



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Circular Letter: PL.18 / 2013

12 November 2013

To: Each County / City Manager
Each Director of Planning
Each Town Clerk of Planning Authorities

**RE: Further Addendum to Development Contribution Guidelines for
Local Authorities**

Dear Manager,

Planning authorities are hereby notified of an addendum to the Development Contribution Guidelines for Local Authorities as issued by this Department in January 2013 and updated in March. This addendum clarifies what options for reduced development contributions should be considered to promote the development of renewable energy and to also clarify that such options do not apply to proposed renewable energy developments for **commercial** energy supply purposes for either the **domestic** or **export** market. This clarification is provided by way of additional text to the final bullet point on page 11 of the guidelines. The Addendum (below) has equal force to these guidelines and is also issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2012.

Existing Guidelines Text with Addendum text inserted in bold and italics

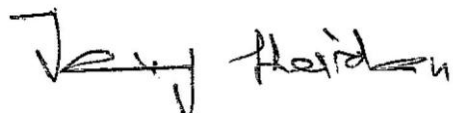
“Options for reduced charges in respect of renewable energy development to promote uptake of renewable energy technologies. For example, authorities are encouraged to consider reduced or no charges in respect of a renewable energy development which is not supplying electricity to the national grid ***including small scale renewable energy developments generating energy primarily for onsite usage e.g. for domestic, agricultural, small industry and educational purposes. For clarity, it should be***

explicitly stated in all planning authority development contribution schemes that options for waivers, either full or partial, do not apply to proposed renewable energy developments primarily delivering energy off site (for sale), whether for use in Ireland or for export to another market.

Authorities should also ensure that their schemes distinguish proportionately between large and small-scale. For example, it would be inappropriate to charge the same flat rate charge to a 6kW wind turbine as it would for a 3MW turbine.”

Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to these guidelines, including this addendum, in performance of their functions under the Planning Acts. This circular supplements guidance previously issued in Departmental Circulars PL 3/2013 and PL1/2013 (Development Contribution Guidelines for Local Authorities).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Sheridan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Terry Sheridan
Principal Officer
Planning Section