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Aelod o'r Senedd dros
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

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Mid and West Wales

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Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure

Committee

Senedd Cymru

Dyddiad | Date: 19th November 2025

Pwnc | Subject: Inquiry on Renewable Energy Figures and Environmental Assessment Processes

Annwyl Cabinet Secretary and Committee Chair

I am writing further to the Cabinet Secretary's letter of 30th October responding to my earlier enquiries regarding renewable energy generation figures used in planning and public communications. I am grateful for the explanation provided regarding current Welsh Government policy, the reliance on industry-standard methodologies, and the availability of DESNZ and Ofgem datasets.

Since receiving that response, a concerned constituent has contacted me again with additional detailed information, raising further issues which do not appear to be addressed within the existing arrangements. In light of this new information, I would be grateful for further clarification on the following matters.

1. "Homes Supplied" Estimations and Use of Ofgem Base Figures

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Concerns have been expressed that developers' "homes supplied" calculations provide limited reference to Ofgem's median household energy consumption figures, which include an approximate 80% gas / 20% electricity split. The constituent argues that this context is not being clearly communicated to the public and that the absence of these base figures in developer materials may create a misleading impression about the proportion of a household's energy needs that could be met by a given scheme.

2. Verification of Developer Calculations in the Planning Process

I understand that developers are not required to disclose detailed calculation evidence during the DNS process, and that PEDW does not routinely request or examine "homes supplied" figures as part of its assessment. This raises questions about transparency and the ability of members of the public to scrutinise key claims presented in support of applications.

3. Turbine Capacity Degradation and Operational Lifespan

Concerns have also been raised about the long-term performance of wind turbines, with suggestions that projected capacity reductions over time are not consistently factored into developers' output estimates or into DNS assessments. Clarification on whether such degradation is considered within Welsh Government assumptions would be welcome.

4. Role of Scrutiny and Oversight

My constituent has also asked whether the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee is examining these issues, particularly the transparency of developer data, the verification of claims during the planning process, and the way in which publicly available datasets are used to inform policy.

In light of the above, I would be grateful for responses to the following questions:

1. What expectations or requirements does the Welsh Government place on developers to disclose the data sources and methodologies underpinning "homes supplied" estimates?
2. Does PEDW review or verify such calculations during DNS assessments, and is there scope for strengthening guidance to ensure greater transparency for the public?
3. Is turbine capacity degradation incorporated into long-term renewable energy projections used by the Welsh Government?
4. Will the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee consider examining these concerns as part of its scrutiny of renewable energy and planning policy?

I would be grateful for any further information or clarification you can provide.

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Yn gywir,



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