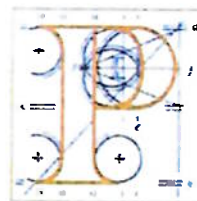


**Our Case Number: ABP-317809-23**



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Ben Brennan  
Monavea  
Crettyard  
Co. Laois

**Date: 12 October 2023**

**Re: Proposed Coolglass windfarm and related works**  
In the townlands of Fossy Upper, Aghoney, Gorreelagh, Knocklead, Scotland, Brennanshill, Monamantry, Coolglass, Crissard and Kylenebehy, Co. Laois.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the 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,

PP EGM  
Evan McGuigan  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line:

PA04

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**INDEPENDENT**

**Cllr. Ben Brennan**

Cathaoirleach of Greiguecullen/Portlannington Municipal District

**-STRENGTH -LOYALTY -INDEPENDENCE**



**An Bord Pleanála**

**64 Malborough Street**

**Dublin 1**

6th October 2023

**Case Reference: PA11.317809 (Development address; In the townlands of Fossy Upper, Aghoney, Gorreelagh, Knocklead, Scotland, Brennanshill)**

To Whom it May Concern,

I Ben Brennan wish to make the following observations to the above proposed development.

**Laois County Development Plan 2021-2027**

Both windfarms are located on land deemed unsuitable for wind energy development under the Laois County Council's Development plan. They are not in the areas designated by the planning authority as suitable for this type of development.

The planning statement in the EIAR states 4 of the southern turbines are within areas 'Open for consideration' for wind energy development. This is incorrect information from the developer. Only one turbine, T11, is in an area 'Open for consideration'. 12 of the 13 proposed turbines are in areas 'Not Open for Consideration' per appendix 5 Wind Energy Strategy of LCDP 2021 - 2027.

In 2022, a ministerial directive was submitted to Laois County Council to update Appendix 5 of the LCDP 2021 - 2027 to remove the set-back distance of 1.5Km from a residential property to a turbine. The LCDP was subsequently updated and then reviewed and approved by the council and the planning regulator, indicating that the planning regulator was satisfied with the content including Laois County Councils assessment in determining areas **Not Open for Consideration**

Under the Aarhus Convention which protects people's access to justice on environmental issues and allows public participation in same, the people of Laois took the time and effort to submit to their County Development Plan (2021-2027). I believe their rights are now being eroded and undermined.

**Connection to The Grid:**

In addition I draw your attention to the fact that I am one of four elected representatives who petitioned the Council to ensure that the Coolnabacca Substation, Rathineska did not proceed as the developer EirGrid failed to procure a highly essential 'Risk Assessment' for part of the project. As a result The Coolnabacca Substation is not proceeding.

Having regard to the size of these turbines and their proximity of the nearest dwellings particularly in the southern parcel (T8-T13), I believe this development will seriously injure the residential amenities and be contrary to the proper sustainable development in the area.

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr Ben Brennan**

*Cllr Ben Brennan*

Monavea, Crettyard, Co. Laois  
Mob: 087 9613360

**"Working for the people"**