**Change all parts in RED as you need to, and then delete this line**

**Your Name**

123 Your Street

Your City, ST 12345

(123) 456-7890

**TO: TD / Senator / MEP**

Address

Cc: Darragh O’Brien, Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications; Minister for Transport : darragh.obrien@oireachtas.ie

YYYY/MM/DD

Dear [name ],

I’m contacting you about my growing concern regarding the lack of options being considered to decarbonize our electricity supply while maintaining its reliability and security.

Concerns about future energy security and price volatility are a major factor in both everyday lives and business’ decisions to continue and / or expand operations in Ireland.

As your constituent, I would like you to try to ensure that our Government takes every step to make Irish electricity as reliable, affordable and clean as possible in the future. This is a policy decision that we must get right today, or risk paying a heavy price for generations to come.

The proposed expansion of, and reliance on, variable renewable sources - such as wind and solar - is admirable in its ambition. However, it does not appear to be viable in the short to medium term to rely excessively on those solutions by themselves. This is already becoming clear in Ireland and is further evidenced by ongoing challenges in Germany and Japan for example, and the continuing increase in carbon emissions worldwide.

Any system with a very high reliance on variable supply also needs a reliable back-up power source, which is proposed as natural gas - leaving our electricity supply vulnerable to security concerns and price volatility. In the midst of climate emergency and with current security of supply concerns, we can and must do better than this.

In this regard, I would like to express my full support for the Irish Government to explore the potential use of all low carbon technologies, including nuclear energy, in Ireland.

The majority of European countries already use nuclear power, with many countries looking to develop new nuclear power plants to improve energy security and reduce carbon emissions at lowest cost.

Many of the arguments against using nuclear power are in relation to the timescales involved and the costs. These should be evaluated for Ireland, and compared with the timescale and costs of alternative, low emissions technologies that are needed to help wind and solar to fully decarbonise energy in Ireland.

With on-going concerns in Ireland regarding the appropriate use of land, the rising cost of living and the need to support and revitalize regional economies, I would like our Government to ensure we develop a long term energy policy that can provide safe, clean, reliable power to this island while also taking the optimum benefits that technologies such as new nuclear power bring to local and regional economies.

I look forward to future updates from you regarding progress the Government is making in exploring the potential use of all low carbon technologies, including nuclear energy, in Ireland.

Yours sincerely,

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