



The Future of the Carmarthenshire Countryside

DYFODOL EIN CEFN GWLAD – “GARDD CYMRU” SIR GAERFYRDDIN DIM MWY?

What makes Carmarthenshire special?



- The “Garden of Wales”
- Unspoilt countryside, rivers and landscapes
- Home to the National Botanic Garden
- Family farms which feed our nation
- Our cultural heritage and Welsh Language



Tourism income of nearly £600 million a year with our county attracting over three million tourists. According to Carmarthenshire County Council over a million people stayed at one of the 1,250 establishments in our County with 6,652 people are employed in the tourism sector.

Future Wales 2040



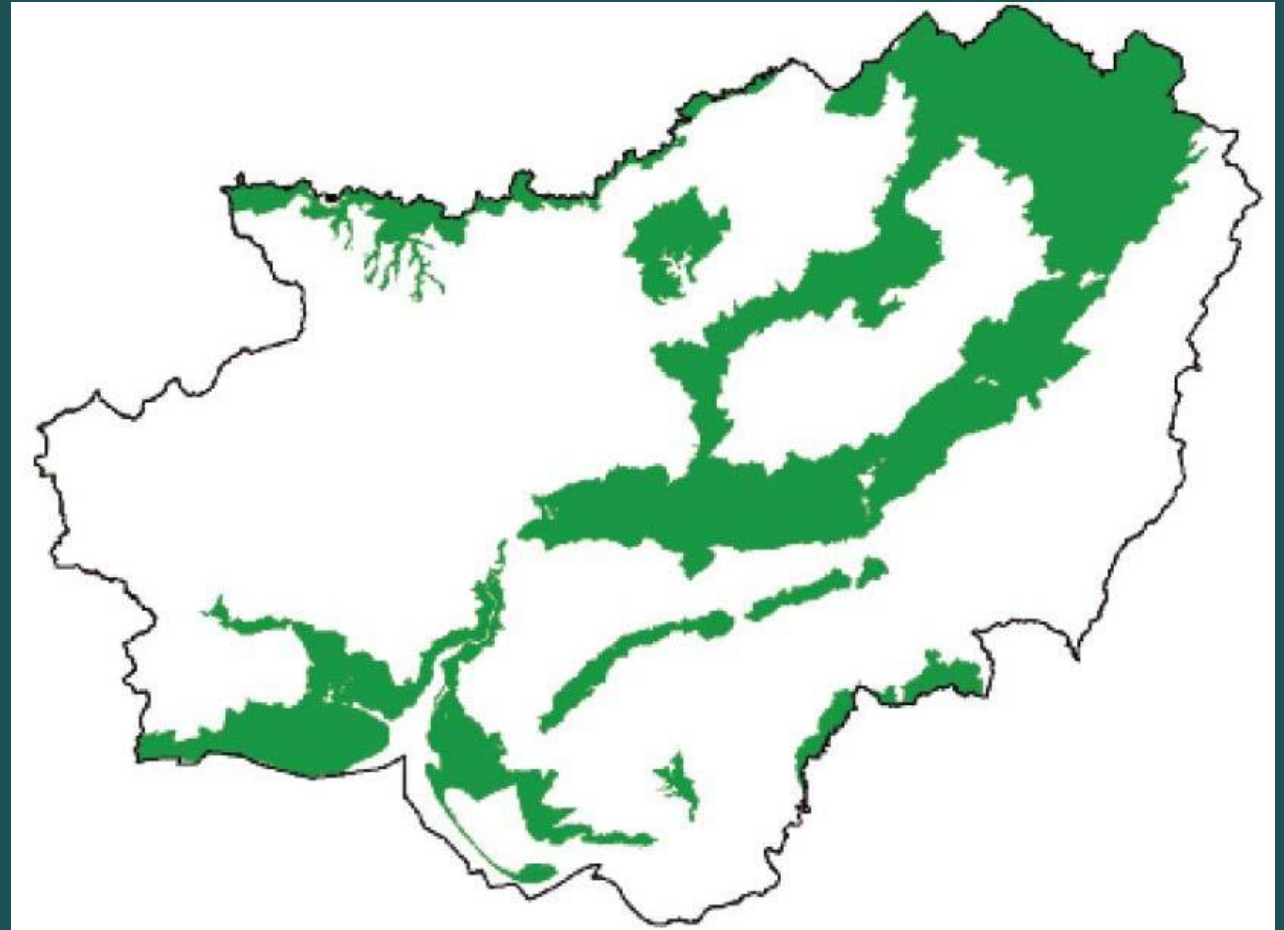
- Makes the assumption that the only thing a third of our country is good for are windfarms
- The places that we think of as special will be ruined
- Farms under threat of conversion to windfarms or forestry
- Our way of life, culture and language will be destroyed



