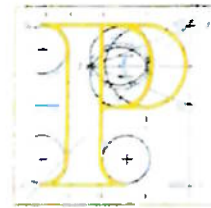


Our Case Number: ABP-317560-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Leona Mulrooney & Others
Leafy Lane
Carroun
Castleconnor
Co. Sligo
F26CXK6

Date: 27 May 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.

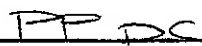
The Board will revert to you in due course in respect of this matter.

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,


Lauren Murphy
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737275

PA09

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Lauren Murphy

From: Aileen Donagher McGowan [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday 22 May 2024 15:58
To: SIDS
Subject: Leona Mulrooney Stephen and Ceola Donegan
Attachments: Leona Mulrooney Stephen and Ceola Donegan.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.

A chara,
Please find attached submission for Leona Mulrooney, Stephen and Ceola Donegan.

Please confirm receipt of same and that attachment opens
Kind regards
Aileen Donagher McGowan

Leafy Lane,
Carraun,
Corbally,
Co. Sligo.
F26CXK6
18/5/24

Re Case Number 317560-23

Firlough Windfarm, Carrowleagh, Bonniconlon, Co. Mayo and hydrogen plant at Carraun, Castleconnor, Co. Sligo.

1. Children have not been taken into account in relation to this development. Population counts based on electoral register ensured that they would be omitted from any population count. The census should have been used for this purpose to give a realistic and true reflection of the population in this whole area. This development will affect them for life.
2. Children's rights to play in safety have been disregarded and not taken into account in the RSK Report. Our children have the right to play in fields near their home (see photos in our original submission August 2023). [REDACTED] plays with her friends in the field adjacent to the proposed hydrogen plant buildings, owned by Noel and Lisa Ruane, (who were omitted from the landowner meeting in Muddy Burns in May 2023) she would be endangered should an event occur onsite at the proposed hydrogen plant, and yet children were not factored in to the assessment.
3. We have reason to question the accuracy of the Minerex Groundwater supply report. Firstly there was no proper survey done of local wells, that potentially could be affected. We know of one domestic well, within the buffer zone that was completely omitted. We are concerned with the drop of water levels in SP1 and SP2 for the duration of pumping from boreholes 6 and 7. It concerns us that Minerex qualified personnel were only on site for three days during the short analysis done over a mere 546 hours. The reduction in water in Sp1 and Sp2 is particularly concerning in light of the fact that this is the source of the stream that joins the Dooeaghney river downstream. If water pumping presented problems over such a short period of time, it is reasonable for us to assume that there could be serious implications for the whole area over the course of constant pumping on a daily basis, from a localised aquifer that is only productive in limited areas. We love gardening and this could have a devastating effect on our property, not to mention damage to wildlife, and fauna of the area.
4. In terms of water recharge from rainwater, I fail to see the relevance of weather records from Knock Airport, which is 44km away, as a basis for calculating rainfall levels. Met Eireann keep records of rainfall for locations much closer than this. These records would have yielded more accurate information for the purpose of this groundwater supply report.
5. This is a new project, and the first of its kind and scale in Ireland, according to the developer. We would like see the Strategic Environmental Assessment done by the Government for hydrogen production, storage and transportation, and resulting

guidelines in current legislation, as we believe that this is a legal requirement under EU legislation. Also, is there an SEA for wind farms, as if there isn't one, this is a breach of EU legislation, by the government.

It is not appropriate that the developer is the only party providing an Environmental Impact Assessment. Surely there is a conflict of interest if a developer is providing such information for his own development. This assessment should be done by the government in the first instance, to ensure transparency and protection of the people of Ireland.

6. The L66121 is not wide enough to sustain large volumes of haul traffic for any duration.(see photo in our original submission August 2023.) Trucks reversing on this road could cause fatal accidents and we fear for our children's safety with regard to this as they currently love going for walks and cycling on this road. While the developer has mentioned passing bays on this road, there are no drawings for same. We wish to confirm that the Donegan family had no intention of forfeiting any lands, or mature trees, to facilitate this proposal by the developer. The only consents claimed by the developer for this road, are from Padraig Brennan owner of the hydrogen plant site and Patrick Donegan for one site adjacent to Padraig Brennan's land. We have not seen any written evidence of these consents.
7. The road survey was done in winter at a time when there was no agricultural traffic on the road. It was done at a time to correspond with rush hour in urban areas, which does not give a true reflection of traffic in the countryside.
8. We would like to know why skid resistance of the road surface does not seem to have featured in the relevant chapters of the application.
9. It was most annoying to have John Kelly, director of Mercury Renewables, enter our property to hand-deliver the company's latest newsletter re the re-advertisement of the proposed development. He also had the audacity to ask us to deliver letters for other observers. The developer was repeatedly asked, at the oral hearing, by observers, to use the postal service to communicate with people within the community. John Kelly entering our property after us clearly indicating same, is an example of the blatant disregard that the developer continues to show us as a community. It is unacceptable and arrogant behaviour as far as we are concerned.
10. We feel that this whole development has come as an assault on our community. We are a close neighbourhood of friends and this proposal has caused widespread upset. Our area is a peaceful, rural area, where land is unzoned (confirmed by Frank Moylan, Senior Planner, Sligo Co. Council.) We do not want this area turned into an industrial area. We want to continue to enjoy the night sky and do not want it endangered by turning this into an industrial area.

Leona, Stephen and Ceola Donegan,

*Leona Mulrooney
Stephen Donegan
Ceola Donegan*