

An tÚdarás dismisses wind turbine talks

BY CRONAN SCANLON

A SPOKESPERSON for Údarás na Gaeltachta has described as 'totally incorrect' a report in last week's Donegal News that it is considering erecting huge stand-alone wind turbines at six industrial sites it owns around the county.

We reported last Friday that, according to documents given to us by a confidential source, a number of sites were being examined to assess their suitability for turbines. The Údarás-owned properties are located in Ardara, Kilcar, Fintown, Cloghan, Ter-

mon and Glencolmcille. A week earlier Lir Energy Ltd was refused planning permission for a 400 foot high structure at the Gweedore Business Park. Additional documentation provided this week shows that, as late as last April, both Lir and Údarás were discussing the possibility of erecting a turbine at the Earagail Eise (Errigal Bay) factory in Glencolmcille.

"I met with the Errigal Bay people and they are very eager to develop a turbine for the facility they have. We will be able to move on that site very quickly after Bunbeg, as I have already done some preparatory work on the location," a Lir official said in a correspondence to two Údarás officials.

This week, however, Mr Páid Ó Neachtain of Údarás said 'it is totally incorrect' that the Gaeltacht authority is considering erecting turbines at the sites mentioned, in conjunction with Lir.

"I can confirm that Údarás na Gaeltachta are not dealing with, and will not be dealing, with any groups or projects in respect of wind turbines in the areas mentioned in the report," Mr Ó Neachtain.

Lir did not respond to our query.

