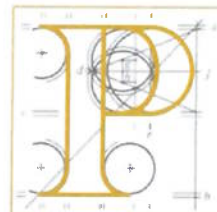


Our Case Number: ABP-318446-23



An
Bord
Pleanála

Eddie Phelan
Shanballyanne Phelan Farm
Ballymacarbry via Clonmel
Co. Waterford

Date: 26 January 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)

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,

PPHCM

Niamh Hickey
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737145

PA04

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64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Shanballyanne Phelan Farm,
Ballymacarbry,
Via Clonmel,
Co. Waterford

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála,
Strategic Infrastructure Department,
64 Marlborough street,
Dublin 1.
D01V902

Re: submission of objection to An Bord Pleanála.

Ref: 318446

Description: construction of Coumnagappul wind farm comprising of 10 turbines and related works in Co. Waterford.

Fee of 50 euro enclosed.

To Whom It May Concern:

Our farm is located north of the proposed development site with our land coming within one kilometre of the closest planned turbine. Our dwelling and farm buildings are within 3km from the proposed site and closest turbine.

Our main concerns regarding the construction of the wind farm is our water source which comes through our farm via Gleann dath Buí and the Gleann Mór streams which both originate in the Knockavannia mountain area. This water supply is of vital importance to the continued functioning of our farm and the environmental impact that we would experience if the water becomes polluted or indeed stopped due to construction would see many native species of fish, frogs and other animals loose habitats that we pride ourselves on protecting.

Both these streams flow north and feed into the river Nire which would see a knock on effect of any changes to the water table and quality of water which flows into it.

In conclusion I fully and unwaveringly object to the construction of the Coumnagappul windfarm.

Yours sincerely

Eddie Phelan

File Ref No: 16/51

RE: Permission sought by Ecopower Developments Limited to erect 8 No. wind turbines, overall height of up to 127 meters, crane hardstands, 1 No. meteorological mast up to 80 meters in height with wind measuring equipment attached, access roads, electrical cabling, electrical substation compound, substation equipment and control building, visitor car park, borrow pits, ancillary drainage system and ancillary site works at Bawnfune/Sillaheens/Curraheenavoher/Russellstown/Booleabrien Upper/Russellstown New, Ballymacarbry, Co. Waterford.

Decision: Pursuant to the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, it is decided to refuse permission for the said development based on the reasons set out below

Schedule

Reasons:

1. Notwithstanding the site location in a preferred area for wind energy in the Waterford County Development Plan 2001-2017, the proposed development would constitute a visually dominant feature in a vulnerable scenic rural landscape and based on the submitted information the Planning Authority is not satisfied that the development would not significantly compromise the policy to develop the Comeragh Area as a National amenity and would not have significant adverse effects on the environment. The development would contravene the policies of the development plan in this regard and would therefore be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.
2. The Nire, characterised by fertile agricultural lands and drained by the Nire River, is flanked by the Monavullagh Mountains to the South and rigid Comeragh Mountains to the East and North. The Nire Valley is renowned for its scenic landscape and supports a thriving tourism product based on hill walking trekking and river fishing and guest accommodation. The proposed wind farm will intrude onto the landscape, becoming a dominant feature and likely impact detrimentally on the environmental quality and scenic landscape of the Nire Valley and contrary to the proper development and sustainability of the area.
3. The location of the Windfarm, on the western flank of the Comeragh Mountain, at elevation above 300m OD will impact on Ballymacarbry Village and nearby settlements and the Nire Valley. Furthermore, the Windfarm location affords panoramic views extending in a wide arc beyond 20km distance, impacting on important and iconic landscapes and features in Counties Waterford and Tipperary, giving rise to general obtrusion, contrary to proper planning and sustainability principles.