



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
IRELAND

TECHNOLOGY
INNOVATION
FUNDING

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

13 APR 2010

Mr. Joe Horan,
County Manager,
South Dublin County Council,
County Hall,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

19 February 2010

Dear Mr. Horan,

We refer to the deep geothermal energy project which is under consideration by Newcastle JV Ltd.

Geothermal energy is an established technology elsewhere but no commercial exploitation of this energy source has yet taken place in Ireland. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) would support the development of geothermal energy where it can be established that there are sufficient resources to enable commercial exploitation to take place.

In that regard, SEAI commissioned studies which indicate that there is a sufficient thermal gradient beneath South County Dublin to make a thermal and electricity generating plant a commercial proposition. We will support any exploitation intended to prove the scale of the resource and to demonstrate its costs and benefits. We will support exploration intended to prove the scale of the resource and to demonstrate its costs and benefits.

Accordingly, we propose that the application by Newcastle JV to carry out such exploration in the context of their proposed pilot project should be given favourable consideration in the context of the Development Plan.

We remain at your disposal to discuss this matter should you so wish.

Yours sincerely,


Brendan Halligan
Chairman

13/04/2010

Thank
as discussed
there (note)