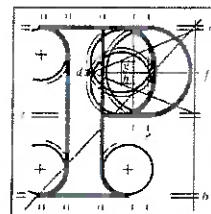


Our Case Number: ABP-317809-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



An
Bord
Pleanála

Deirdre McDonald
Mountain View
Luggacurren
Co. Laois

Date: 09 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.

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:

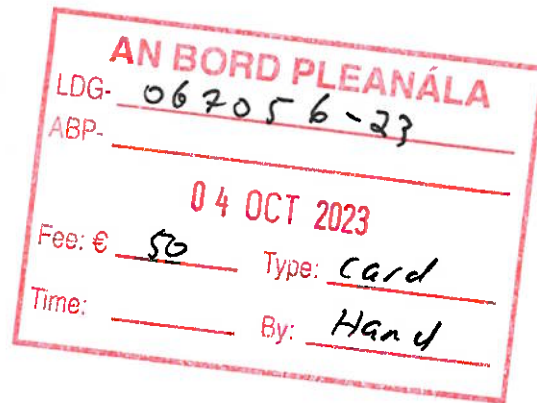
PA04

Tell	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glao Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Deirdre McDonad
Mountain View
Luggacurren, Co. Laois
01-10-23

An Bord Pleanála
64 Malborough Street
Dublin 1



Case Reference: PA11.317809

Development address; I the townlands of Fossy Upper, Aghoney, Gorreelagh, Knocklead, Scotland, Brennanshill, Monamantry, Coolglass, Crissard, and Kylenebehy, Co. Laois.

Proposed Coolglass Windfarm and related works

Dear Sir/Madam,

I, Deirdre McDonad, write in connection with the above-listed planning application. As a local resident of Luggacurren, where these proposed wind turbines will be situated just 950 meters from my home, I wish to strongly object to the proposed development by Statkraft. The proximity of these turbines to our community is of great concern, and I would like to provide detailed observations and concerns regarding this project.

Title: The Negative Effects of Wind Turbines: A Closer Look with Irish Examples

Introduction

The proliferation of wind turbines across the Irish landscape has brought renewable energy to the forefront of the national energy agenda. However, while green energy sources are crucial for combating

climate change, it is essential to acknowledge the potential drawbacks associated with wind turbine installations. One significant concern is the adverse impact of wind turbines on nearby communities, as exemplified by the case of Luggacurren in County Laois, Ireland.

****Proximity to Luggacurren****

The proposed placement of wind turbines in such close proximity to Luggacurren is a matter of grave concern for the community. These colossal structures, with their towering blades and industrial presence, would cast an imposing shadow over the homes of Luggacurren's residents. This proximity would undoubtedly disrupt the tranquil rural setting, leading to a significant reduction in the overall quality of life for the local population.

Visual Impact

One of the most immediately apparent adverse effects of wind turbines is their visual impact. Luggacurren, like many rural communities in Ireland, boasts a serene and picturesque landscape. The sudden introduction of towering wind turbines would mar this natural beauty, transforming it into an industrialized backdrop. For residents who have long enjoyed the unspoiled views of their homeland, this transformation can be deeply distressing.

Moreover, the visual intrusion of wind turbines can also have tangible economic consequences. Studies have shown that the presence of wind turbines can depress property values in their vicinity. Homeowners in Luggacurren may find their properties less desirable, which can result in a devaluation of their investments.

Noise Pollution

Another substantial concern in the context of wind turbines is noise pollution. These massive machines generate a constant hum and swoosh as their blades spin, often audible from several hundred meters away. In some cases, particularly during adverse weather conditions, the noise can become highly disruptive, affecting residents' sleep patterns and overall well-being.

Negative Effects in Ireland

The concerns voiced by the residents of Luggacurren are not isolated. Throughout Ireland, there have been documented instances of the adverse effects of wind turbines on local communities:

1. ****Boggeragh Mountains, County Cork:**** Residents living near the Boggeragh Mountains wind farm have reported experiencing significant noise disturbances. The persistent noise from the turbines has led to sleep disturbances and increased stress levels among residents, negatively impacting their health and well-being.
2. ****Cahermurphy, County Clare:**** In the case of Cahermurphy, the visual impact of wind turbines on the scenic landscape has been a contentious issue. The presence of turbines has drawn criticism for disrupting the natural beauty of the area and has affected local tourism, an essential source of income for the community.
3. ****Lackagh, County Galway:**** Residents living near the Lackagh wind farm have raised concerns about the potential impact on local wildlife. The cumulative effects of multiple wind farms in the area have led to worries about bird and bat populations. These concerns reflect broader ecological implications.

Conclusion

While the push for renewable energy sources like wind turbines is undeniably critical in addressing climate change, it is vital to consider the negative impacts on local communities. The case of Luggacurren and the examples from various parts of Ireland illustrate that the proximity of wind turbines to residential areas can lead to detrimental effects on the quality of life, property values, and overall well-being of residents. Balancing the need for sustainable energy with the preservation of the local environment and community welfare remains an ongoing challenge for Ireland and other nations pursuing green energy initiatives.

In conclusion, I strongly urge that planning permission for this development be refused, considering the profound impact it will have on Luggacurren and its residents. The potential harm to our environment, heritage, and quality of life cannot be ignored, and we have seen in other parts of Ireland the negative consequences that can arise from similar wind turbine projects.

Enclosed, please find 50 Euro in respect of this objection. All correspondence in this matter can be sent to me at the address mentioned above.

Sincerely,

Deirdre ^{Mc}Donald

Deirdre McDonald