

File With _____

CORRESPONDENCE FORM

Appeal No: ABP 322787-29

M _____

Please treat correspondence received on 03/07/25 as follows:

<p>1. Update database with new agent for Applicant/Appellant _____</p> <p>2. Acknowledge with BP <u>40</u></p> <p>3. Keep copy of Board's Letter <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>1. RETURN TO SENDER with BP _____</p> <p>2. Keep Envelope: <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3. Keep Copy of Board's letter <input type="checkbox"/></p>
---	---

Amendments/Comments <u>observation from Ian O'Connell</u>

<p>4. Attach to file</p> <p>(a) R/S <input type="checkbox"/> (d) Screening <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) GIS Processing <input type="checkbox"/> (e) Inspectorate <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(c) Processing <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>RETURN TO EO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
---	--

	Plans Date Stamped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date Stamped Filled in <input type="checkbox"/>
EO: <u>Dance with ash</u>	AA: <u>SJD</u>
Date: <u>08/07/25</u>	Date: <u>10/07/25</u>

File With _____

Appeal NO: ABP 322787-25

Defer Re O/H

TO: SEO

Having considered the contents of the submission dated/ received 03/07/25

from

Ian O'Connell I recommend that section 131 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000

be/notbe invoked at this stage for the following reason(s): no new material information

E.O.: Done via call

Date: 06/08/25

For further consideration by SEO/SAO

Section 131 not to be invoked at this stage.

Section 131 to be invoked – allow 2/4 weeks for reply.

S.E.O.: _____

Date: _____

S.A.O.: _____

Date: _____

M _____

Please prepare BP _____ - Section 131 notice enclosing a copy of the attached submission

to: _____ Task No: _____

Allow 2/3/4weeks – BP _____

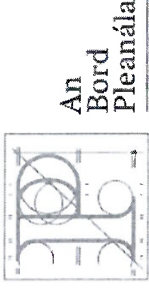
EO: _____

Date: _____

AA: _____

Date: _____

Lodgement Cover Sheet - LDG-081142-25



Details

Lodgement Date	03/07/2025
Customer	Ian O'Connell
Lodgement Channel	In Person
Lodgement by Agent	No
Agent Name	
Correspondence Primarily Sent to	
Registered Post Reference	

Lodgement ID	LDG-081142-25
Map ID	
Created By	Pádraic Keane
Physical Items included	No
Generate Acknowledgement Letter	
Customer Ref. No.	
PA Reg Ref	

Categorisation

Lodgement Type	Observation / Submission
Section	Processing

PA Name	Cork County Council
Case Type (3rd Level Category)	

Fee and Payments

Specified Body	No
Oral Hearing	No
Fee Calculation Method	System
Currency	Euro
Fee Paid	0.00
Refund Amount	

Observation/Objection Allowed?	
Payment	PMT-063667-25
Related Payment Details Record	PD-063506-25

BP40

Observation

Run at: 03/07/2025 13:51

Run by: Pádraic Keane

APP 322787-25

PA Case Number	
PA Decision Date	
County	
Development Type	
Development Address	
Appellant	
Supporting Argument	

Development Description	
Applicant	
Additional Supporting Items	

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA
LDG- 081142-25
ACP- _____
03 JUL 2025
Fee: € 50 Type: card
Time: 13:00 By: 1792d (24)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF SUBMISSION OR
OBSERVATION ON A PLANNING APPLICATION**

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT

KEEP THIS DOCUMENT SAFELY. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IF YOU WISH TO APPEAL THE DECISION OF THE PLANNING AUTHORITY. IT IS THE ONLY FORM OF EVIDENCE WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTED BY AN BORD PLEANÁLA THAT A SUBMISSION OR OBSERVATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY ON THE PLANNING APPLICATION.

PLANNING AUTHORITY NAME

Cork County Council

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE NO. 24/05503

A submission/observation, in writing, has been received from:

Ian O'Connell
Spital
Buttevant
Co. Cork

ON 11/09/2024 in relation to the above planning application.

