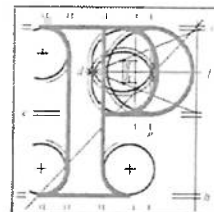


**Our Case Number:** ABP-317809-23

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Edward McDonald jr  
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](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,



Evan McGuigan  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line:

PA04

Teil  
Glao Áitiúil  
Facs  
Láithreán Gréasáin  
Ríomhphost

Tel (01) 858 8100  
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Website [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)  
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde  
Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

Edward McDonald Jnr  
Luggacurren, Co. Laois  
01-10-23

<b>AN BORD PLEANÁLA</b>	
LDG-	066992-23
ABP-	
04 OCT 2023	
Fees: €	50
Type:	Cash
Time:	
By:	hand

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, Edward McDonald Jr., write to formally object to the proposed Coolglass Windfarm in Luggacurren, County Laois. As a resident of Luggacurren and a concerned member of the community, I believe it is my duty to voice my concerns regarding this development, particularly in light of the ecological consequences it may entail.

**\*\*Ecological Concerns in Lackagh, County Galway\*\***

The ecological concerns surrounding wind farm developments, as evidenced in Lackagh, County Galway, cannot be understated. Residents near the Lackagh wind farm have raised legitimate worries about the impact on local wildlife, including bird and bat populations. It is essential to understand the implications of these concerns within the broader ecological context.

**\*Bird Populations\***

Birds, particularly raptors and other avian species, are highly vulnerable to the presence of wind turbines. The spinning blades pose a substantial threat to birds that may inadvertently collide with them during flight. In Lackagh, residents have observed adverse effects on bird populations, and similar concerns loom over Luggacurren.

Raptors, such as eagles and hawks, are particularly susceptible due to their large wingspans and soaring flight patterns. Wind farms disrupt their natural habitat and can lead to decreased breeding success and increased mortality. These magnificent birds are essential components of our ecosystem, and any harm to their populations can have far-reaching consequences.

Furthermore, Ireland is home to various migratory bird species that traverse the country during their annual journeys. The presence of wind farms can disrupt these migratory routes and potentially lead to declines in these bird populations, which may impact ecosystems both locally and globally.

#### **\*Bat Populations\***

Bats, while often overlooked, are vital components of our ecosystems. They play a crucial role in insect control, pollination, and seed dispersal. Unfortunately, wind turbines can have devastating effects on bat populations.

The spinning turbine blades create areas of low-pressure zones, which can lead to barotrauma in bats. This condition occurs when the rapid pressure changes around the turbines cause severe injury to the bats' lungs, leading to fatalities. Additionally, bats are attracted to the turbines' structures, particularly the tall towers, making them vulnerable to collisions.

In Lackagh, County Galway, these concerns have manifested in observable declines in bat populations, further emphasizing the broader ecological implications of wind farms.

#### **\*\*Broader Ecological Implications\*\***

The ecological consequences of wind farm developments extend beyond the direct impact on bird and bat populations. They encompass the disruption of local ecosystems, changes in behavior and migratory patterns, and the potential loss of biodiversity. These cumulative effects have far-reaching consequences for our environment and the delicate balance of our ecosystems.

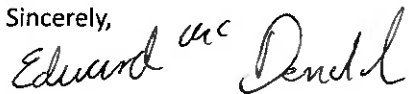
The continued proliferation of wind farms in Ireland, including the proposed Coolglass Windfarm, raises questions about the overall impact on our natural world. As we strive to transition to cleaner energy sources, we must not inadvertently compromise the very ecosystems we seek to protect.

**\*\*Conclusion\*\***

In conclusion, I strongly urge the Bord to consider the ecological concerns raised in Lackagh, County Galway, and the potential consequences for Luggacurren and its surrounding areas. It is our responsibility to safeguard our local wildlife, protect our ecosystems, and ensure that the pursuit of renewable energy does not come at the cost of our natural heritage.

While we acknowledge the importance of renewable energy sources like wind turbines, we must approach their implementation with a keen awareness of the broader ecological implications. It is my hope that this objection, along with others, will contribute to a comprehensive assessment of the proposed Coolglass Windfarm, taking into account its impact on our environment, wildlife, and the communities it affects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward McDonald Jr." in a cursive style.

Edward McDonald Jr.