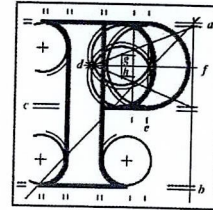


**Our Case Number:** ABP-317810-23

**Your Reference:** Enda and Philomena Briscoe



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

John Nash Solicitors  
Abbey Street  
Loughrea  
Co. Galway  
DX86005

**Date:** 22 September 2023

**Re:** Open Cycle Gas turbine power plant (350MW) and associated infrastructure  
Located on land to the north of Tynagh Power Station, Derryfrench, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co.  
Galway.

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. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

pp. LM  
Niamh Hickey  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737145

PA04

**Teil**  
**Glaao Áitiúil**  
**Facs**  
**Láithreán Gréasáin**  
**Ríomhphost**

**Tel** (01) 858 8100  
**LoCall** 1800 275 175  
**Fax** (01) 872 2684  
**Website** [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)  
**Email** [bord@pleanala.ie](mailto:bord@pleanala.ie)

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde  
Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

# JOHN NASH

## Solicitors

Abbey Street,  
Loughrea,  
County Galway.  
DX 86 005 LOUGHREA  
Tel: (091) 841442  
Web: [www.nashsolicitors.ie](http://www.nashsolicitors.ie)

Email: [john.nash@nashsolicitors.ie](mailto:john.nash@nashsolicitors.ie)

Date: 20 September 2023

Your Ref:

An Bord Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

Re: *Planning Application Reference 317810*  
*Applicants - EP UK*

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Dear Sirs,

I have been consulted by Enda and Philomena Briscoe, Derryfrench, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co. Galway who has instructed me to lodge an objection on their behalf to the above mentioned application. I am enclosing details of the objection. I attach herewith cheque in the sum of €50.00 being your fee in this matter.

Yours faithfully

  
John Nash Solicitors

Principal: John Nash  
Solicitors:  
Aoife Nash (BCL)  
Aoife Murtagh (BCL)  
Angela Byrne (BCL)



Our Ref: JN23/JN/AK

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	066587-23
ABP-	
21 SEP 2023	
Fee: €	50
Type:	CHEQ
Time:	
By:	POST

Derryfrench,  
Tynagh,  
Loughrea,  
Co. Galway.  
5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The Secretary,  
An Bord Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1

*Planning Ref: 317810.*

To whom it may concern,

I wish to make a formal concern regarding any further development at the old Tynagh Mine Site, Derryfrench, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co. Galway. The site was described as one of the most contaminated mine sites in Europe with concentrations of metals far exceeding the guideline values for water and sediment. The EPA has "labelled the Tynagh Mines as the most hazardous mine site in the country with arsenic levels 1,600 times higher than safety limits, a potential risk to thousands of people across East Galway". I could go on but I feel you already know these statistics. As a neighbouring landowner and resident to the site, I have seen all the goings on throughout the years from when it opened as a Mine, closed and was left derelict, hazardous and dangerous, the development of the Sperrin Galvanisers Factory and the current Power Station that has been built and I fear for my families health with the development and disturbance of the soil on the old mine site.

According to the EIA report in 2003, "the EPA recommends that unplanned and unauthorised disturbance of mine waste should not take place on the site due to the risk of releasing pollutants into the environment". Can you tell me how unplanned and planned disturbance differ on such a hazardous site as this? The report states that "relevant environmental protection legislation must also be strictly enforced by Galway County Council to ensure that any existing or future development taking place on or around the site does not result in environmental pollution". I worry that this is not possible with the level of toxicity present. Can you assure me this can be done safely?

"Animal access should be prevented to the site as the concentration of heavy metals in mine wastes, tailings and stream sediments on site could potentially cause toxicity problems...Landowners should ensure that fences surrounding the perimeter of the mine site are stock proof and regularly maintained". This point has been maintained, I just fear that once the ground is disturbed the wastes, tailings and stream sediments will cause potential toxicity to all the animals on my farm and neighbouring farms. Similarly, conclusion no.7 on the EIA report states that "livestock should be prevented from ingesting and/or drinking turbid water in the area of the Barnacullia stream". These streams are tributary streams for Lough Derg, the third biggest lake on the <sup>island</sup> Ireland of Ireland. A "dust deposition monitoring programme" was also mentioned. Is this an ongoing programme? Are there any findings as of late?

I don't recall the Western Health Board considering the provision of voluntary screening of blood for lead in children and adults? There are staggering figures showing the amount of



people that have died from Cancer that worked in the old Mine. And also the amount of people currently sick and suffering from various illnesses in the local area. Is it not immediately we will see these health issues related to the site, it is 20 years later that people will become ill due to the toxicity levels of the site. I also do not recall the relevant authorities offering appropriate testing of animal health, an examination of the aquatic environment nor an assessment of groundwater quality in the area? With the development and disturbance of the soil and local waterways can you assure me, my family and neighbouring dwellings that our/their water supply will not be affected? And if so, who is responsible?

The current Power Station lies directly above the main shaft used to transport materials to the surface during mining and is close by to the shafts used to extract fumes from underground. My worry is; will the ground be stable enough to hold this weight along with another Power Station of greater magnitude and another turbine? I am wondering are these underground tunnels taken into consideration? Are there drawings of where these tunnels are located? And I wonder are these shafts the cause of recent noise pollution and vibrations in the ground? The main tailings pond and other smaller tailings ponds are located near these shafts. Will the disturbance of the ground and vibrations cause these tailings ponds to leak into the waterways?

The topic of the old Tynagh Mine Site has been brought up in the Dáil recently by Michael Ring T.D. who asked the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications what action that will be taken to address the issue of the Tailings Pond at Tynagh Mines. He replied that the "Tynagh Mines are on private lands, and the current owners have primary responsibility for management of the site". He also stated that the "EPA has responsibility for enforcing compliance with the conditions of Integrated Pollution Control Licences for current activities on the site". Will the person who owns the site take responsibility for any Air, Water and/or Noise pollution caused by any new development? This is why I am writing to you with my concerns of public and animal health in the locality. Can you confidently assure me that these conclusions and recommendations from the EIA report in 2003 will be fulfilled and ensure protection of our community from these harmful substances? I ask you please to look into this matter and please think of the local people who may be affected by the disturbance and development of a second Power Station or any further development at the Tynagh Mine Site.

Yours Faithfully,

Phil Briscoe      Enda Briscoe

Enda & Philomena Briscoe