

[REDACTED]

From: Elma Gannon [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 15 January 2019 00:45
To: rses
Subject: Railway Greenway

I am making a submission in relation to the RSES draft report. It is clear that Objectives 115 (a) and 115 (b) need to be removed as they clearly contravene the National Development plan. Both objectives 115 (a) and 115 (b) are presumptive of the outcome of the Western Rail Corridor Review of the closed railway line that is currently being undertaken by the DTTAS as part of the Ireland 2040 National Development Plan. It is not within the remit of the Regional Spatial Economic Strategies to assume the outcome of the rail review, objectives 115 (a) and objective 115 (b) contradict Ireland 2040 National Development Plan which only facilitates a Review of the line from Athenry to Claremorris and does not even include the line north of Claremorris.

Until this review is completed no assumptions can be made about the closed railway line ever being re-opened to make such a sweeping assumption in the RSES is contrary to the National Development Plan.

I therefore suggest that objective 115 be reworded so that it does not contravene the National Development plan to say something along these lines

Revision of objectives 115 (a) and 115 (b): If the outcome of the Western Rail Corridor Review from Athenry to Claremorris indicates that the closed railway is unlikely to be re-opened before 2030, then the closed railway shall be considered for alternative uses, for example such as a greenway, until such time as a railway might be possible, in order to protect the route in public ownership. Such alternative usage of the closed railway route would be under a strict licensed arrangement with Irish Rail that if needed for railway then railway will take precedence in the future.

Sent from my iPhone