The appropriate fee of €20 has been paid.

The submission/observation is in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 and will be taken into account by the Planning Authority in its determination of the planning application.

Lauren O'Leary

Lauren O'Leary
Clerical Officer

Local Authority Stamp

Date: 11/09/2024

(Templeary E.D.); and Tullacondra and Croughta, (Kilmaclenine E.D.), County
Cork.

The proposed grid connection will be installed underground mainly within the public road from the wind farm site at Croughta, Ballyclogh to the boundary of the 110 Kilovolts substation at Saint Joseph's Road, Mallow passing through the townlands of Kilmaclenine, Croughta, Knockaunavaddreen, Copestown, (Kilmaclenine E.D.), Ballybeg (Buttevant E.D.), Baltydaniel East, Twopothouse, and Cauraghakerry (Caherduggan E.D); and Cloghlucas North, Curraghphadeen, Ballyvinitier Upper, Ballyvinitier Middle, Ballyvinitier Lower, Parkadallane, Carrigoon More and Carrigoon Beg Mallow Rural E.D.).

AT: Polnareagha, Ardskeagh, Tullacondra, Croughta Kilmaclenine, Ballyclogh, Knockaunavaddreen, Copestown, Ballybeg, Baltydaniel East, Twopothouse, Cauraghakerry, Co. Cork

FOR: Permission

PLANNING REGISTRATION NO: 24/05503

A Chara,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your submission/observation on 11/09/2024 concerning this application. I enclose herewith receipt no. PLG45740 in respect of correct fee paid. I wish to confirm that your submission/observation has been received within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of registration of the application and is therefore considered a valid submission/observation.

Copies of site map/plans and particulars submitted in connection with the application will be available for inspection at this department during office hours (9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday) until the application, or any appeal thereon, is finally determined. The applicant shall be given your name and content of the submission/observation should it be requested.

Your letter will form part of the documentation available for inspection by the public. You will be notified when a decision is made on the application.

This letter should be retained. If you wish to appeal such decision a copy of this acknowledgement together with the attached official document must accompany your appeal to An Bord Pleanála.

Yours faithfully,



Lauren O'Leary
Clerical Officer

Ian O'Connell
Spital
Buttevant
Co. Cork

11/09/2024

APPLICANT: Tullacondra Green Energy Limited

DEVELOPMENT: The Applicant is seeking permission for the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind energy development including:

- 9 wind turbines each with a blade tip height of 175 metres, rotor diameter of 150 metres, hub height of 100 metres and a rated output of 4.5 megawatts.
- Turbine Foundations, crane pad hardstanding areas and associated drainage.
- Upgrade of existing site tracks and construction of new site tracks and associated drainage.
- Access from the local road L5302 at Crougt, Ballyclogh including a new site entrance for the construction phase and upgrading of an existing entrance for the operational phase.
- An on-site 38 kilovolt electrical substation to Electricity Supply Board Networks specification to include control building with electrical infrastructure, welfare facilities supplied by rainwater harvesting and storage tank, a wastewater holding tank with high level alarm, car parking, security fencing and lighting, and all associated infrastructure, services, and site works including a temporary construction compound.
- All associated underground electrical and communications cabling connecting the turbines to the proposed electrical substation.
- A temporary site construction compound and associated ancillary infrastructure including welfare services, office accommodation, parking, fencing, lighting etc.
- Areas for temporary storage of excavated materials.
- A permanent meteorological mast of 100 metres height above ground level on a concrete base.
- Installation of approximately 13.5 kilometres of 38 kilovolts underground electrical cabling, mainly within the public road, between the proposed wind farm substation to the boundary of Mallow 110 kilovolt substation at Saint Joseph's Road Mallow.
- All associated site works including site clearance and ancillary development including site drainage/Sustainable Drainage System, security gates, fencing, permanent and temporary signage, and biodiversity mitigation and enhancements, including hedgerow planting.

