

Lauren Murphy

From: Aileen Donagher McGowan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday 24 May 2024 14:49
To: SIDS
Subject: Aighneacht Aileen Ní Dhuinneachair Bn Mhic Ghabhainn 317560
Attachments: Aighneacht Aileen Ní Dhuinneachair Bn Mhic Ghabhainn 317560 .pdf
Categories: Lauren

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.

Hello,

My submission I attached to this email.

I would be grateful if you acknowledge it and confirm that it opens properly for you.

Kind regards,

Aileen Ní Dhuinneachair, Bn. Mhic Ghabhainn

**Carraun,
Corballa,
Via Ballina,
Co. Sligo.
22/5/24**

**RE: Proposed windfarm development including 13 no.
wind turbines in Bunnyconnellan, co. Mayo and hydrogen
pant in Castleconnor, Co. Sligo. Case number 317560-23.**

To whom it may concern:

The following points are of concerning to me in relation to the
above application.

Archaeology

The first thing I am worried about is the Megalithic tomb
MA031-034 situated on the bog in the middle of the site chosen
for the windfarm. This tomb is situated near turbine 11
represented in figure 14.2 in the plan. In my opinion, wind
turbine 11 is affect the alignment that happens during the
summer and winter equinox.

The applicant did not reference to this in the responses.
Apparently, the applicant wants to avoid the main point
altogether, with the argument that there is not a lot of evidence
that the alignment had been deliberate in this case.

That is not the issue rather that that wind turbine 11 will ruin the
light show until the end of my life, or longer.

This tomb is a 'Court Cairn', not a 'wedge tomb'. The difference between the two is that Wedge tombs appear 1000 thousand years later in history than Court Tombs.

This tomb was made between 3900 and 3500 B.C. around 5500 years ago.

The applicant cannot compare the tomb to MA031-005 in relation to the alignment of the sun as MA031-005 was built around 1000 years later in another era.

This is an entirely different period!

According to Kate Robb, in her thesis 'Robb, K. (2001) Archaeo-astronomy, Landscape and Belief: A study of Wedge Tombs in Ireland. Unpublished MA Thesis. University of Galway' (and it was not easy to access this, as Kate mentioned, in the oral hearing. As you must go to library in University of Galway to view it! It was around 2 hours from my home) she studied 120 out of 510 wedge tombs in this country.

It was a wonderful thesis and I admire her for her work. However, this thesis was not about court tombs and MA031-005 was not included in this dissertation at all.

'Wedge tombs served as a gateway to the otherworld in the consciousness of prehistoric people. The tombs and its environs served as a place removed from the context of daily life, bringing people into direct contact with the remains of the dead and with supernatural powers.' Kate Robb

'Wedge tombs were probably also used for certain sky rituals. Prehistoric peoples had a knowledge of the motions of the sun and moon and therefore it follows that celebratory festivals were probably held at certain times of the year.' Kate Robb

Apparently, different wedge tombs had different purposes, and it depends on the town they are in.

A proper study has not yet been done on MA031-005 as far as I am currently aware.

And a proper study has not been done on MA031-034 either.

Indeed MA031-005 has an alignment for the summer solstice and also to the winter solstice as well.

Without proper study, we cannot say that there is not enough evidence to say the tomb's alignment is deliberate, but I will say it again that this is not the main point.

Now, I must direct the reader back again to the main point:
wind turbine 11 will affect the alignment of the sun at Court Tomb MA031-034 and wind turbine 6 will affect the alignment of the wedge tomb MA031-005.

These tombs are wonderful examples and there ought to be a campaign to compel people to learn about them.

They need saving from the population and archaeologists in the future, so that they can be scrutinised in the future, so that the public will be able to learn about the people who were in this country long ago. Perhaps there is a lot more to learn than you would think about the climate of the world from these tombs! They are situated in a region that is important as a historical landscape with megalithic tombs.

The city is full of archaeological sites. Archaeologists are still learning about the significance and the ties between the archaeological sites in the region.

It is not right to grant permission to ruin them before going the bulk work, which takes years to do.

Another thing, the MA031-005 is very close to the road behind it. There's a chance that the widening of the road could be detrimental to the tomb, as there is only 37m from the middle of the road to the tomb. The tomb is roughly 97m from the road from the south side of the tomb.

It is not yet currently known what is below the ground at this tomb.

Water

Appendix 9.8 is a cause of worry for me in relation to the inspection done by Minerex on the amount of water available. According to Minerex there was a decrease in the water levels in SP1 and SP2 and they illustrate that in the report. These are natural springs which are important for the irrigation of this town. This decrease after 10 days from pumping BH6 and BH7 is not a good sign.

Where are the photos at the end of the pumping on 3/8/22.

Why did Minerex not do a proper investigation in relation to the other primary springs in the town, at least, at the houses on the map near the site as well as the farms in the town?

Hydrogen

Is there a standard set out by the government covering the production of hydrogen gas, in this country, at this scale? The production of hydrogen gas at this scale is new to this country, with the energy from the windfarm which isn't consistent the entire time. This is risky regarding gas production.

Has a 'Strategic Environmental Assessment' been completed at this time for the production of hydrogen gas, or for windfarms?

Will electricity have to be sourced from the electricity grid, if there is a lack of energy from the windfarm?

If so, one can't say the hydrogen made would be 'Green Hydrogen', alas.

Land Permission

Why did the applicant put up a list of the 'property overview' that is nearly identical to the one that was in the application in July 2023.

In my opinion this is an insult to the intellect of the public.

Request that the applicant puts up a full list of land permissions. With the number of mistakes that I found in this application, evidence of these permissions, with written permission from the owners, must be included by the applicant so that the public is certain that the applicant has been given written permission.

Euro Velo 1

This route is wonderful for tourists who cycle all over Europe. It is good for a person's physical health and, for mental health, to be out cycling in open air.

With regards to climate change, it is good to entice people to spend their holidays cycling rather than increasing carbon emissions by travelling by train, but or car.

The Euro Velo 1 follows the Wild Atlantic Way, which attracts tourists to this town. This is lucrative for the region in relation to to jobs opportunities and the general economy.

The Euro Velo 1 is valuable to the people of this country to entice people to cycle on their holidays in the country and without needing to take a plan every break.

The applicant has not taken the Euro Velo 1 into account, and they did not show any regard on this point that other observers have made.

The Euro Velo 1 follows the road that will be used as the hauling route for the windfarm.

Kind regards,

Aileen Ní Dhuinneachair, Bn Mhic Ghabhainn