Julie James AS/MS Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd Minister for Climate Change



Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1268 Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/01267/22

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee
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30 June 2022

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 27 May 2022 concerning the petition on pre-assessed areas for wind energy which your committee is considering.

Future Wales says that 'further guidance on the development of on-shore wind will be produced to assist in the development process'. I can confirm that work to prepare this guidance has commenced and I have asked the Design Commission for Wales to update their publication 'Designing Wind Farms in Wales'.

This updated guidance will set out the key considerations for the sensitive development of large-scale wind farms. It will support local planning authorities, communities, stakeholders and developers by setting out the key issues, up to date policy requirements, signposting to important existing guidance and explaining the wider process.

The timetable for the publication of this guidance is by the end of 2022. I would encourage anyone interested in the preparation of this guidance to contact the Design Commission for Wales and express their interest in getting involved. They can be contacted through their website.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

I would take the opportunity to highlight that there has been no delay in the publication of this guidance. The focus following the publication of Future Wales in 2021 was on supporting the introduction of a new national tier to the development plan in Wales. The introduction of Future Wales represented a very significant change to the plan-led system and it was important that the initial focus was on supporting this change. Having done this and as intended the preparation of the guidance referred to above has now commenced.

I trust this response is helpful and will be happy to provide any further information that will assist you.

Yours sincerely,

Julie James AS/MS

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