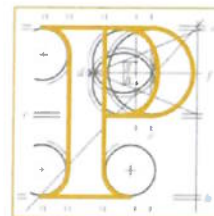


Our Case Number: ABP-318446-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



An
Bord
Pleanála

Helen Fraher
Bleantis
Ballinamult
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,

Niamh Hickey
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737145

PA04

Tel
Glao Áitiúil
Facs
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel
LoCall
Fax
Website
Email

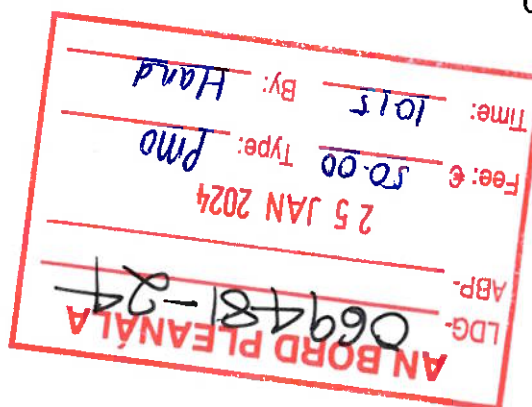
(01) 858 8100
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

22nd January 2024



Re: Submission of Objection to An Bord Pleanála
Ref: 318446

Description: Construction of Coumnagappul Wind Farm comprising of 10 no. Wind turbines and related works In Co. Waterford.

Prescribed fee of €50 enclosed.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to register a strong objection to The Coumnagappul Wind Farm for the following reasons.

- I have lived all my life under the Comeragh mountains enjoying the unspoilt beauty, abundant natural habitat for various species of birds and animals. The knowledge after a difficult working day I could head off into the peace and tranquillity these mountains offer. Now the proposed wind farm will demolish this natural amenity and eradicate many animal and bird species that have long called the mountains their home. The sheer size and scale of proposed construction needed to instil 10 turbines into rock will destroy the vista, water sources and rock the stability of beat based mountains.
- For many years turf from the Bleantasour and Coumnagappul Mountains was the main fuel source for the surrounding neighbourhoods indicating a plentiful peat base. The developers in their application have stated that peat depth in excess of 0.5m is a guide line where it is unsafe to proceed. A few areas surpassed these guidelines to 0.6m. The survey carried out to examine effect of peat base was carried out in Oct 22 when there was a very warm and prolonged period of dry weather with little rain giving a biased result. The tool used to evaluate was based on a Scottish assessment tool why not an EU relevant tool as Scotland is non-EU. EMPower have stated that a rain fall gauge will be operated by a geotechnical engineer however they have no plan to deal with prolonged rain event. The proposed tree felling to make way for proposed turbines will expose underlying soils and surface water will run off same causing increase in soil erosion and deforestation will add a great loss of biodiversity.
- 2019 wind energy development guidelines (never finalised) stated that planning authorities should have full regard to biodiversity considerations in determining applications for wind development. There is sufficient evidence linking peat land restoration with biodiversity adding benefits for climate and for water. The peatlands also valuable carbon storage properties. The excavation of the mountains for building of monstrosity sized turbines.

- I was shocked to say but the least to see option C for the UGC link still been explored due to the fact that Scart Bridge was protected. I instigated this protection on the knowledge of its unique features, it is deemed (unusual consisting of a single arch and a double arch rubble stone Road bridge over river. C1820 trunchated by section of field and road. Random rubble stone walls with lime mortar pointing, and rubble stone coping to parapets) it goes on to describe it as a well proportioned bridge forming an appealing landmark on the river Colligan and the rubble stone work serves to blend the bridge into the surrounding landscape, while the civil engineering heritage significance of the site is identified by the construction. RPS Number WA751040
- The non acknowledgement of such a historic feature is a cause of great concern and questions the validity of all studies carried out. I live on the Comeragh Drive that was referred to as unknown Road that goes through Scart Bridge. These studies were carried out for the 110 KV Grid Connection Feasibility Study. In APPENDIX 3.1 3.3 UGC Option C {Magenta}. I also noticed they referred to a portion of my land. I had no Correspondence on this. They also refer to An agricultural track and within this there is a section of un registered land. This is Bleantasour Mountain Commonage and I share a right in Common with other farmers. I also own land on both sides of the road on the L1042 that extends down to Scart Bridge. I would like to make it very clear that I will not agree to any part of my land or land in common to help in the destruction of the Comeraghs. These developers have no regard for the local community this is reflected in the carlesness of their reports my mum died last year her dying wish was for myself and my close neighbours to keep up the fight to save our beautiful mountains, her big fear was due to the scale of the proposed development the peat would cause a landslide.

- **WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022 - 2028**

The Democratic Right of the local people living in designated NO GO WIND FARM areas must be protected. Granting of PLANNING PERMISSION in a wind farm exclusion zone would contravene the Waterford City and County Council Development Plan. This plan has taken two years which includes five rounds of public consultation to compile. It was then unanimously ratified after being monumentally scrutinized and was signed off by the planning regulator and the MINISTER OF THE ENVOIRNMENT. This decision to deem areas of our County as NO GO areas of WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT would not have been taken lightly. WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL and our COUNCELLORS are the people who have Waterford's best interests at heart and have identified the significance of our unspoilt areas and in doing so protected them.

I respectfully request An Bord Pleanála upholds our democratic right and refuse this Planning Application.

Yours Sincerely

Helen Flaheer