



An
Bord
Pleanála

Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Observer's details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's
name

Brendan Lehane

(b) Observer's
postal address

Gneeves, Millstreet, Co.Cork, P51HOF2

Agent's details

2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Click or tap here to enter text.

(b) Agent's postal
address

Click or tap here to enter text.

Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1

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The agent at the postal address in Part 2

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Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Bord Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**
(for example: 300000)

See below

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm in the townlands of Cummeennabuddoge (County Kerry), Clydaghrone (County Kerry), Glashacormick (County Kerry), Cummeenavrick (County Kerry), and Caherdowney (County Cork).

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm in the townlands of Cummeennabuddoge (County Kerry), Clydaghrone (County Kerry), Glashacormick (County Kerry), Cummeenavrick (County Kerry), and Caherdowney (County Cork).

Observation details

5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word limit** as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the installation of windmills in my area. I am the nearest residence to the site from the Millstreet side of the proposed development.

While I acknowledge the importance of renewable energy sources and the need to transition to a more sustainable future, I believe that the proposed windmill project raises significant concerns that require careful consideration. Engagement from the developer "ticked the boxes" but did very little to address our clearly stated concerns.

This area has already been subject to introduction of nearby windmills and therefore we fully understand the risks and concerns. It is extremely unfair that we are now being asked to agree to a further 17 turbines nearby – now much larger, for a period of 35 years. It is an area of huge significance to my family but has an important place in Cork's rich historical, archaeological, agricultural and scenic life.

We can hear the current existing windmills from our property. These proposed new windmills are much larger and higher than the existing windmills nearby and also will be built in a valley which will exacerbate the noise severely. This is not acceptable for local residents who seem to be entirely forgotten in the developer's submissions. The windmills have the potential to disrupt the tranquillity and quality of life for residents in the

5. Grounds

vicinity. The constant hum and mechanical sounds emitted by wind turbines can be intrusive and detrimental to the well-being of individuals living in close proximity. This noise pollution will have adverse effects on sleep patterns, concentration, and overall mental and physical health.

Studies have indicated that the presence of wind turbines can negatively impact property prices. I have invested significant resources in my property – putting in a new kitchen this year alone, and the introduction of windmills will devalue this investment, leading to financial losses for my family. In 2023, prospective buyers of a house on our road (further from the site than my property) approached me to enquire about the windmills and when informed that further windmills were being proposed, they pulled out of the sale. We are the nearest house on the Millstreet side of the site but yet we still do not fall within any of the proposed annual compensation outlined by the developers. Therefore, the statements in their proposals about engagement and recognition of local's concerns seems very shallow.

As noted in their own submissions, houses WILL be impacted by shadow flicker from the site with the proposed mitigation being some software on the windmills, this is simply unacceptable.

The area proposed is a site of much historical and archaeological interest and of local historical significance. This is on top of the dramatic change of use from agricultural – bog and forestry. I am not sure if the planners have visited the site but this is an area of incredible natural scenic beauty – with nearby lakes, waterfalls, bogs. This development will have a lasting impact for generations that would be a terribly legacy.

5. Grounds

Lastly, the proposed windmill project should be assessed in the context of alternative renewable energy sources. While wind energy is undoubtedly valuable, it is essential to explore other options that may have fewer visual, noise, and environmental impacts. Investing in a diverse portfolio of renewable energy technologies, such as solar, tidal, or geothermal, could provide a more balanced and sustainable approach to meet Cork's energy needs.

Thank you for considering my objections. I trust that the authority will carefully evaluate all relevant factors before making a final decision on this matter.

Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to request the Board to hold an oral hearing, please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing

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No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

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Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

For Office Use Only

FEM – Received		SIDS – Processed	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

Notes