The Applicant is seeking a 10-year duration planning permission and 35-year operational period from the date of overall commissioning of the entire wind farm. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) will be submitted to the Planning Authority with the application. The wind farm development is proposed on a site in the townlands of Polnareagha and Ardskeagh

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF SUBMISSION OR
OBSERVATION ON A PLANNING APPLICATION**

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT

KEEP THIS DOCUMENT SAFELY. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IF YOU WISH TO APPEAL THE DECISION OF THE PLANNING AUTHORITY. IT IS THE ONLY FORM OF EVIDENCE WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTED BY AN BORD PLEANÁLA THAT A SUBMISSION OR OBSERVATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY ON THE PLANNING APPLICATION.

PLANNING AUTHORITY NAME

Cork County Council

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE NO. 24/05503

A submission/observation, in writing, has been received from:

Denis & Trish O'Connell
Lagg
Buttevant
Co. Cork
P51 E9XH

ON 11/09/2024 in relation to the above planning application.

The appropriate fee of €20 has been paid.

The submission/observation is in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 and will be taken into account by the Planning Authority in its determination of the planning application.

Lauren O'Leary

Lauren OLeary
Clerical Officer

Local Authority Stamp

Date: 11/09/2024

Denis & Trish O'Connell
Lagg
Buttevant
Co. Cork
P51 E9XH

11/09/2024

APPLICANT: Tullacondra Green Energy Limited

DEVELOPMENT: The Applicant is seeking permission for the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind energy development including:

- 9 wind turbines each with a blade tip height of 175 metres, rotor diameter of 150 metres, hub height of 100 metres and a rated output of 4.5 megawatts.
- Turbine Foundations, crane pad hardstanding areas and associated drainage.
- Upgrade of existing site tracks and construction of new site tracks and associated drainage.
- Access from the local road L5302 at Crought, Ballyclogh including a new site entrance for the construction phase and upgrading of an existing entrance for the operational phase.
- An on-site 38 kilovolt electrical substation to Electricity Supply Board Networks specification to include control building with electrical infrastructure, welfare facilities supplied by rainwater harvesting and storage tank, a wastewater holding tank with high level alarm, car parking, security fencing and lighting, and all associated infrastructure, services, and site works including a temporary construction compound.
- All associated underground electrical and communications cabling connecting the turbines to the proposed electrical substation.
- A temporary site construction compound and associated ancillary infrastructure including welfare services, office accommodation, parking, fencing, lighting etc.
- Areas for temporary storage of excavated materials.
- A permanent meteorological mast of 100 metres height above ground level on a concrete base.
- Installation of approximately 13.5 kilometres of 38 kilovolts underground electrical cabling, mainly within the public road, between the proposed wind farm substation to the boundary of Mallow 110 kilovolt substation at Saint Joseph's Road Mallow.
- All associated site works including site clearance and ancillary development including site drainage/Sustainable Drainage System, security gates, fencing, permanent and temporary signage, and biodiversity mitigation and enhancements, including hedgerow planting.

The Applicant is seeking a 10-year duration planning permission and 35-year operational period from the date of overall commissioning of the entire wind farm. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) will be submitted to the Planning Authority with the application. The wind farm development is proposed on a site in the townlands of Polnareagha and Ardskeagh

(Templeary E.D.); and Tullacondra and Crougta, (Kilmaclenine E.D.), County
Cork.

The proposed grid connection will be installed underground mainly within the public road from the wind farm site at Crougta, Ballyclogh to the boundary of the 110 Kilovolts substation at Saint Joseph's Road, Mallow passing through the townlands of Kilmaclenine, Crougta, Knockaunavaddreen, Copestown, (Kilmaclenine E.D.), Ballybeg (Buttevant E.D.), Baltydaniel East, Twopothouse, and Cauraghakerry (Caherduggan E.D); and Cloghlucas North, Curraghphadeen, Ballyvinitter Upper, Ballyvinitter Middle, Ballyvinitter Lower, Parkadallane, Carrigoon More and Carrigoon Beg Mallow Rural E.D.).

