rent another property or even become a

mortgage at all. If a reluctant worker cannot find alternative employment the usual consequences will follow - a forced sale (which might or might not cover the mortgage and another claimant or state benefit). Other property owners unaffected by employment issues who might have wanted to move home will almost certainly be prevented from so doing.

As to the general economics of the scheme it is well known that without subsidies, the commercial companies would not participate. The engineering is out of date. It is almost like building windmills again to grind corn.

The general disregard for the countryside is self evident by the indications that the power companies will not consider putting the transmission cables underground.

We all know that it is the taxpayer who will foot the bill by taxation or increased supply bills or both.

To what extent do we really live in a democracy when all the disinterested population of Northamptonshire are against the scheme, echoing concerns all over the United Kingdom?

I trust the scheme will be rejected in its entirety

Yours faithfully

