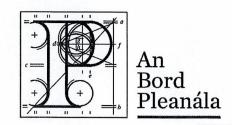
Our Case Number: ABP-310286-21



Ian Doyle Clonmore Newtown Charleville Co. Cork

**Date: 21st July 2021** 

**Re:** Railway works and all works necessary to eliminate and, where necessary, upgrade seven numbered level crossings and carry out all associated and ancillary works along a 24-kilometre section of the Dublin to Cork Railway Line.

Fantstown, Thomastown, Ballyhay, Newtown, Ballycoskery (Ballyhea Village), Shinanagh and Buttevant, Co. Cork and Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir,

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

A receipt for the fee lodged is enclosed.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the 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 Cork County Council and Limerick City and 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,

Kieran Somers <sup>6</sup> Executive Officer

Direct Line: 01-873 7250

**RA05** 



Cllr. Ian Doyle
Clonmore,
Newtown,
Charleville,
Co. Cork.
Mob: 087 66 44 654

Email:iandoyle245@gmail.com

Ball de Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Member of Cork County Council



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Submission to An Bord Pleanala on proposed closure of Ballycoskery (Ballyhea Village) railway crossing XC212.

Case number NA04.310286

## Dear Chairperson,

I welcome the opportunity to make this submission to the Board regarding CIE's proposed level crossing closures between Limerick Junction and Mallow and specifically in relation to level cossing 212 at Ballycoskery (Ballyhea Village).

The proposal lodged with the Board for Ballycoskery is substantially similar in design and solution to one proposed to Cork County Council in 2011 as a Part 8 application under section 179 of The Planning and Development Act. Contrary to the claim made in the current application, the 2011 submission was not withdrawn. It was closed by Cork County Council and determination made that CIE develop an alternative plan for any proposed closure of Ballycoskery railway crossing. As the application now made to the Board is substantially the same as that presented in 2011, I would urge the Board to pursue a consistent application of the Planning and Development Act by upholding Cork County Council's 2011 determination and consequently to refuse CIE permission for the proposed development at Ballycoskery.

I would also take the opportunity to underline one inadequacy, among others, in the present application to the Board. The enormous quantity of documentation submitted by CIE contains nothing of the observations made to CIE by concerned citizens at public hearings in Charleville Park Hotel and subsequently by post or email. The application contains no adequate analytical report on those submissions and does not include copies of original documents. As a result, the Board has no means of ascertaining, evaluating or corroborating the factual outcome of the public consultation about the Ballycoskery proposal. In the interests of

transparency, fairness to the views of those who made submissions, and to assist the Board in arriving at a determination in this case, I would ask the Board, at the very least, to have CIE provide copies to the Board and to the public of the submissions made during the public consultation process.

I would also ask the Board to consider the excessive intrusion that will be made on the area by the introduction of such a massive structure into the landscape which is categorized in the County Development Plan as of very high value. The mitigation proposals that have been provided are inadequate to conceal the height and extent of the flyover. Noise levels will be amplified by height and light pollution unavoidably increased with street lighting along and on top of the flyover. Questions concerning connectivity, for both pedestrians and vehicles, remain unresolved. The removal of trees and green areas within the village is a further concern and is unhelpful towards the development of the important tourist industry in the locality.

In view of the above I would urge the Board to look again favourably at the proposal for an underpass or at an upgraded CCTV four barrier gate at Ballycoskery.

'I request an oral hearing.

I attach the fee.

Yours sincerely,

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