Carmarthenshire's Special Landscapes



- Carmarthenshire County Council is proposing to axe all 18 Special Landscape Areas from our Local Development Plan.
- This makes it easier to argue in favour of industrial development
- We need new Supplementary Planning Guidance before the bulldozers move in

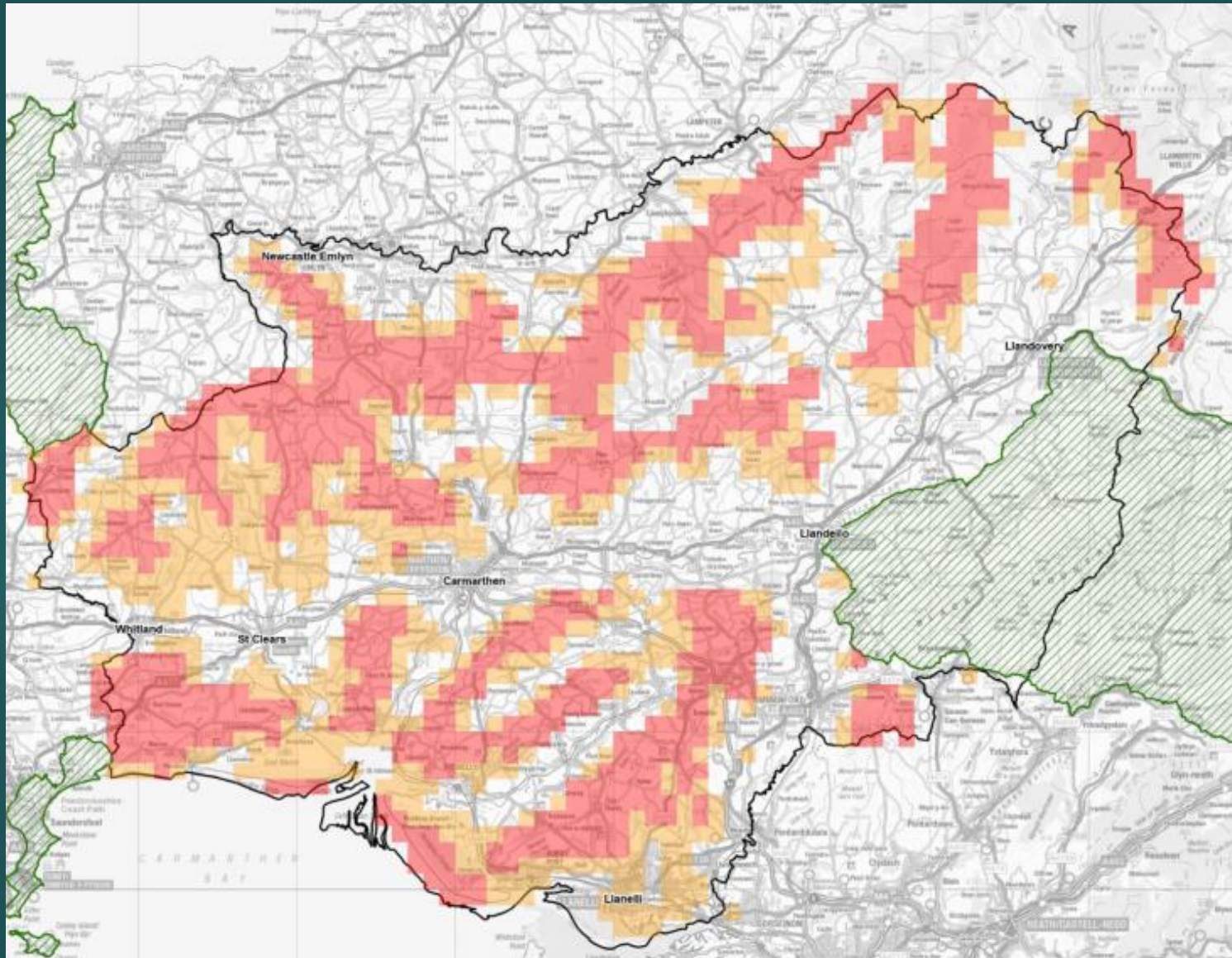


Welcome to Pylon and Windfarm Land



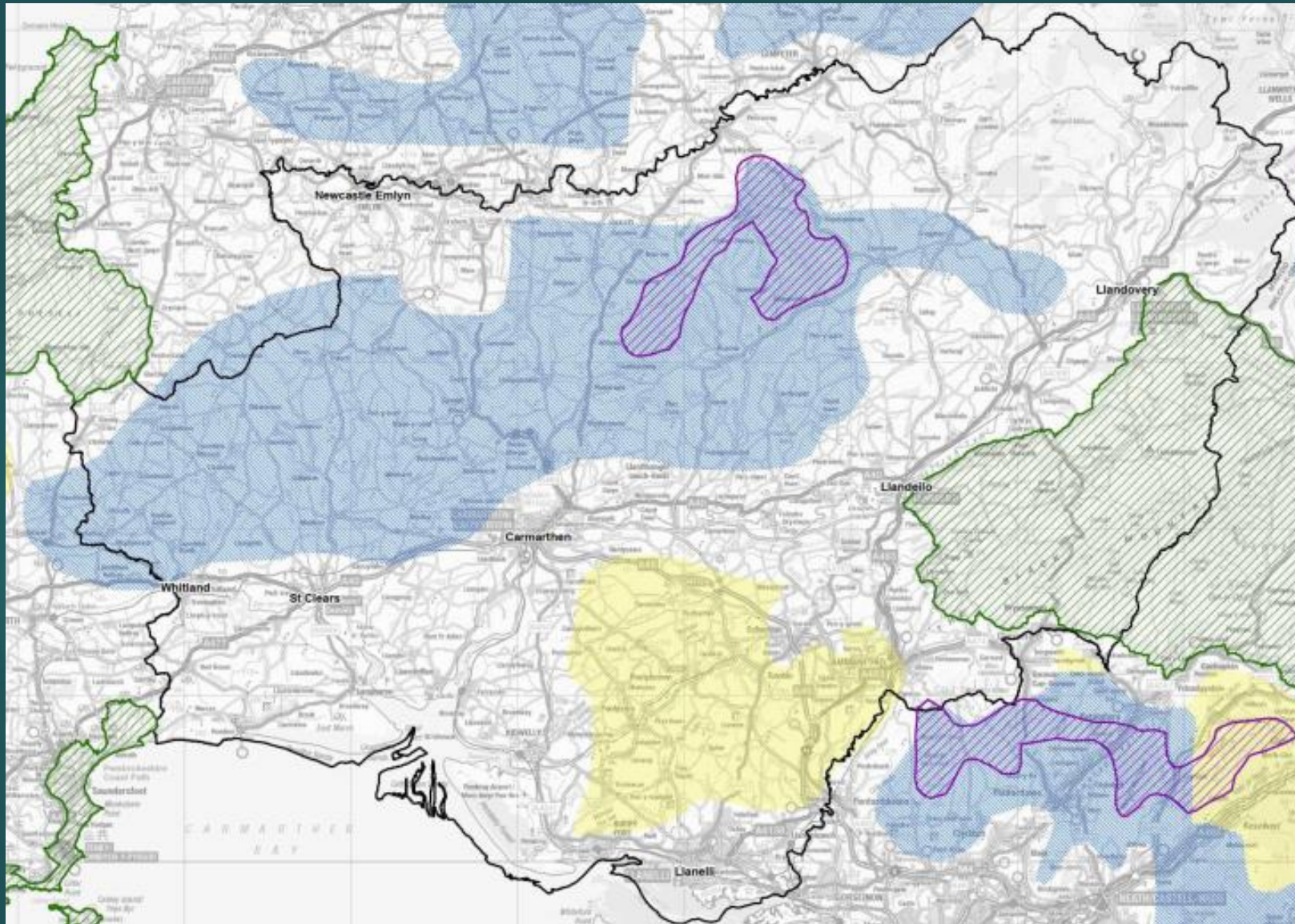
- Carmarthenshire's New Local Plan contains a target for 588.5 MW of additional installed wind turbine capacity by 2033
- In reality this means 14,542 acres of the pre-assessed area, on the higher ground on NRW land and in our forestry areas – Llanllwni Mountain, Brechfa, Cothi Valley, Abergorlech
- Already we have pylon chains proposed for the Tywi Valley, Cothi Valley and from the Teifi to the Tywi along the A485
- These chains of pylons are just the start