AT: Polnareagha, Ardskeagh, Tullacondra, Crougta Kilmaclenine, Ballyclogh, Knockaunavaddreen, Copestown, Ballybeg, Baltydaniel East, Twopothouse, Cauraghakerry, Co. Cork

FOR: Permission

PLANNING REGISTRATION NO: 24/05503

A Chara,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your submission/observation on 11/09/2024 concerning this application. I enclose herewith receipt no. PLG45742 in respect of correct fee paid. I wish to confirm that your submission/observation has been received within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of registration of the application and is therefore considered a valid submission/observation.

Copies of site map/plans and particulars submitted in connection with the application will be available for inspection at this department during office hours (9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday) until the application, or any appeal thereon, is finally determined. The applicant shall be given your name and content of the submission/observation should it be requested.

Your letter will form part of the documentation available for inspection by the public. You will be notified when a decision is made on the application.

This letter should be retained. If you wish to appeal such decision a copy of this acknowledgement together with the attached official document must accompany your appeal to An Bord Pleanála.

Yours faithfully,



Lauren OLeary
Clerical Officer

Mr. Ian & Denis O'Connell
Spital,
Buttevant,
Co. Cork
30th June 2025

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

An Bord Pleanála Case ref PL04.322787 Cork County Council planning ref 245503

A Chairde

We have concerns in relation to the decision of Cork County Council on the outlined below.
Also attached is receipt from Cork County Council re submissions 11th September 2024

Cork County Council RFI Item 1

“The proposed grid connection route traverses the study area for the proposed N72/N73 relief road. You are advised to engage in consultation with the Cork National Roads Office in relation to the grid connection route in the context of the proposed N72/N73”.

It has been agreed that between the parties the grid connection will be installed in the existing National Roads office NRO

In Ireland verbal agreement or meeting summaries are not considered a sufficient legal basis for planning consent where future public infrastructure such a relief road may be affected.

Cork County Council RFI 2

Only 2 Bore holes for nine Turbines

Only T1 and T5 had intrusive investigations with no boreholes for T2, T3, T4, T6, T7, T8, T9. And a substation even though some are also underlain by limestone. Karst risk is not necessarily localized. Without intrusive investigations sampling means that the karst risk to over half the site remains unquantified. This contradicts the EPA 2022 EIAR guidelines. The late borehole testing which was only done after RFI issued weakens the original EIAR validity.

Location of Turbines Survey Civil Engineer Mr. John Maher and Land Surveyor Mr. Marcin Lecznar

Regarding the location of Turbines, folio no, CK 2888 Turbine 2, folio CK64369F Turbine 3 and folio no. CK 287 Turbine 4. Please refer to the land surveyor's co-ordinates. Turbines 2, 3, and 4 are not located as previously marked by Tullacondra Green Energy on their property. Please see attached images of same.

Slogaires or swallow holes

Several slogaires are located on the site for Turbines 2, 3, and 4. Please refer to the attached survey by Civil Engineer Mr. John Maher and Land Surveyor Mr. Marcin Lecznor, conducted within the site development lands. As you can see the link between the swallow hole clearly formulating a line of underground water flow in the direction of turbine 2. The pink clusters demote a deeper swallow hole around the outer depressions. Photos attached.

Prime Agricultural Land.

This land is crucial for future food security. This Development poses significant risks to food production, including disease and reduced milk output. No survey of private wells x 3 was conducted. Applicant reports indicate a high risk of groundwater contamination. We rely on good quality water from these wells for our health and our animals' wellbeing. The planned piling is concerning, as it may reduce or eliminate our water supply.

Conclusion

The response from the applicant, Tullacondra Green Energy, to Cork County Council RFI 24 Items is inadequate on several points and fails to correctly address the issues. The applicant's EIAR reports are insufficient and unreliable. This development is not suitable for prime agricultural land. I ask you to please refuse the permission for this development.

