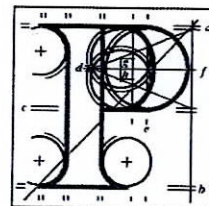


**Our Case Number:** ABP-316051-23

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Jonathan and Jess Hughes  
3 High Street  
Ballymore  
Mullingar  
Co. Westmeath  
N91W1D1

**Date:** 09 May 2023

**Re:** Renewable energy development comprising 9 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure.  
Umma More and adjacent townlands, County Westmeath.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your observation or submission in relation to the case mentioned above and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

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 the Local Authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

For further information on this case please access our website at [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) and input the 6-digit case number into the search box. This number is shown on the top of this letter (for example: 303000).

Yours faithfully,

Niamh Thornton  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737247

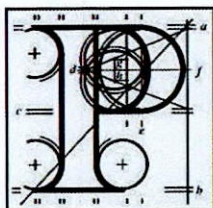
BL50A

**Teil**  
**Glaao Áitiúil**  
**Facs**  
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Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902



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

Jonathan & Jess Hughes

(b) Observer's postal address

3 High Street, Ballymore, Mullingar, Co Westmeath  
N91w1d1

### 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**

☒

**The agent at the postal address in Part 2**

☐

## 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)

**Bord Pleanála Case reference: PA25M.316051**

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

Ummamore Renewable Energy Development

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

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

Ballymore & Drumraney Co Westmeath



## 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).

Dear Sir/Madam

This is our observation in relation to the gravely ill proposed wind turbine development that is sought for the Ballymore and Drumraney region.

This is our word and testament that we wholeheartedly reject this proposal in its entirety, and we do NOT give our consent to its development.

As sovereign human beings on God's earth, citizens of the free state of Ireland and residents of Ballymore I decree that this development shall not come to pass.

Having grown up in Ballymore it is only now at the age of 40 that I really see why I have always loved it so much. This village is a pristine place of magic. The people and the majestic beauty of this place is mesmerising, and this is how it will stay when you void and reject the Umma more application.

Your checklist will want some points of note and I shall provide same.

Please note this list is not exhaustive but my valuable time on this Earth is.

## 5. Grounds

Turbines 185m high would dominate the local landscape and skyline. By any measure they are simply too tall to be situated in Ballymore and Drumraney.

This is an inhabited working agricultural landscape consisting of flat farmland and low hills, with a substantial village settlement.

The visual impact would be severe and wholly unacceptable.

There are numerous errors and omissions in the environmental impact assessment report (EIAR) submitted by Umma More LTD. This does not adhere to the highest standards of clarity, objectivity and completeness. The EIAR lists a broad range of local wildlife (birds, bats, badgers et al) that will be impacted by the development.

In 2021, on foot of a complaint, an investigation by the Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland found that the developer behind the proposed wind farm had circulated a leaflet locally that contained misleading and inaccurate information in relation to human health and house prices.

In 2021 a wind monitoring mast erected by the developed collapsed on two separate occasions.

Umma More LTD is a shelf company of Enerco Energy. In 2022, another Enerco company Planree LTD pleaded guilty in court concerning its responsibility for the 2020 bog slide at the Meenbog wind farm development in Co Donegal. This episode was an ecological catastrophe that caused extensive river pollution.



## 5. Grounds

Another Enerco company Cleanrath LTD is responsible for a 'ghost wind farm' in Co Cork shut down on foot of a supreme court order in 2020 following years of legal proceedings.

The planning application does not reveal who will own the development. The ownership arrangements for existing Enerco-developed wind farms include a range of multi-billion interests including a UK pension fund (GLIL) and a Japanese investment firm (Sojitz corporation) while the Meenbog wind farm had an agreement in place with Amazon.

Landowners elsewhere around Ballymore and Moyvoughley have also recently been canvassed by wind farm development companies. This historic area could easily end up with industrial turbines located on all sides.

Some of the homes close to the wind farm site would be effectively surrounded by these overbearing turbines – The planning application submitted by Umma More LTD does not acknowledge this oppressive reality.

Existing low background noise levels reflect the fact that this is a quite rural area. Noise pollution emitted by industrial turbines would destroy this positive quality of the local environment. Due to this new and unnatural noise some local residents are likely to experience annoyance and or sleep disturbance if not worse.

## 5. Grounds

The potential health consequences of this situation are a justified cause for concern.

The current Irish planning guidelines for wind farms rely on a UK noise assessment model that dates from 1996. This model is widely recognised as not fit for purpose in light of the vast increases in turbine size and power that has occurred in recent decades.

Many local homes would be exposed to shadow flicker caused by spinning turbine blades blocking the sunlight.

The SEAI wind atlas reports low winds in this area, the Westmeath County development plan designated the area as low wind so why are turbines been proposed for this area?

I nor anyone else was personally approached at my residence by Umma More LTD regarding this proposed development. If I was I would have made it clear to them in no uncertain terms that they are but wasting their time as this proposed development will not become a reality in my world.

You may receive many or few observations/objections as we must remember most people are blind to these atrocities, only seeing when it becomes too late to do anything about. That said "even in a minority of one, the truth is still the truth".

This proposed development shall not come to pass.

God Bless.

Jonathan and Jess Hughes



## **5. Grounds**



## 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.



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**For Office Use Only**

<b>FEM – Received</b>		<b>SIDS – Processed</b>	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

**Notes**