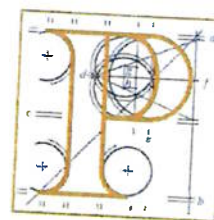


Our Case Number: ABP-317560-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Noel and Lisa Ruane and others
Curraun
Corbally
Co. Sligo

Date: 24 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.

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,

PP EGM

Lauren Murphy
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737275

PA09

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Tel
LoCall
Fax
Website
Email

(01) 858 8100
1800 275 175
(01) 872 2684
www.pleanala.ie
bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Lauren Murphy

From: Bord
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 11:06 AM
To: SIDS
Subject: FW: Case Number ABP-317560-23

From: Lisa Ruane <lisaann.ruane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 11:01 AM
To: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>
Subject: Fwd: Case Number ABP-317560-23

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lisa Ruane <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu, 18 Jan 2024, 08:33
Subject: Case Number ABP-317560-23
To: <bord@pleanla.ie>

Carraun,

Corbally

Co. Sligo

17/1/24

Re: ABP -317560-23

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

To Whom It May Concern:

We received the Jennings O'Donovan Consulting engineers' response to third party submissions and observations, planning application, reference Re: ABP -317560-23 on 14 th December 2023

In the Quantitative Risk Assessment 16.3 in the EIAR referred to by the applicant, our land is shown on the zone map within the lines. We, our children or any workers on our farm land do not appear to be counted in the QRA. We encourage our children to play outdoors for health reasons and we are often all out in this area involved in outdoor activities. It would appear that the QRA accounted for 90% occupancy indoors and only 10% occupancy outdoors. Is this a correct assumption. Would we need to be indoors to be safe in the event of an accident at the hydrogen plant?

On the legend of planning drawing 6129 PL 014 there appears to be a blue line representing 'Lands under control of the applicant'. None of our land is under the control of the applicant, despite there appearing to be a blue line bordering our land on the drawing. It is possible that up to 70% of all lands adjacent to the L6612, and L66121 is not under the control of the applicant. The applicant states on p148 of the response document, that 'All landowner consents for these works are in place'. We reject this claim as we have not consented to any works on our land.

We cannot find any supporting documents in the response from Mercury Renewables confirming the consents mentioned.

We live in HH2. We were not invited to any meetings organised by Mercury Renewables. We were not invited to the Hydrogen Plant Neighbours meeting in Muddy Burns on 25th May 2023 referred to on p53 response document despite our house being included on figure 1.3 of the EIAR as Hydrogen Plant Site House Location.

We note that on p 49 of the response document that there appears to be no design report submitted for the junction N59 / L66121 referring to the TII submission. We cannot find any Safety Audit submitted by the applicant for L66121 /N59 junction. The applicant stated that the design of the N59 L66121 has been carried out. However we cannot find this.

I note that on p 157 , 4.13.5 referring to livestock that there doesn't seem to be any reference to livestock on our farms in the environs of the proposed hydrogen site. This issue was raised but is not answered, and our land used for livestock is within risk zones illustrated in 16.3 of the EIAR.

The applicant only appears to have specified vehicles, transporting hydrogen, in relation to the quantity of hydrogen on board. It is their working assumption that lorries used will carry 1200kg of hydrogen. We could not find the specifications of the weight of these lorries loaded with cylinders of hydrogen in the documents. There don't seem to be any

dimensions given for these lorries. Was there any road safety audit for these vehicles on the L66121 or N59.

We could not find traffic movement counts for the vehicles that carry 384 kg of hydrogen. Traffic counts for truck movements appear to be based on the vehicle which carries 1200kg hydrogen only. The applicant has stated that these vehicles are not in common use and so how can it be assumed that they will be generally available and certified for use in Ireland / Europe, before the hydrogen plant becomes operational.

The working assumption is that the lorries holding 384kg will be used until such time as larger lorries will be available. In the case of these lorries being used we estimate that 176 lorry movements will take place when the site is in full operation from the L66121 to the N59. We couldn't find specifications re weight of the trucks mentioned.

We are concerned that our road L6612 is the haul route to the wind farm from the N59 and the route for forestry removal trucks towards the N59. We can't find any reference to the concerns we raised re these extra trucks (390 per day passing our house during the construction phase) This amount of traffic on our road will have a serious impact on our children's activities and our family quality of life.

We are not satisfied that concerns re potential devaluation of property have been adequately addressed.

We are still concerned that the abstraction of water in the immediate vicinity of our farm lands near the proposed hydrogen site will have a serious effect on our land.

We are concerned that large storage of water on the site could affect our land. We are worried that any escape of excess water, together with constructed wetlands could impact our lands.

We are worried that the applicant plans to use mains water. This water should be prioritised for human use and it worries us that an industry using c181,000 litres / 43,000 gallons per day could consider using the mains water in such large quantities, especially if their own supplies are low when they will be using this water. In such times it is a working assumption that Irish Water would impose a hosepipe ban on householders in times of water shortages.

This area is not zoned as an industrial area.

A submission highlighting errors in relation to Figure 1.3 of the EIAR points to non-existent houses. These houses were further referenced in Chapter 11 Noise and Vibration. We are concerned that this could raise doubts on other information contained in this chapter re noise and vibration levels. As we live 300m from the proposed hydrogen plant buildings and are adjacent to the red line boundary, noise is a serious concern for us.

Due to our close proximity to the site it is reasonable to assume that light pollution from the plant could adversely affect our family.

Our children suffer from respiratory issues from time to time. The applicant acknowledges that there will be dust during the construction phase. There was excessive dust during the testing phase when there was drilling for boreholes for water on the proposed hydrogen site in July 2022. There was also dust at that time from the road built into the drilling locations. There was further dust as a result of the removal of the road.

We ask An Bord Pleanála to hold an oral hearing in relation to this planning application.

Please acknowledge receipt of this correspondence,

Noel and Lisa Ruane