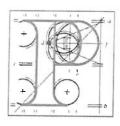
Our Case Number: ABP-317809-23

## **Planning Authority Reference Number:**



An Bord Pleanála

Sean Wilkie Slatt Lower Wolfhill Co. Laois R14VX03

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 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 <a href="mailto:sids@pleanala.ie">sids@pleanala.ie</a> quoting the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Evan McGuigan
Executive Officer
Direct Line:

PA04

AN BORD PLEANÁLA

LDG- 066988-23

ABP
04 OCT 2023

Fee: € 50 Type: (a:4

Time: By: Hand

Dear Sirs

Objection to: Coolglass Windfarm

Planning application- PA 11 317809

## I Sean Wilkie,

I Wish to object to the above planning application for the following reasons:

My name is Sean Wilkie, and I am a resident of Wolfhill Co. Laois and my family have been part of the community for over 50 years. Myself, my brother Bruce Wilkie and my Late father Bruce Wilkie have been keen bird enthusiasts and have owned a wide range of birds ourselves for 30+ years and our wildlife knowledge is recognized within the local community.

Over the years we have become aware of several birds/animals within our local area which nest/fly and live within the area of the proposed turbines. Here is a list of some critically endangered and protected species which live/hunt within the proposed turbine sites:

- Peregrine Falcon, Barn owl, Golden plover, Kestrel, Red squirrel, Pine Martin, Woodcock, Snipe, Red Kite, Buzzard, Sparrow Hawk, Curlews, Hen harriers, Pygmy shrew

We also have Crayfish in our local water system which runs directly below the proposed turbine site, The unique position of these rivers is at the foot of either side of where the proposed turbines will be positioned which will make it near impossible to stop any silt or contamination of any kind reaching the river. This stream is also connected to the river Nore which is home to the freshwater pearl population which is known to be a critically endangered species. If the turbines are to go ahead, they will seriously obliterate these species in our community and beyond.

From research on Turbine sites around the world, we can see the extreme impact these have on wildlife, especially birds of prey. They can act as bait for small rodents, creating shelter and the executioner for soaring birds of prey. They can also act as wind vortex for soaring birds drawing in more than usual amounts of birds, which also ends fatally. Turbines do not only impact birds, but they also have a massive impact on other species such as bats that can be affected by the drop-in temperatures caused by the propellers.

It is for all the above reasons, I write the letter to strongly advise you to reconsider your decision for the proposed turbines due to the importance of the facts stated above, which will, in turn effect every local resident and our local wildlife species.

Your sincerely Sean Wilkie

Slatt Lower Wolfhill Co. Laois

R14 VX03