

Commission for Energy Regulation

4th July 2014.

Commissioner John Lynch.

Dear Mr Lynch,

Re: PSO Levy

I wish to make the following comment as part of the Open Consultation to the proposal decision on the Public Service Obligation (PSO) Levy 2014-2015.

ESB reported a profit, after tax, of €415m in 2013, an increase of 23% from the year before.

Ireland has the 4th highest household electricity prices among 28 EU member states
The proposal will add approx. €23 per year to the average household electricity bill

The money raised by this exorbitant increase will go towards onshore wind farming, a means of generating energy which has been proven to be neither economically viable nor environmentally friendly.

ESB should pay towards the turbines out of their own profits. Or the Government should pay out of general revenue, especially as it intends to sell the electricity overseas, and make a profit. Will the Government re-imburse those profits from the sale of electricity to us, the public, who funded the project?.

Also, the turbines are being installed in the rural areas, and not in the urban areas. So those of us in the rural areas are already doubly penalised; once by paying a higher charge for our electricity, and then secondly for having the destruction of our environment, and the de-valuation of our houses, by the turbines.

The Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) should be making every effort to reduce energy prices.

It is totally unjust that we are being charged extra for an electricity generation system which is not cost effective, especially as we in the rural areas already pay more than others for our electricity, and are also losing money with the de-valuation of our properties due to the turbines.

Regards,

Dr Fiona Hardy

