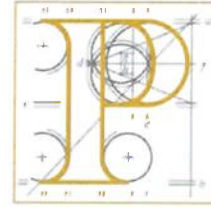


**Our Case Number:** ABP-317560-23



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

Edel Gallagher  
Dooeighney  
Corbally  
Ballina  
Co. Mayo

**Date:** 22 January 2024

**Re:** Proposed windfarm development including 13 no. wind turbines in Bunnyconnellan, Co. Mayo and hydrogen plant in Castleconnor, Co. Sligo.  
Carrowleagh, Bunnyconnellan, Co. Mayo and Curraun, Castleconnor, Co. Sligo.

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 the local authority 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](http://www.pleanala.ie).

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

Yours faithfully,

Lauren Murphy  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737275

PA09

Teil  
Glao Áitiúil  
Facs  
Láithreán Gréasáin  
Ríomhphost

Tel  
LoCall  
Fax  
Website  
Email  
(01) 858 8100  
1800 275 175  
(01) 872 2684  
[www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)  
[bord@pleanala.ie](mailto:bord@pleanala.ie)

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde  
Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

**From:** Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>  
**Sent on:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 5:23:42 PM  
**To:** SIDS <sids@pleanala.ie>  
**CC:** Ellen Matthews <[REDACTED]>; Lauren Murphy <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: case ABP 317560 -23 response to Applicant response to third party submissions and observations  
**Attachments:** Edel Gallagher.docx (15.76 KB), Edel Gallagher.pdf (90.96 KB)

---

**From:** Edel Gallagher <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 5:19 PM  
**To:** Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>  
**Cc:** Edel Gallagher <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: case ABP 317560 -23 response to Applicant response to third party submissions and observations

**Subject:** re: case ABP 317560 -23 response to Applicant response to third party submissions and observations

Please find attached my response to the applicant re third party submissions  
kind regards  
Edel Gallagher

Bord Pleanála Case reference: PA16 ABP -317560-23

**Description**

Proposed windfarm development including 13 no. wind turbines in Bunnyconnellan, Co. Mayo & hydrogen plant in Castleconnor, Co. Sligo

**Case type**

Private Development - Application

**Parties** Mercury Renewable (Carrowleagh) Limited (Applicant)

Mercury Renewable (Carrowleagh) Limited (Active)

18/1/24

Further to the Response to third party submissions and observations from the applicant document I received before Christmas, I wish to add the following comments:

1. The applicant does not appear to have responded to my query in relation to cycling that I flagged in my submission.

As a Cycling Ireland Leisure Commission committee member I highlighted the existing challenges that there are for cyclists on the N59. I also gave details of one of the many routes I take, with groups, that I bring cycling as a cycle leader.

I find this route safe, especially with novice cyclists who are trying to get back into the sport for health and social reasons.

I detailed the route often taken by me, which includes cycling on the L6612, crossing the L1102 near Carra, and eventually joining the L2604 travelling on in the direction of the entrance to the proposed windfarm site, continuing on the L2604 onward to Glenree and Lough Talt, returning by Lough Easkey.

I have selected part of this route on the L2604 because it is part of the EuroVelo route, which is signposted enroute. There are signs on the L2604 and even within a km of the proposed windfarm site entrance.

This EuroVelo is an internationally recognised route for cyclists which aims at avoiding roads with high volumes of traffic.

It follows most of the L2604.

It appears that the applicant only briefly referred to cyclists on the L6612 in the response document

It appears that there is no mention of cyclists either on the L2604 in Chapter 15 Traffic and Transport 15.5.9 and 15.5.10 despite the L2604 being part of the international EuroVelo route from a short distance past Stokane N.S. and continuing past the windfarm site at Carrowleagh. This route will be seriously impacted by the turbine haul traffic, the windfarm haul traffic and other traffic to and from the windfarm.

I am shocked that the applicant appears to have no regard for cyclists and cyclists appear not to have been considered in relation to this application.

I understand that traffic counts took place on the L2604 around December 2021.

Perhaps there were other counts at other times of the year but I was unable to locate this data in the documents. December is not a common month for leisure cycling due to the short days, inclement weather and people involved in seasonal events, so it would have been unlikely that cyclists were accounted for in their true figures at this time of year.

2. I was not invited to a meeting in Muddy Burns Pub on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 despite my house being referred to as HH21 on Figure 1.3 in the EIAR Hydrogen Plant Site House Locations.  
I believe that circa 80% of owners of house on figure 1.3 of the EIAR were not invited to this meeting.
3. Other than computer generated wireframe montages I did not see any physical frames erected to illustrate the size of the plant buildings. Also on mercury.ie website hydrogen page, the promotional video appears to portray the hydrogen plant building at a much smaller scale than what it will potentially be.
4. My house and land is not far from the site. I had problems with dust being blown towards my house when the applicant was doing the test boreholes in July 2022 for water onsite. I have serious worries about the potential dust that the applicant has referred to during the construction phase of the plant as I suffer from dust allergies.
5. I am not satisfied with the applicant's response re: the way it is intended to mitigate against potential flooding of land.
6. I worry about the loss of water from the aquifer as there were no comparative tests carried out on my land to indicate that there would be no impact from the large quantities of water being extracted to make hydrogen.
7. The applicant does not appear to have addressed my issues re: value of property being reduced, and also my fears that my family may not be able to obtain planning permission for sites on my land should there be any legislation re building in the environs of a hydrogen production plant.

I request that there is an oral hearing re: this case.

I request acknowledgement of receipt of this email.

Kind regards,  
Edel Gallagher  
Dooeighney,  
Corbally,  
Ballina,  
Co. Mayo.