From:

Sent:

Friday 28 October 2022 09:48

To:

Energy Consultation

Subject:

Submission to energy security consultation

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Dear Madam/Sir,

I write in support of "Increased secondary fuel storage requirements at combined cycle gas storage turbine power plants". As a short-to-medium term measure, this proposal is uniquely suited to addressing the emergency at hand: the climate movement would not survive a round of blackouts. I am also reassured by the comment in the consultation document saying that such a policy would not alter the *trajectory* of GHG emissions since it does not facilitate increased gas/electricity usage.

Of course, climate NGOs are also correct in identifying decarbonisation as an energy security strategy in itself, and I support measures to accelerate this process. In particular, fast-tracking the planning process for green infrastructure would likely be worthwhile here. Every time I hear of a bicycle lane or a wind farm being killed by EIA or because of concerns about ecological impact, I want to hang my head in shame.

Finally, I would like to emphasise the value of investment in the development of hydrogen technology. This form of energy storage has enormous potential for decarbonizing heavy industry and transport, but we underinvest in it because Ireland does not have a large heavy industry sector. But if we can lower the cost of hydrogen by producing it cheaply here, that will have knock-on benefits for countries around the world. I say this despite the long timelines associated with the development of such technologies.

Best wishes.