

**From:** [Paul Coackley](#)  
**To:** [NDE](#); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Draft National Development Framework  
**Date:** 04 November 2019 11:21:40

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Dear Sir

I write with concern for the above.

It seems to be me that a presumption in favour of *"large scale on-shore wind and solar energy development in these areas, and an acceptance of landscape change."* is a highly undemocratic and hypocritical approach which takes rights away from local communities. It makes a mockery of any future planning/consultation process regarding these developments.

At the same times as Welsh Government is complaining about decisions made in London being made about Welsh matters, it applies the same approach to the Welsh regions.

Isn't it strange that this Welsh Government finds it so hard to invest in mid-Wales in terms of roads, digital infrastructure and the rail networks but is willing to sacrifice rural communities so quickly for other infrastructure priorities. I recall a book by Cordell 'Rape of the Fair Country'

I thought of my river, the Afon-Lwydd, that my father had fished in youth, with rod and line for the leaping salmon under the drooping alders. The alders, he said, that fringed the banks ten deep, planted by the wind of the mountains. But no salmon leap in the river now, for it is black with furnace washings and slag, and the great silver fish have been beaten back to the sea or gasped out of their lives on sands of coal. No alders stand now for they have been chopped as fuel for the cold blast. Even the mountains are shells, groaning in their hollows of emptiness, trembling to the arrows of the pit-props in their sides, bellowing down the old workings that collapse in unseen dust five hundred feet below. Plundered is my country, violated, raped."

*I ask you to take note of the following*

- The Mid Wales landscapes should be protected and that an acceptance of landscape change as set out in the proposals is entirely unacceptable.
- Our rural economy supports thousands of businesses and jobs that are dependent on the scenic mid wales landscapes.
- In England, local councils are able to determine Wind Energy applications, and applications must have the backing of local communities to be approved. It is unacceptable that applications in Wales are determined through a decision by Welsh Government Ministers and not local authorities.
- The proposals in the document make insufficient reference to how energy produced by potential large scale wind developments will be connected to the National Grid.
- There is insufficient road and highway access across North Powys to facilitate large scale wind development and associated infrastructure

Yours sincerely

Paul Coackley