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Angharad Davies, Director,  
Cadno Communications,  
*By Email*

25/02/2022

**Re: Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm**

Dear Director, Angharad,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing in relation to the recent opening of the community benefit consultation, designed to engage with residents across North Wales to ascertain new opportunities and possibilities for RWE to work with and support the area.

Given the significant impact which the Awel y Môr development could have on communities the length and breadth of North Wales, including Aberconwy, I believe that it is vital that every resident has the opportunity to participate in this consultation. As such, I will share your community consultation via my social media channels and networks.

RWE could have the opportunity to drive significant investment in local sporting facilities and organisations. Aberconwy has a series of high quality and community-oriented sporting clubs and facilities which are undeniably at the very heart of our communities. Providing financial assistance and sponsorship to these clubs and organisations will not only highlight RWE's commitment to the towns and villages of Aberconwy and North Wales but will also assist these sporting facilities to continue to provide vital youth and fitness services to local people.

Additionally, the business could have the opportunity to spearhead the battle against climate change in Aberconwy by investing in coastal and Conwy Valley flood risk reduction measures, and publicly accessible electric vehicle charging points across our towns and rural communities. Such an investment would not only support the growing local use of electric vehicles but would serve as an incredible advertisement of green energy production and consumption, promoting a future without fossil fuels.

A community benefits scheme could also provide RWE with the opportunity to re-invest in North Wales and its future, by directly employing local people in your supply chains and construction projects, creating local jobs and stimulating economic growth for a region which has unfortunately seen growing numbers of its young and skilled worker relocate in search of high paid jobs.

Furthermore, RWE could support local education centres such as Bangor University and Llandrillo College, which continue to provide engineering qualifications and training to people across Aberconwy and North Wales. Wouldn't it be marvellous to invest in the next generation of Welsh engineers and support our region in its ambition to move to a high skill high wage economy?

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In recent months I have had a number of residents approach me in relation to access to appropriate play facilities across Aberconwy. Unfortunately, communities across the region are seeing play parks deteriorate and rely on local fundraising and action to modernise and maintain these important local amenities. I would suggest that any local community benefit package must include support for local play park facilities across North Wales.

Finally, I would strongly recommend that RWE co-operates with local third sector organisations such as St David's Hospice, Tŷ Gobaith and Crest. These organisations are at the very heart of our community and whose work continues to provide invaluable services to people at the most difficult of times. Their ongoing actions serve as inspiration to residents who I am well aware would welcome any financial support or assistance which could ensure their continued operations for the future.

These are just a handful of examples of ways in which RWE could work with local people to invest in the future of our communities. I would like to take this opportunity to implore you to consider the above recommendations when outlining your community benefit programme and to take heed of the suggestions and recommendations offered to you by residents of Aberconwy and North Wales.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my concern that it appears this consultation is only accessible via the internet and your website. As I am sure you are aware Aberconwy has a large elderly population, some of whom may face difficulties in accessing and responding to the exercise. In addition to this, significant parts of Aberconwy are rural and face associated broadband connectivity issues which may also seriously impact individuals' ability to access this consultation.

Given the above, I would kindly ask that you investigate into this matter and advise me of the possibility of face-to-face public consultations being held and printed consultation surveys produced as to ensure all residents of Aberconwy have the opportunity to voice their views on where best RWE could support our community.

I look forward to discussing this matter further with you in due course. In the meantime, please do accept my best wishes.

Kind regards,

**Janet Finch-Saunders MS/AS**