Yours sincerely,



Ian O'Connell



Denis O'Connell

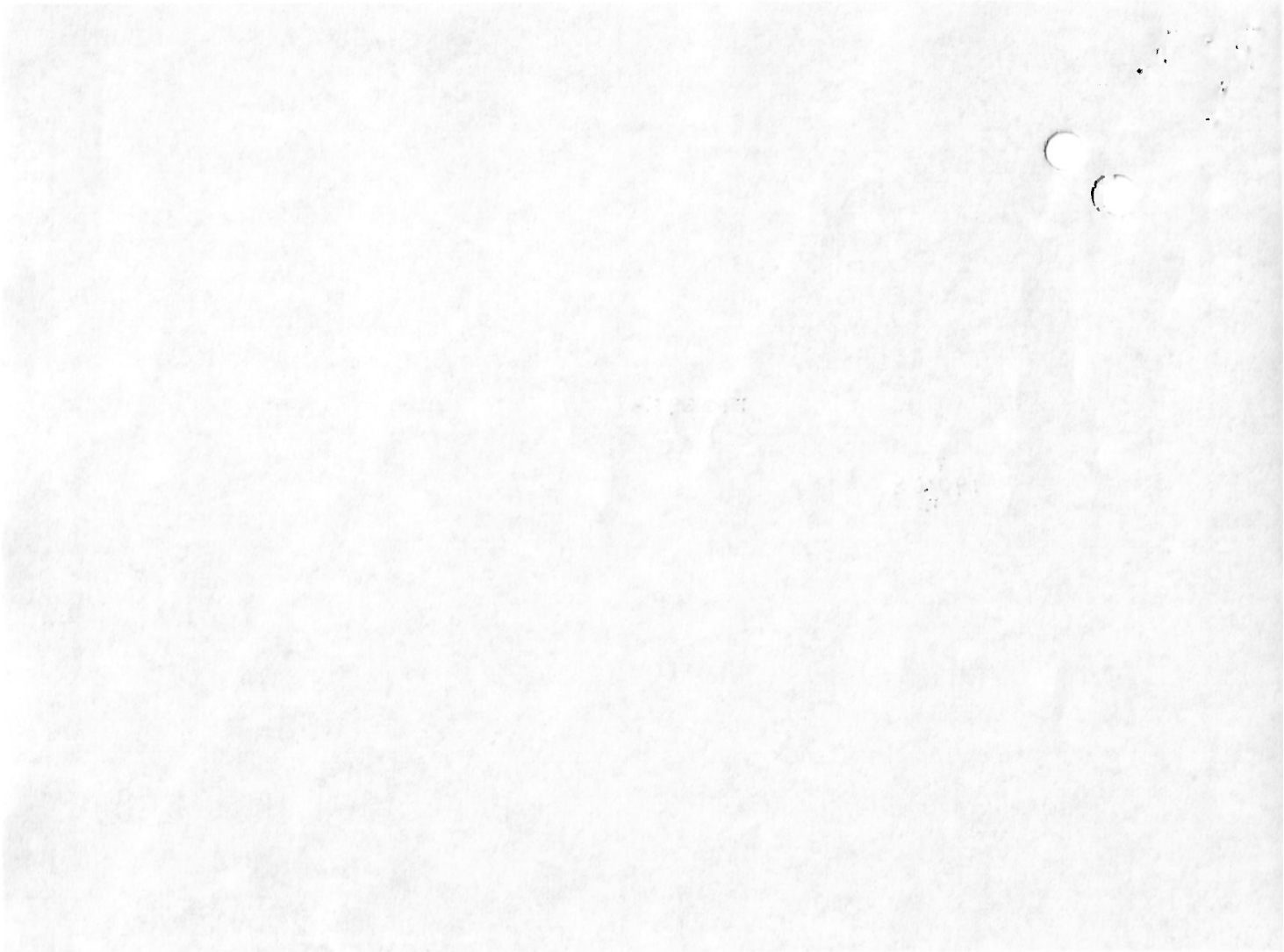


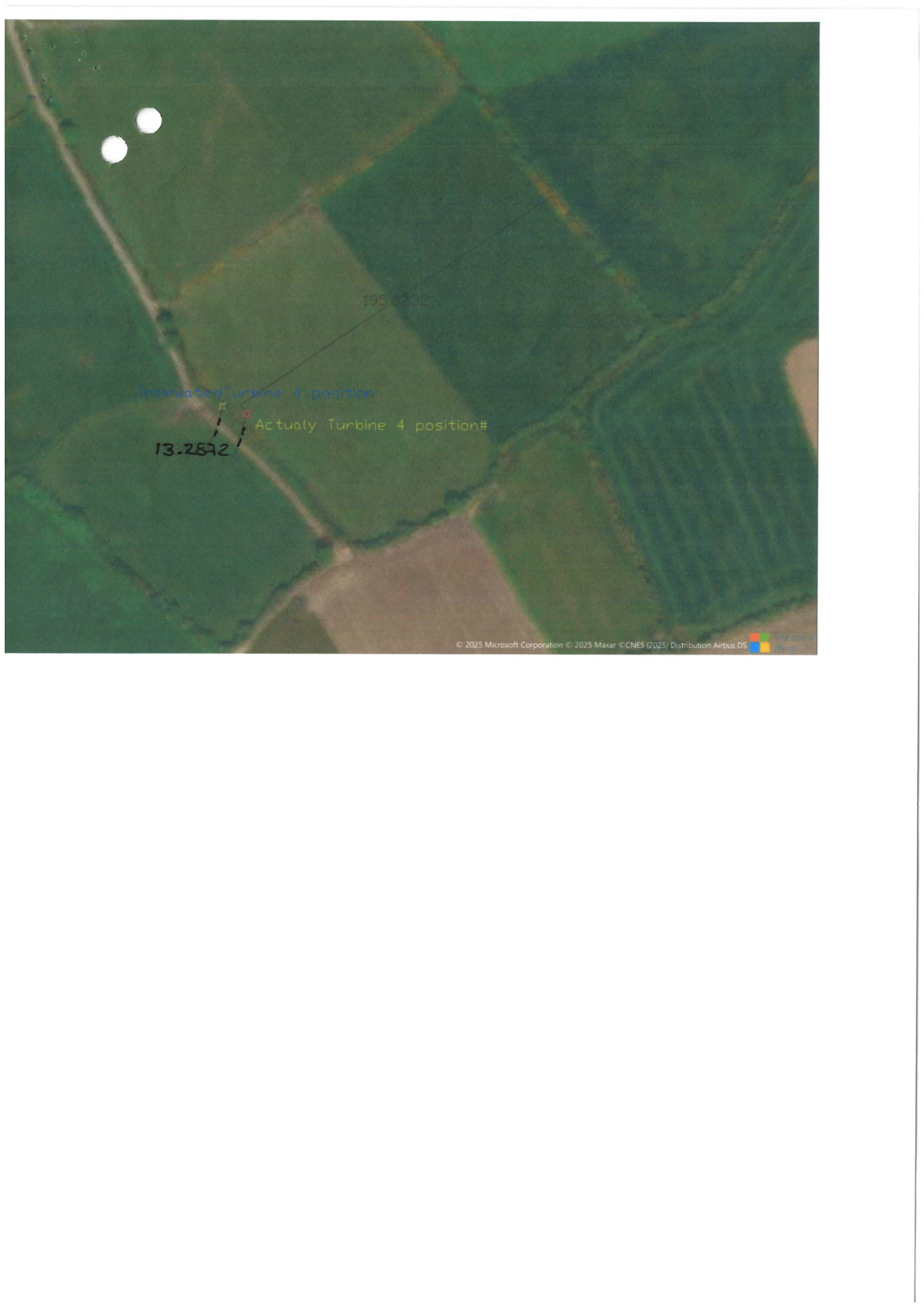
