



An
Bord
Pleanála

Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Observer's details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's name

Michael and Áine O'Connor

(b) Observer's postal address

23 Glendale, Leixlip, Co. Kildare

Agent's details

2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Click or tap here to enter text.

(b) Agent's postal address

Click or tap here to enter text.

Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1

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The agent at the postal address in Part 2

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Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Bord Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**
(for example: 300000)

DART+ West Electrified Heavy Railway Order [2022]

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

DART+ West Electrified Heavy Railway Order [2022]

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Confey Bridge - Cope Bridge, Leixlip and Glendale Estate, Leixlip Co.
Kildare

Observation details

5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word limit** as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

- (i) We observe on the application (on section Work No. 28.5 Drawing number WP028) the proposal to build a permanent substation and an industrial services road. These are both adjacent to our home and will devalue our property.
- (ii) We have observed on the application drawings a power cable beneath our property (rear garden and buildings). We require clarification on whether this cable is to be upgraded. We are not listed as persons whose property may be taken. If the cable does require upgrading or replacing it would have a significant impact on our property. The end part of our rear garden currently acts as a buffer for noise coming from the train line, and also has wildlife and fauna.
- (iii) The proposed construction works, industrial buildings, power station and industrial road are not compatible on resident's green area. This is an important recreational area/living space for all our people as designated by our local authority. Our estate has a large number of young children that use this area on their way to and from school and play on the open green spaces. There are also older adults who traverse in and out of the estate via the path. Increased traffic, construction vehicles and noise is off-putting and intimidating for pedestrians, in particular older adults.
- (iv) We observe that our estate entrance road is at full capacity and experiences severe congestion. The addition of extra construction traffic including HGVs would bring more chaos to residents entering and exiting the estate.
- (v) There are many factors that will impact the construction timeframe to completion. The actual time required could far exceed the projected timeline. We observe that some of the planned works are scheduled for night time and on some weekends. This could mean many large vehicles entering the estate at these times causing disturbances to residents. Upgrades to the rail line will also take place during the night/at off peak hours. If construction proceeds as per the application, we and our neighbours who border the rail line will need to carry out work to upgrade the sound proofing of our homes. Will funds or any allowances be made available to help offset the cost of these required upgrades?

5. Grounds

- (vi) We question the consideration given in terms of the larger Leixlip area developments. The land the other side of the canal (part of KE57879F) is a large green field which could accommodate:
 - (1) The temporary compound (Work no 28.6 Drawing No. WP028)
 - (2) Appropriately sized car park (required for train station as current car park is not appropriate).
 - (3) New bus terminus (which is proposed for Captain's Hill)
 - (4) The proposed substation will receive its supply through new power cables coming via Confey GAA and our rear garden. It should be more advantageous to bring the power via this area (KE57879F) first, and locate the substation at the existing train car park. Bringing the power this way could meet the power needs of proposed new housing in this area (zoned for residential development), for charging new electric buses, e-car spaces.
 - (5) Bicycle storage area (lockable unit) which would be required/extremely useful at a train and bus station
- (vii) From the outset, the manner in which this project is being executed and its effect on our lives is intimidating and damaging to our wellbeing. To fully comprehend the impact of the proposals is difficult without any professional assistance. As ordinary house holders we are not in a position to fund professional planning and legal advice.

Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to [request the Board to hold an oral hearing](#), please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing

☒

No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

☐

Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

For Office Use Only

FEM – Received		SIDS – Processed	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

Notes