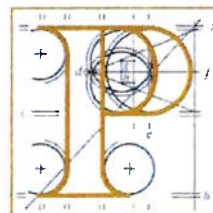


Our Case Number: ABP-319866-24



An
Bord
Pleanála

Brendan and Teresa Stack
5 St Columba's Villas
Laytown
Co. Meath

Date: 09 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 Fingal, Dublin City, 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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AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	<u>073801-24</u>
ABP-	
07 AUG 2024	
Fee: €	<u>50.00</u> Type: <u>cash</u>
Time: <u>14.58</u>	By: <u>hand</u>

5 St Columba's Villas
Laytown, Co Meath

5 August 2024

Dear Sirs

Re: Application No. OA29N.319866
North Irish Sea Array Wind Farm Ltd
North Irish Sea Wind Turbines

While appreciating the urgent need for green energy, the promise of energy to 120,000 homes (somewhat diluted by the assurance of providing thirty percent to industry), we wish to make the following observations in relation to the above:

1. The height of these wind turbines -the foundation, tower, the rotor and hub plus the nacelle plus the generator - makes these structures some of the largest in the world so far. They will be **7 and a half times taller than the Rockabill Lighthouse, and just several metres short of the height of the Eiffel Tower** . They are said to be sited at – 17.36, 15.9 and 13.25 km respectively from Bettystown, Balbriggan and Skerries!

In this area of outstanding natural beauty, which Meath Co Council have named the Gold Coast because of the vast expanse of sand and sky, they will be clearly visible to hundreds of thousands of people the along the east coast beginning with the expanse of Drogheda Bay from the heights of Clogherhead looking south, from Termonfeckin, Baltray, Mornington, Bettystown, Laytown, Corbalis, Irishtown, Gormanstown, Balbriggan, Skerries looking north to the Mourne, Rush, and obviously from Howth, and at all the viewing points inland.

This will negatively impact the hundreds of thousands of people (this is the relatively crowded East Coast of Ireland) who see the coast views, whether residents, visitors, and who avail of the many beaches, to enjoy the vast expanse of sea and sky, and the absence of disruptive sounds which is such a **benefit to health**, and benefitting those engaging in leisure activities such as sailing especially at Skerries. The distinguishing and perhaps unique feature of Bettystown/Laytown is the wide expanse of beach and sky revealed at low tide, and much

celebrated by its residents, visitors, and indeed with the world famous Laytown Races.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/au/blog/passion/202310/the-value-of-looking-at-long-distance-views>.

2. In view of the above, and the proposed **two years** of constant excavation and building works within sight and hearing of those using or living close to the beaches or indeed within viewing distance of these excavation works, we feel that Statkraft and CIP should site the turbines in line with **internationally accepted practice** at a minimum of 22 km from the nearest land.
3. While there has been huge mention of Malahide Estuary and Rogerstown Estuary and the possible threat to wildlife, there has been only brief mention of the Boyne/Blackwater SAC and SPA and none at all of **the Nanny SPA Area** which stretches from Bettystown to Irishtown (adjacent to Gormanstown). This is a serious, if inadvertent, omission given that the pipeline will make landfall at Gormanstown.
4. More modern technology has been developed that will be far less disruptive such as "Oscillating Poles" which obviously do not have the turbine blades which cause such havoc to migratory birds, and may cause less disturbance to marine life generally. They also do not have the "flashing" lights cause by the rotating blades which will affect the health of those onshore.

Given the above there should not be a decision taken in haste which will have serious repercussions not only for the thirty years of the turbines' existence, but for the maintenance in between, and their demolition at the end of their lives which again will cause serious disruption to flora, fauna and to people within viewing distance.

We enclose copy of NISA's drawings for Option 2 and Option 1.

Yours faithfully



Bernard Stack

Teresa Stack