

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 25 October 2022 15:00
To: Energy Consultation
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission

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Hi there

I wish to make a submission to the 'Review of the security of energy supply of Ireland's electricity and natural gas systems'.

1. The definition of energy security has to be revised firstly. It says in the introduction to the consultation that The International Energy Agency (IEA) defines energy security as 'the uninterrupted availability of energy sources at an affordable price' It should be changed to include non-fossil fuel energy sources as we need to transition to a fossil free system immediately.
2. Any future energy system must be aligned with our climate obligations and given our extraordinary wind resources we should be aligning our investment in that area to benefit as quickly as possible from this.
3. Solar should be the secondary investment area and as the supply of solar panels is tightening the Government should buy these panels in bulk and ensure suppliers have the latest panels at a reasonable price. At a recent energy awareness event held locally over 70% of people were interested in getting solar panels. The difficulty is finding a supplier and one who can get the panels.
4. We should not be involved in LNG or fracked gas at all. Look at what is happening in the UK and the implosion of environmental laws. We should make it so that all fossil fuel exploration is ended so that we don't lock ourselves into a high-gas energy market.
5. When we have the infrastructure and an oversupply of electricity from non-fossil fuel sources then we can restart new data centres and, in the meantime, we should put a pause on them
6. We should aim to get to zero carbon earlier than 2050. As we have an extraordinary resource in wind of the west coast we should aim to be energy secure by 2035. To do this we need to align our biodiversity concerns with our planning and seek advice from marine biologists as to the least harmful ways to build the offshore windfarms and let them lead us on what is necessary. They too know that the only way forward is non fossil fuels so they too at trying to assess how we do this in a way that will build biodiversity and conserve it.
7. The plan to retrofit is essential but solar panels are needed to ensure energy efficiency at a domestic level. This technology raises awareness of the provision and use of electricity. We need to lower the carbon use of all households and make them comfortable but the least efficient and those in energy poverty should be done first. We need to signal to people that new fossil gas boilers are not an option and beyond 2024 and any network development should be halted and the experience of those who were developing the network turned to developing the network required to carry renewables.
8. Keep communicating with people as to what the issues are and why we need to move fast and efficiently. Use the best international expertise to get the offshore wind up and running. Get the planning issues resolved and ensure that people can still take part in the process.

Thanks

