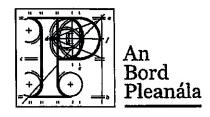
Our Case Number: ABP-309770-21



John Delamere and Others Streamstown House Castlepollard Co. Westmeath N91 YX38

Date: 28 February 2023

Re: Proposed development of up to 15 wind turbines with a tip height of up to 175 metres and laying of approximately 26km of underground electricity cabling to facilitate the connection to the national grid, and all associated site development works

Townlands of Camagh, Carlanstown, Coole, Clonrobert, Clonsura, Doon, Monktown, Mullagh, Newcastle and other townlands, Co. Westmeath

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

The Board will revert to you in due course in respect of this matter.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of Westmeath County Council and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime please contact the undersigned officer of the Board. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Niamh Thornton Executive Officer

Direct Line: 01-8737247

**PA09** 

Teil Glao Áitiúil Facs Láithreán Gréasáin

Ríomhphost

Tel LoCali Fax Website Email (01) 858 8100 1800 275 175 (01) 872 2684 www.pleanala.ie bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde Baile Átha Cliath 1 D01 V902

64 Mariborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902

## **Niamh Thornton**

From:

SIDS

Sent:

Friday 24 February 2023 12:49

To:

Niamh Thornton

Subject:

FW: Coole Wind Farm Case reference: PA25M.309770

**Attachments:** 

FI OBSERVATIONS.docx

From: Clarissa Delamere < Clarica @delamera.net>

Sent: Friday 24 February 2023 11:41

To: SIDS <sids@pleanala.ie>

**Subject:** Coole Wind Farm Case reference: PA25M.309770

Dear Sir/Madam,

I attach our observations on the FI report on Coole Wind Farm.

Yours faithfully

Clarissa Delamere

Mr and Mrs John Delamere Streamstown House Castlepollard Co Westmeath N91 YX38

SID Further Information .
Planning Dept
An Bord Pleanala
64 Marlborough St
Dublin 1
SENT BY EMAIL TO sids@pleanala.ie

**24 February 2023** 

Dear Sir/Madam

We, John and Clarissa Delamere, wish to make an observation on the Further Information supplied in relation to Case reference: PA25M.309770: Townlands of Camagh, Carlanstown, Coole, Clonrobert, Clonsura, Doon, Monktown, Mullagh, Newcastle and other townlands, Co. Westmeath.

Proposed development of up to 15 wind turbines with a tip height of up to 175 metres and laying of approximately 26km of underground electricity cabling to facilitate the connection to the national grid, and all associated site development works.

We submitted and paid for a submission as John and Clarissa Delamere on the original Coole Wind Farm SID in April of 2021 thus we do not need to pay the 50 euro submission fee.

 In our submission in 2021 we asked why the wind farm is being built in the Midlands and not off shore. According to Met Eireaan the wind speeds in the Mullingar area average 14.1kph and the wind speeds in the Wexford area average 20.6 kph

According to Energy Educate from the University of Calgary if the wind speed doubles the power output will increase eight times. This would mean the power generated on the East Coast as in at Wexford would be 4 times that generated in Mullingar. That is a 50% increase in average wind speed which would give 4 times the output of power. The centre of Ireland is not the place to erect industrial wind farms. This has not been addressed anywhere in the Further Information report.

2 Response to FI item 4.1

2.4.1 How can you get such different peat depth readings just by changing the surveying method? If there is a large difference for T12 could there be large differences for all the other turbines? Is the soft

clay under the peat likely to make an unstable footing or will this mean a substantial increase in the amount of concrete needed in construction?

- 3. All the photomontages are portrayed with the blades at 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock, none at 12 o'clock. This is portraying the turbines at their lowest possible position thus the bestcase scenario. Why are there not photomontages for each and every house in the area?
- 4. There are no figures to quantify how the applicants arrive at the figure of carbon loss for manufacturing, constructing and decommissioning the turbines, these should be quantified.
- 5. The water from the area of this proposed development drains into Lough Derravaragh. The stripping of larges areas has already reduced the pH of the water and caused the north end of the lake to silt up. This new development is going to involve the removal of nearly 100,000 cu m of peat. Where is the peat going? The removal of the sponge effect of the peat removal will increase the water run off. It is essential that this water does not reduce the pH in Lough Derravaragh any further. The history of the area is poor management of the silt traps and water run off due to inadequate surveyance by proper authorities. Will this be the case in the future? The mitigation does not cover this at all.

T1 and T15 are picture in the location diagrams as being on two water courses. T5 is so close that it is impossible to say where the foundations will be. The access to T15 is over a stream, according to the report there will be a flat new bridge over the stream – this will be replacing a 19<sup>th</sup> Century stone bridge, surely this is not allowed.

- 6. As you can see from the FI the area for this development is partially cut off bog. The only reason this is cut off bog is because of the illegal harvesting of peat in the area. The company say they are to set up a joint company with the illegal peat harvesting companies to continue this harvesting. Surely this is not legal!! It beggars belief.
- 7. The quote 'derelict houses' are dismissed in the report of sound and flicker. This area has seen a large increase in the renovation of derelict cottages. This is essential and should be encouraged. No one in their right minds would renovate a cottage or any building in the area of this development, in fact should this go ahead there could be more derelict properties as people are forced out by high sound levels and flicker.

Yours faithfully

John and Clarissa Delamere