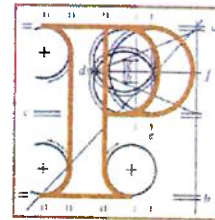


**Our Case Number:** ABP-318446-23



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Mary Longan  
Scartnadriny  
Kilbrien  
Co. Waterford  
E91 CY82

**Date:** 02 February 2024

**Re:** Proposed construction of Coumnagappul Wind Farm consisting of 10 no. turbines and associated infrastructure.  
In the townlands of Coumnagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavanniamountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneanemountain, Skeehans, Lagg, Co. Waterford. ([www.coumnagappulwindfarmSID.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarmSID.ie))

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.

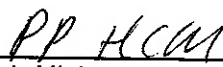
The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

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,

  
Niamh Hickey  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737145

PA04

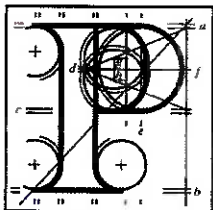
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D01 V902

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Dublin 1  
D01 V902



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

## Observation on a Planning Appeal: Form.

### Your details

#### 1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

Your full details:

(a) Name

Mary Longan

(b) Address

Scartnadriny,  
Kilbrien,  
Co Waterford  
E91 CY82

### Agent's details

#### 2. Agent's details

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Not applicable

(b) Agent's address

Not applicable

## Postal address for letters

3. During the appeal process we will post information and items to you **or** to your agent. For this observation, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only.)

**You (the observer) at the address in Part 1**

✓

**The agent at the address in Part 2**

## Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the appeal you wish to make an observation on. If you want, you can include a copy of the planning authority's decision as the observation details.

**(a) Planning authority**

(for example: Ballytown City Council)

Click or tap here to enter text.

**(b) An Bord Pleanála appeal case number (if available)**

(for example: ABP-300000-19)

PA93.318446

**(c) Planning authority register reference number**

(for example: 18/0123)

Click or tap here to enter text.

**(d) Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Coumnagappul Wind Farm

Co Waterford

## Observation details

5. Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below or you can attach them separately.

I am writing this observation for PA93.318446 Coumnagappul wind farm Co Waterford.

As the owner of a fully electric car, I am absolutely not against wind turbines, solar, electric cars, renewables etc, as they absolutely are the future of energy generation. In fact, we are a two electric car household and installed solar panels last year. What I am against is the impact this proposal will have on the wild, natural, mountain areas that should be protected for nature and for people to enjoy. I believe this proposed development will severely impact the floral, fauna and beauty of this rugged mountain. We bought our house here in a remote area of the Comeragh Mountains almost 10 years ago as we fell in love with the natural beauty of the area and are stressed at the thought of the destruction that this development has the potential to cause.

Considering the Irish government has now allowed and set in place major plans for offshore wind, I would argue that plans for onshore wind should now be revisited to consider the impacts on local areas and flora and fauna versus offshore wind. Considering the impact onshore wind has – impacting people's houses (noise, flicker, views, valuations), impacting on wildlife, using limited land mass and disturbing natural wild areas. Offshore wind farms can be so far offshore they can hardly be seen on the horizon, they won't impact on people's houses or standard of living and floating turbines will have limited impact on marine life – that coupled with the fact that offshore wind is much more persistent and stronger again lessens the case for onshore wind. Overall offshore is a much more efficient and less impactful option to the locality and nature.

Once the turbines are in place, the destruction and damage to the environment cannot be undone. If they go ahead, it will be a decision looked back on in future years and by future generations as to why did we allow such an impact on a natural, beautiful wild area that are limited across the country and are an amenity to all.

I also ask you to review the Waterford County Development plan 2022 – 2028 which specifically calls out this area proposed in this planning application as **not suitable for wind development**. The report which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), in the miscellaneous map section there is a map for wind energy. Here, it classifies the area as excluded for wind development. Also, in the land and seascape map it calls out the area as having "very distinctive features with a very low capacity to adsorb new developments without significant alterations of existing character over an extended area". I would argue that this report by Waterford Council be strongly considered in this case.



5. Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below or you can attach them separately.

Why should planning permission for this development go ahead when the local council have deemed the area unfit?

The proposed development would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Waterford has created a large tourism market by maintaining and promoting its wild spaces and outdoor activities. Between the beautiful coastline, the Waterford Greenway and specifically the Comeragh & Mhullaigh mountains. This mountain range comprises of some of the most fantastic areas in the country, most notably Coumshingaun Lough which is one of the highest lakes in Ireland that will leave you breathless. Mahon falls, Crotty's Lake & nearly most importantly the Nire Valley which will be hugely impacted by this development and destruction of the natural flora and fauna. The area is so diverse in landscape, scenery, wildlife & history it must be protected. Waterford doesn't have a National Park like Kerry, it doesn't have the Burren like Co Clare but we have the Comeragh & Mhullaigh mountains which are equally if not more impressive than other parts of the country. I, as a hiker enjoy the secluded wonders of these mountains along with the many thousands of tourists that come to visit, take pictures, post online, write articles and most importantly enjoy the unspoilt nature in the area. To think how this development could impact the undisturbed beauty is frightening. Our children will be ashamed of this decision if it goes ahead.

I am not sure how the planning process works in this case, I am not sure if representatives come to view the area or sit in an office and rely on the submission, photos and maps of the planning application for evidence. These photos make the area look like it is a small hill in a rural area. They don't highlight that the turbines will be visible from anywhere on the mountain range and will tower above it. To give you an idea below is a good write up on the area – the diversity of it, the amenities it provides now and in the future and overwhelmingly the natural beauty of the area that will be severely impacted by this development.  
<https://dlscouts.ie/features/the-comeraghs/>

Thank you for your time and I hope you make the correct decision for this beautiful area.

## Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

## Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct **fee** is included with your observation. You can find out the correct fee to include in our [Fees and Charges Guide](#) on our website.

This document has been awarded a Plain English mark by NALA.

Last updated: April 2019.