Where will the windfarms go?



Where the
wind
blows

Where will the windfarms go?

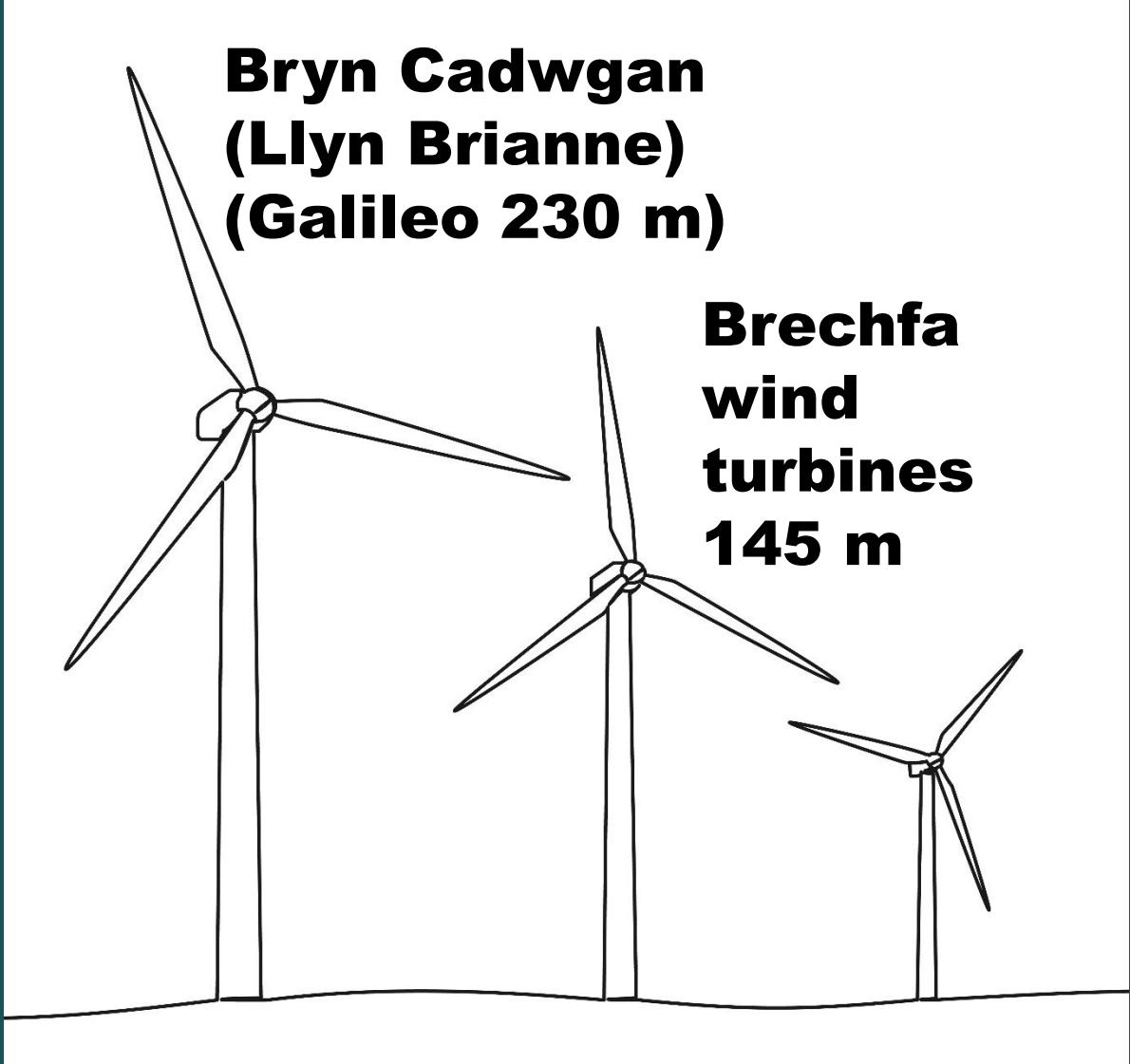


Welsh Government's industrial wind zones are much, much bigger than the old Tan 8

What will it look like for us?



- New turbines are 230 m or 750 ft tall to the tip of their blades
- Red light on top to warn aircraft
- As close as 500 m from your home if you live in the pre-assessed area
- Hillsides will be carpeted in solar panels and battery storage plants
- A 3Km² array planned for Ffarmers



What is in it for us?



- ⊗ No grid upgrade to homes
- ⊗ No free electricity
- ⊗ No cheap electric car chargers
- ⊗ No ability for community projects or farms to connect to the infrastructure
- ⊗ Loss of jobs in the farming and tourism sectors
- ✓ Fluffy grants to charities
- ✓ Farms bought by international companies
- ✓ Wales becomes the land of the international carbon offset
- ✓ Very few new jobs

What can we do about it?



- ▶ The power to change most of these policies lies here in Wales – either in Cardiff Bay or in County Hall
- ▶ Join us. Join your local pylon campaign group
- ▶ We need our politicians to stand up for us
- ▶ Write to your MPs, Senedd Members and Councillors
- ▶ Ask for a moratorium
- ▶ Join the Tywi Valley AONB Campaign to protect the most important landscape in our county

Tywi Valley AONB



- We want to see the Tywi Valley protected from its source to the sea
- The Tywi Valley qualifies as an AONB in all technical assessments
- Already assessed by Natural Resources Wales as “Outstanding”
- It needs strong public support
- We need our politicians to write to NRW and Welsh Government Ministers to start the ball rolling
- Sign the Senedd Petition!



Conclusion



- ▶ Carmarthenshire hasn't seen change like this since the industrial revolution
- ▶ We need a moratorium on development until some of the obvious problems can be sorted out
- ▶ The policies coming forward from Welsh Government mean that our countryside, communities and Welsh language are facing an existential challenge
- ▶ We must act now to preserve the Carmarthenshire we know before it is gone for good

Our Speakers



Jonathan Edwards MP



Rt Hon Simon Hart MP



Rachel Evans, Countryside Alliance

