

Subject: Re: Submission from Limerick CDB on the CER Consultation Paper

Dear Ms. Beausang

Limerick County Development Board (CDB) have committed to promoting the use of renewable energy sources in its Strategy for Economic, Social & Cultural Development 2002 - 2011 and welcomes the proposals contained in the Commission's paper 'Funding of Grid Upgrade Development for Renewables'.

The proposal to support clusters encourages the principles of co-operation and co-ordination that underpins the work of the County Development Board and makes economic sense in terms of value for money, etc.

As the CDB is a representative body at local level involving Local Government, Local Development, Statutory Bodies and the Social Partners (economic interests and the community & voluntary sector) we are seeking to encourage renewable energy projects while ensuring all sectors are supportive and see a positive contribution to both local communities and business interests.

Within County Limerick the CDB is aware that a potential cluster of wind turbines exists in the West of the County, with a number of projects already having received planning permission and other close to getting the go ahead.

With regard to the selection criteria for clusters some emphasis or weighting should be given to areas where the efforts have been made to ensure co-operation and agreement is reached between the various interests such as project promoters, local communities, landowners, environmental groups, etc.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Coleman
Community & Enterprise Development Officer
Limerick County Development Board