

## Cyngor Cymuned Llangyniew Community Council

Clerc / Clerk

Mr J. Gareth Thomas

20<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Committee Clerk,  
Environment and Sustainability Committee,  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff Bay,  
CF991NA.

Dear Clerk,

### Inquiry into Energy Policy and Planning in Wales

Members of Llangyniew Community Council are equally deeply concerned about the proposals to construct a new 400kV transmission line in the county to link wind farms in the identified in the Strategic Search Areas (SSA) to the National Grid Network.

To assist in its deliberations on this consultation exercise, the Council held a public meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011 to canvass the views of the electorate in the Community Council area. The meeting raised a number of concerns not only in relation to the Mid Wales Connection Project, but also in respect of the Welsh Assembly Government policy in relation to renewables. The efficiency of wind farms was debated especially as BWEA published data makes it clear that over the course of a year a wind farm will typically generate about 30% of the theoretical maximum output, and as a consequence without the Renewables Obligation this form of generation would not be commercially viable.

The meeting felt that the disruption to local transport networks, individual properties, the loss of amenity and the effect on a major local industry – tourism, was not justified given the overall efficiency of wind farms and the unnecessary intrusion that this form of development creates.

The overwhelming view of the meeting was that the construction of the 400kV transmission lines should **not** be supported and that the whole policy in relation to onshore wind farms in Mid Wales had been brought into question.

In coming to this decision the Council and its constituents, recognises that the UK Government has signed up to EU Renewables Directive which includes commitment of a UK target of 15 percent of energy from renewables by 2020. However, this should not be at the detriment of local communities and the environment. These targets are also reflected in the Welsh Governments policies and have driven the identification of SSA's as defined in Technical Advice Note 8.