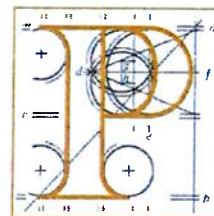


Our Case Number: ABP-319866-24

Planning Authority Reference Number:



An
Bord
Pleanála

Malachy Quinn
44 Castleland Parkview
Balbriggan
Co. Dublin

Date: 16 August 2024

Re: Proposed development known as North Irish Sea Array ("NISA") Offshore Wind Farm
Located off the coast of Counties Dublin, Meath and Louth (www.northirishsearraysid.ie)

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission and fee 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 Dublin City, Fingal, Meath and Louth County Councils and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to marine 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 marine@pleanala.ie quoting the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence with the Board.

Yours faithfully,


Ellen Moss
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737285

OA03

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64 Marlborough Street
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Cllr Malachy Quinn
44 Castleland Parkview,
Balbriggan,
Co Dublin

Bord Pleanála Case reference: OA29N.319866

I wish to make the following observations in respect to the Application Case No 319866.

With the enormous requirement for our State to become more energy secure & less reliant on Fossil Fuels, this proposed project has its merits, but to rely on private investment without any public gain, this project is quite concerning.

The location of the windfarm & cable route are the underlining concerns of the local community. I will set out my observations in respect to Environmental impact, Community impact & lack of gain for the State.

With Europe's most important Roseate Tern colony on Rockabill Island off the coast of Skerries/Balbriggan. I believe the extent of the Windfarm Structures will have a negative effect on the nesting Roseate Terns in the location.

The proposed locations of the windfarms will have a negative effect on the view from Skerries & Balbriggan at the detriment of the tourism potential of both towns, the damage to our tourism sector by the overscale seascape visual impact on Fingal's sensitive coast cannot be replaced in years to come. Both the options proposed by NISA in the planning application were not discussed at its public consultations

Option 1 - 49 No wind turbine generators with a height of 290 metres

Option 2- 35 No of wind turbines generators with a height of 311 metres & a above. (with 13 of which will have a height of 316 metres)

The location of the Windfarms at present will negatively affect the biodiversity of the sea at such a proximity to the coastline & will inevitably result in the reduction of our fishing grounds, which in turn affects the livelihood of our fishing communities across the eastern seaboard.

With the guidance of the Habitats Directive whose very aim is to maintain or restore the conservation status of habitats and species of community interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives and Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas which are designated to afford protection. The very nature of the work at the present location is contrary to the Habitats directive. The locating of the turbine further out would have a lessened affect on the Biodiversity of the location

The pipe work relating to the development will come Onshore at Bremore, at the northern entrance to Balbriggan, with the proposed route for the cable being along the R132, turning onto the Harry Reynolds Road in the town, to re-join the R132 on the southern side of the town. The work of the laying of the cable along the Harry Reynolds Road will result in this road being re-dug a second time in recent years, the last time being to install the pipes to bring the sewerage from Stamullen, Co. Meath to Quay Street, Balbriggan. At Present the Harry Reynolds Road is being upgraded to include

new paths and cycle paths at a cost of €8 million. I am greatly concerned that all the investment by Fingal County Council, Central Government & the EU in the Cycle-lanes & paths will be undone by the proposed route of the cable of the Windfarms.

The idea of our government just getting 2% on the 40yr seabed lease and a fixed guaranteed price of 86euro/ mw is paid to the operator will lead to us paying for shortfalls if energy prices dip whilst profits being returned to Norway and Denmark as we pay for the upgrade to the Grid through the Public service levy.

it doesn't sound like a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Malachy Quinn