



Pat Swords <pat.swords.chemeng@gmail.com>

CHAP (2010) 00645: Appeal CEI 09/0016 Dept of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources

Pat Swords <pat.swords.chemeng@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 28, 2010 at 9:29 PM

To: env-chap <ENV-CHAP@ec.europa.eu>, Liam-Joseph.Cashman@ec.europa.eu, Olivier.Onidi@ec.europa.eu, Agnes.SZABO@ec.europa.eu

To: CHAP (2010) 00645
Liam Cashman ENV A.2
Olivier Onidia DG Energy

Date: 28-9-2010

The decision below, which resulted from an Access to Information on the Environment Request (Directive 2003/4/EC - Pillar 1 of the Aarhus Convention) in September 2009, clearly shows that not only has a Strategic Environmental Assessment for the wind energy programme in Ireland never been completed, but there has never been any environmental costs benefit analysis or consideration of alternatives prepared for the complete renewable energy programme. Furthermore the Administration is clearly disseminating completely false information to its citizens in official Government policy documents relating to the potential implementation of nuclear energy.

While Ireland has yet to ratify the Aarhus Convention and is refusing to do so, the EU did so in 2005. Yet it clearly approved the funding mechanism (REFIT I) for this wind energy programme despite the mandatory strategic environmental assessment not being completed as part of the public participation requirements of the Aarhus Convention. Furthermore €110 million in EU funding has been allocated to the electrical interconnector between Britain and Ireland, the sole justification of which is this wind energy programme, which has not been through the proper strategic environmental process. As can be seen from the attached documentation with UNECE, we are now actively preparing to lodge a file with the Aarhus Complaints Committee over this issue.

It is not as if these issues have not been repeatedly highlighted with the EU Commission over the last year and a half. There simply has to be a proper environmental justification for the horrendous sums of money that are being diverted into these programmes at the expense of other sectors:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/christopherbooker/8025148/The-Thanet-wind-farm-will-milk-us-of-billions.html>

Pat Swords BE CEng FICHEM CEnv MIEMA

Biography: Pat Swords is a Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers and a Chartered Environmentalist. Since graduation from University College Dublin in 1986, Pat has worked in developing the high technology manufacturing industry in Ireland. His work experience has also included projects in over a dozen other countries throughout Europe and North America. Since 1999 he has worked extensively on EU Technical Aid Projects in Central and Eastern Europe helping to implement EU Industrial Pollution Control and Control of Major Accident Hazards legislation.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <Elizabeth_Dolan@oic.gov.ie>

Date: Tue, Sep 28, 2010 at 5:57 PM

Subject: Appeal CEI 09/0016 Dept of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources

To: pat.swords.chemeng@gmail.com

Dear Mr Swords

I attach the text of the decision signed by the Commissioner yesterday in the above appeal. a signed copy is in the post.

(See attached file: cei090016.rtf)

Elizabeth Dolan
Senior Investigator
Office of the Information Commissioner/commissioner for Environmental
Information
01 6395680

4 attachments



cei090016.rtf

42K



Comments on Update on Appeal CEI-09-0016 May 2010.pdf

131K



CommissionDecision.pdf

187K



Reply and Conversation with UNECE on 16-8-2010.pdf

40K
