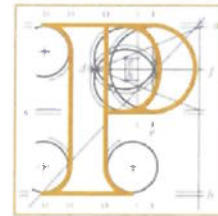


Our Case Number: ABP-316212-23



An
Bord
Pleanála

Vincent & Linda Cunningham
Clondalee Mor
Hill of Down
Enfield
Co. Meath
A83 PA99

Date: 15 February 2024


Re: Proposed development of 26 no. wind turbines and associated works.
at the Ballivor Bog Group, Co. Meath and Co. Westmeath.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent letter in relation to the above mentioned case. The contents of your letter have been noted.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board or email sids@pleanala.ie quoting the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence with the Board.

Yours faithfully,



Ashling Doherty
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737160

PA36

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Ashling Doherty

From: vincent cunningham <vincentcunningham2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday 12 February 2024 17:26
To: SIDS; Bord
Subject: 316212. Fee exempt as previous submission
Attachments: ABP - BnM 12th Feb 2024 Submission_v2.docx

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Submission to: An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough St, Dublin 1

Person making the submission: Vincent and Linda Cunningham, Clondalee More, Hill of Down, Enfield, Co. Meath, A83PA99.

Planning Application: Wind Farm Development including 26 turbines and all associated works

Proposed location: Ballivor Bog Group, County Meath and County Westmeath

Planning Applicant: Bord na Móna Powergen LTD.

Submission Case reference: PA25M.316212, as received at ABP 5th April 2023.

First Observations date: May, 30th 2023

Response by Applicant to Observations, as publicised: Jan 22nd 2024

Observations to response: Feb 8th 2024

We wish to make the following observations in relation to responses made to previous submission:

1. **Autism** – No meaningful response received to Autistic and related conditions. Applicant seems to imply for sensitive receptors to remain indoors as they refer to positioning of windows and indoor related concerns.
2. **Wells** – No meaningful response to local wells and disruption or pollution of supply.
3. **Broadband & Telecommunications** – This has not been sufficiently addressed in what is widely known as an issue regarding wind farm developments.
4. **Property Value** – No proposals for pre-construction evaluation of neighboring properties to mitigate against devaluation concerns in the event of sale. If property is to be sold with lower valuations as a result of the wind farm development compensation fund should be available to those affected. Also to note in this matter is the use of property and its value in the area that maybe used against as collateral or security against future loans or mortgages. This is common place in seeking finance and lower valuations of any property would be seen by financial institutions as being impactful on the amount of leverage that can be given.
5. **Visual Aspect & Site Location** – Many references were made to site location of turbines within close proximity and density to our residence in our original submission. No response or reference were made to our concerns on this. Similarly the visual impact on our sensitive location were not addressed adequately.
6. **Health Impacts** – As per original submission please see below again as no response has been given to this concern. We are very concerned about the human and mental health effects that this development could have on our family. One study by The college of Family Physicians of Canada, Adverse health effects of industrial wind turbines, May 2013 indicates that people who live or work in close proximity to Industrial wind turbines (IWTs) experienced symptoms that include decreased quality of life, annoyance, stress, sleep disturbance, headache, anxiety, depression and cognitive dysfunction. The board needs to consider the overall health impact if this development on the residents in the area.

7. **Population Density** – The Ballivor area and greater surrounding areas of the proposed Ballivor Wind Farm are amongst the most densely populated areas in Meath & Westmeath refer to Meath /Westmeath County Development Plans and CSO figures. Considering that many thousands of areas of uninhabitable bog are within the measurements of such population this goes to highlight even further the population density in this area. Also to note in the CSO figures are the projected population increases in this area over the coming years. Ballivor town presently has circa 1,700 residents with projections by 2027 of 2,000 plus residents. To note Ballivor Centre is 2.5km from the proposed windfarm development. Other local population centres to note are Delvin, Raharney, Killucan and all rural hinterlands.
8. **SPA/SAC/NHA** – The site is surrounded by SPA/SAC/NHA and lends its self to a very important future habit that would act a bridging habitat between these important areas of preservation. If a do nothing scenario was enacted with rewetting.
9. **Views** – The Hill of Ward protected views have been downplayed and extent of potential views towards wind farms have been understated by reason of woodland screening and buildings. The building as stated in BNM response is outside the field of vision towards the wind farm and consists of two very low lining concrete reservoirs which are already screened by a low lying hawthorn hedge. Many clear views of the wind farm site are obtainable from the Hill of Ward and wind towers both local and onsite are clearly visible by their red light on top of the 100 metre high towers which are ½ height of the proposed turbines. With this in mind and the over stated screening affects in conjunction with the height of turbines and the unacceptable use of trees as a long term screening affect (which can be removed at any time) is not an acceptable response by the applicant to such a sensitive and important site within 9kms of the proposed wind farm.

On the basis of the above we object to this proposed development.

Yours faithfully,

Vincent & Linda Cunningham