

January 11th 2012

Letters Editor
The Western Telegraph
Haverford west

Dear Sir,

You report (Western Telegraph 4th January) the formation of the Save our Skylines group in response to wind energy proposals in Pembrokeshire. This is happening when the need to develop clean energy systems in order to combat climate change has never been greater.

The World Energy Outlook 2011, produced recently by the International Energy Agency [1], warns that urgent action must be taken if the catastrophic consequences of climate change are to be avoided. It envisages a far bigger role for renewable energy systems, such as wind, in cutting emissions of carbon dioxide.

Wind energy is a clean technology which is expanding rapidly globally producing significant environmental and economic benefits. It's important that local businesses also have the opportunity to reap some of these benefits.

And despite a flurry of opposition when proposals are announced, opinion polls consistently show overall public support for wind energy. It seems that most people recognise that saving our planet is more important than saving our skyline.

Can we now expect the Save our Skylines group to call for the dismantling of the television masts on the Preseli Hills, the tall chimneys which emit millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide and a cocktail of other pollutants at the county's oil refineries, and the massive power lines straddling across South Pembrokeshire? Or are its landscape concerns restricted to opposing one of the cleanest forms of energy available to us?

Yours sincerely

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1. The World Energy Outlook 2011
<http://www.iea.org/Textbase/npsum/weo2011sum.pdf>