

**From:** Doris Noe [travel@murphys.dnet.co.uk]

**Sent:** 21 February 2010 23:08

**To:** +Comm. Environment Public Email

**Subject:** Wildlife and Natural Environment Bill

Dear Committee Clerk,

Lecale Conservation wishes the following points to be considered and calls for a change to be made to the Bill accordingly:

**SNARES:**

We support a complete ban on the use of snares and clause 10 falls short of that

**IRISH HARE:**

The Irish Hare must be included in Schedule 5, i.e. it needs to be afforded protection at all times.

**ASSIs:**

The Environment Minister has stated that this Bill brings Northern Ireland in line with provisions in Great Britain. In discussions we have had with NIEA officials regarding the designation of an ASSI two years ago, we were told that no protection is afforded to an ASSI in N.I. during the six months consultation period following notification of landowners whereas in GB protected status is immediate.

The wording of the Bill is complicated to follow. Can you please clarify with us if this loophole in the process of the designation of ASSIs has been closed? If it is still the case that during consultation period there is no protection for the ASSI then we conclude that the Bill does not bring Northern Ireland in line with provisions in Great Britain.

We look forward to receiving clarification from you regarding our ASSI query.

We hope that you will accept our late submission in view that Lecale Conservation is a local group of volunteers in South Down and the process of this consultation only came to our attention last week.

Yours sincerely,

Doris Noe  
Chairman, Lecale Conservation