

Green Party, Cllr Barry McKee

Minister Hackett,

Please extend the consultation, it has not been in anyway adequate, especially in a time of pandemic. I explore you to make reforming the forestry program in Ireland your priority and focus, not this flawed and dangerous bill.

The Green Party is built on grassroots democracy, so please demonstrate this by not imposing appeal fees and restricting the rights of appeal.

Please address the problems with the decision making imbedded in the system and there will not need to be so many appeals. To stifle the right of appeal, is undemocratic and is playing to the tune of your blue-shirt coalition partners.

So soon into your role as Minister, take the time to ask yourself, why you must rush into passing this bill when so many are calling for you to change your mind.

Be remembered for helping the right tree to be planted, in the right place, not a monoculture of silks spruce in all the wrong places.

Kind regards,

Cllr Barry McKee
Green Party Councillor & Party Group Leader
Bangor West DEA