

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



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Brian Fenton  
Sillaheen  
Ballymacarbry via Clonmel  
Co. Waterford  
E91 D684

**Date:** 26 January 2024

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

Sillaheen,  
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Via Clonmel,  
Co. Waterford  
E91 D684  
Ireland

Phone: [REDACTED]  
21st January 2024

An Bord Pleanála  
64 Marlborough St,  
Rotunda, Dublin 1,  
D01 V902,  
Ireland

To whom it may concern;

Subject: OBJECTION to planning application ref: PA93.318446

Proposed Wind Farm Development in the townlands of Bleantasourmountain, Carrigbrack, Clooncogaile, Coumnagappul, Glennaneanmountain, Kilkeany, Kilkeany Mountain, Knocavanniamountain and Reanadampaun Commons, Ballymacmague North, Ballymacmague South, Colligan More, Colliganwood, Eaglehill, Garryclone, Garryduff, Kilcooney, Killadangan, Knockacaharna, Knockboy, Lackandarra Upper and Tinalira Co. Waterford.  
Objector: Brian Fenton

I refer to the above subject matter and here with, wish to lodge a formal objection to the Planning application number PA93.318446 filed by Fehily Timoney on behalf to EMPower Developments Ltd trading as Coumnagappul Wind Farm Ltd consisting of a proposed Wind Farm of 10 wind turbines, electrical substation and many associated works at various locations including the areas mentioned above in Co. Waterford.

I am opposed to the developments on the following grounds:

#### Water

The developer cannot guarantee that the water table will be unaffected and in turn many private water supplies. In the planning application various private wells did not appear to be located or mentioned in the environmental impact study or geological survey.

Drilling into the ground in the areas concerned may damage the underground waterways and potentially contaminate the private wells and natural springs in the area including those of my family members close to the site.

#### Shadow Flicker / Repetitive sunlight reflections/ Glinting

One of my siblings, who will be living right by the development site has suffered from epilepsy. I do not wish for such a development to go ahead which may trigger a reaction/ seizure (from shadow flicker or sunlight glint) when she is driving through the surrounding area. I value her life and those of her husband and their children. I would not like to have to receive the phone call telling me that they have had a crash due to a seizure triggered by shadow flicker.

#### Infrastructure

The current network of roads surrounding the site are in a poor state of repair and currently over work the suspension of any vehicle which travels them. The increase in heavy traffic will only make these roads worse. There is no mention of any remedial work being carried out to repair these roads.

#### Potential for Landslide / Flooding

The areas where these installations are due to be placed currently soak a great deal of water, should this land be disturbed sufficiently, it may do so as a mud/landslide. While Chapter 12 involving Hydrology and Water Quality mentions "Slopes at the proposed turbine locations range from 3 to 15° a sudden runaway of sodden soil / peat could end up with a similar situation seen in Co. Galway at the Derrybrien Windfarm in 2003. Also the potential increase in run off water that would normally be soaked by the land in its current undisturbed state would be detrimental to all of those whose property is in the path of the excess running water should the measures undertaken by the developer not be up to the task. The potential for excess surface water flowing down a number of the local roads to the Regional roads in the area would be substantially increased, causing a road safety risk in terms of road conditions which currently are not great to start with.

#### Setback

Should this development go ahead, any future dwelling which I or any other members of my family wish to construct in the future will not be able to be built, as any new home would be too close to the turbines. Members of my family may wish to be able to build a home in this area, my picturesque home area, in my later years and because of the placement of these turbines, I do not want such a development to decide that my other family members or I, cannot build a home where we grew up.

#### Potential financial penalties for people in the area.

Should the proposed development go ahead, the value of property in the surrounding area will be badly affected and any ability to acquire finance secured on these properties will be severely diminished.

### **Conduct of the company when dealing with the public**

The failure to engage with the public in the areas concerned. Having worked with motorclubs who organize rallies before, they extend the common courtesy to notify the householders of the disruption that they may encounter over the course of a weekend, yet while EMPower development did send communications to residents that might be impacted by this development over the course of a number of years, it appears it was done in a manner to meet the letter of the law not the spirit of the law. Also the lack of time between public notice being given about their information nights and the information night themselves was laughable, a matter of hours, not days or weeks. This conduct is irksome and irresponsible. Such irresponsible behavior does not bode well for any future operations.

While I do not object to the generation of 'green' power, This development is not suitable for this location. So I would again suggest the following, Co. Waterford has a coastline in which a great deal of wave energy could be harnessed, maybe this is something that the County council (and/or EMPower developments) could consider on the grounds of green energy generation and the prospect of employment through engineering of and construction of such wave energy capture apparatus and also the running of such an operation.

**I call on An Bord Pleanála to not grant this application, as the practical negatives outweigh the theoretical positives.**

Thank you for your time,

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Brian Fenton

21/01/2024

Please find enclosed a cheque to the correct objection submission fee of €50