

Irish Wind Energy Association
Sycamore House
Millennium Park
Osberstown
Naas
Co. Kildare

Community & Enterprise,
Roscommon County Council,
Golf Links Road,
Roscommon Town.

By email: to communityandenterprise@roscommoncoco.ie

Date: 6th March, 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Irish Wind Energy Association (“IWEA”) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Roscommon Local Economic & Community Plan 2014 - 2020. IWEA is Ireland’s leading renewable energy representative body and as such has an active interest in the potential for sustainable energy and the benefits it can bring.

Roscommon currently hosts over 50MW of wind energy, which is already contributing towards the county’s prosperity. The continued expansion of renewable opportunities for the county will be an extremely positive development, and one which will help drive and sustain economic development for Roscommon. The inclusion of specific policies and objectives that promote the further development of renewable energy will enable Roscommon County Council to:

- Develop a sustainable, wind energy industry employing construction and professional service providers and attracting significant capital investment;
- Enhance the vibrancy of the county as a renewable energy leader;
- Support rural development in a sustainable manner;
- Deliver significant community benefit;
- Deliver significant commercial rates revenue to County Roscommon annually and,
- Bring about a reduction of GHG emissions in line with our national EU 2020 and 2030 climate targets.

We thank you for the opportunity to contribute at this first stage consultation and we look forward to contributing further as the strategic plan progresses.

Yours sincerely,

*sent by email, no signature required

Caitríona Diviney,
Chief Operating Officer,
Irish Wind Energy Association.