Julie Jones

15th September 2011

Environment and Sustainability Committee Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

Dear Sir/Madam

Re TAN 8

I am writing to outline my concerns regarding TAN 8 and the effect of this badly conceived policy.

I am a lifelong resident of Montgomeryshire. I am married and live with my husband and teenage son who is schooled locally. I have a retail business which is also based locally.

TAN8 completely removes our individual rights in Montgomeryshire. As we have three of the seven Strategic Search Areas affecting us, our small rural county will be destroyed. No account has been taken of the cumulative effect on visual amenity, transport, flooding, socio economic and environmental factors. It is unbelievable that a policy can be developed by a newly devolved government and be so badly thought through. For example, in TAN 8 there is no mention of the transport issues, we will be faced with massive loads of 200t +, the structural damage to roads and adjacent buildings will go on for five years or more with over 22,000 abnormal loads. Our roads are barely functioning now in the tourist season, Welshpool and Newtown are bottlenecks due to new road schemes that have been badly planned. The effect on our tourism industry is also a major impact on a fragile economy.

We are now at the mercy of developers who have access to many more resources in terms of access to consultants and advisors. How as ordinary people are we supposed to counteract the pressure of big business? We are told that there is a conflict between Westminster and Cardiff policies regarding renewables. How is this good policy? Devolution has failed us badly.

The effect of TAN 8 has already hit our locality, I know from speaking to estate agents that property is not selling and a property blight has already become apparent. One effect is that small business owners cannot raise capital from their property value due to this.

TAN8 needs to be re-examined for the sake of the people living in the communities affected by the seven strategic search areas. The cumulative impact needs to thoroughly examined.

