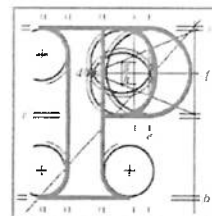


Our Case Number: ABP-317809-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Catherine Fitzgerald and Others
14 Cherrygarth
Portlaoise
Co. Laois

Date: 10 October 2023

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

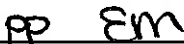
The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

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.

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

Yours faithfully,



Evan McGuigan
Executive Officer
Direct Line:

PA04

Teil
Glaio Áitiúil
Facs
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel (01) 858 8100
LoCall 1890 275 175
Fax (01) 872 2684
Website www.pleanala.ie
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

14 Cherrygarth,
Portlaoise,
Co. Laois

5th October 2023

An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough St
Dublin 1

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	067162-23
ABP-	
06 OCT 2023	
Fee: €	50- Type: Cash
Time:	11:37 By: Hand

**RE: Planning Application Observation – Planning Reference No.
PA11.317809.**

Dear sir or madam,

I am writing as Secretary of the Fianna Fáil County Councillor's Group in Laois, which consists of myself, Cllr. Paddy Bracken M.C.C., Cllr. Paschal McEvoy M.C.C., Cllr. Pádraig Fleming M.C.C., Cllr. Seamus McDonald M.C.C. and Cllr. John Joe Fennelly M.C.C.

There are a number of serious issues with the above planning application.

Firstly, the planning application proposes the erecting of wind turbines in Areas Not Open for Consideration. Only one turbine is in an Area Open for Consideration. Therefore, the planning application is in complete contradiction of the Laois County Development Plan 2021-2027.

The nearest home to a wind turbine is approximately 700m away, under this proposed development. This proximity to homes will have a harmful effect through shadow flicker, noise pollution and visual impact. In terms of shadow flicker, five homes will be affected by

more than 30 hours per year of shadow flicker. There is no guarantee that the mitigation proposals will be effective.

One of the proposed cable routes runs adjacent to the River Barrow and the River Nore Special Areas of Conservation near Chapel Cross Roads along the R430 road. This cable route could have a damaging impact on these SACs, which has not been examined and considered under this planning application.

The planning application mentions a 'community gain' from the proposed development. This ignores that there is 'community loss' with the development of this project. There is clearly a community loss in terms of land sterilisation and a declining in house values, which have not been taken into consideration as part of this planning application.

The development as proposed is contrary to the provisions of the Laois County Development Plan 2021-2027 and the associated Wind Energy Strategy. Having regard to the foregoing it is considered that the development would materially contravene the Laois County Development Plan 2021-2027 and would therefore be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

I strongly request you to reject this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Fitzgerald M.C.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Catherine Fitzgerald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Enclosed: €50 fee.