1706963

Insinuated urbine 3 position

190168

Actual Turbine 3 position



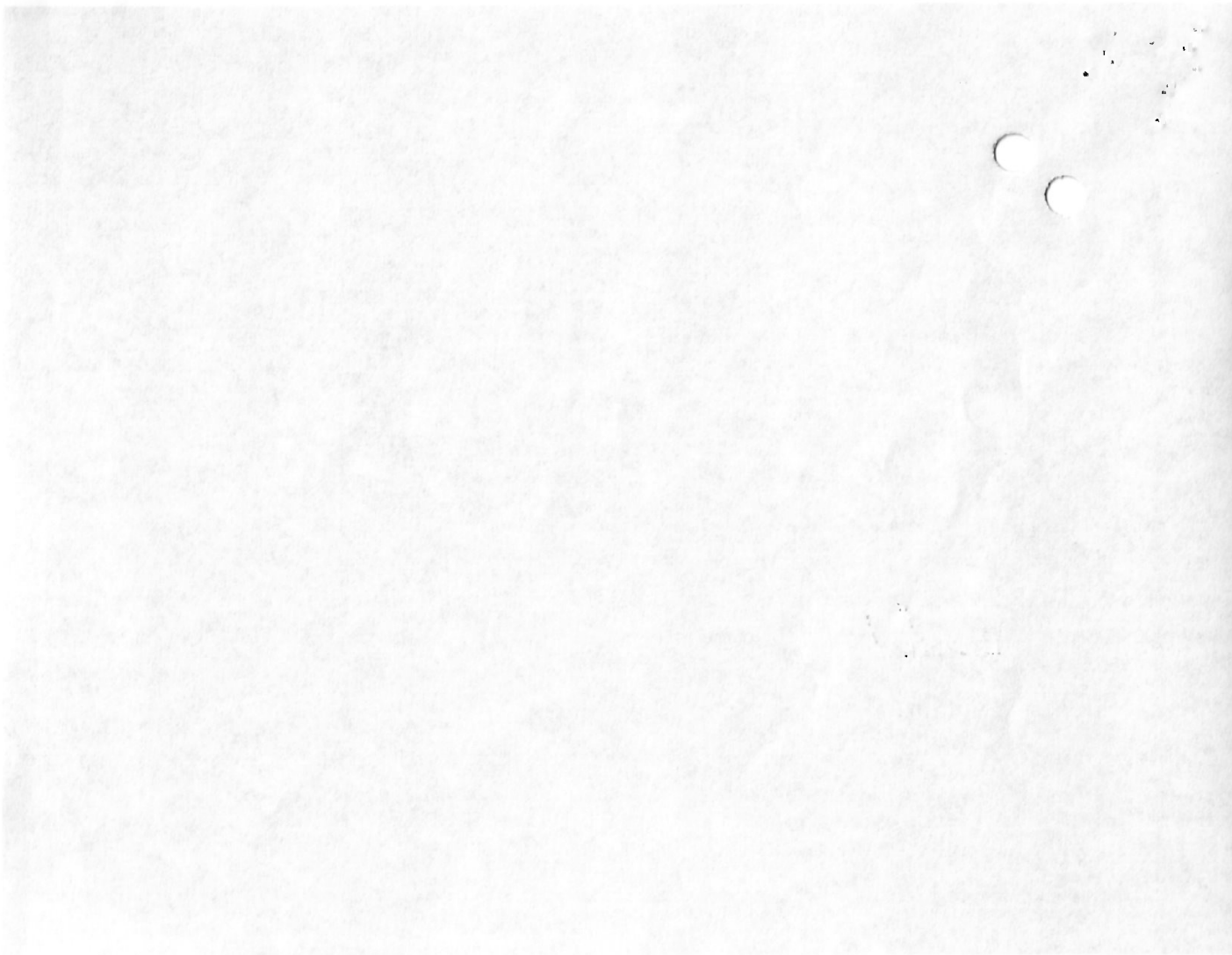


Insinuated Turbine 4 position

13.282

195.023

Actualy Turbine 4 position#





19.3799 Proposed turbine 2 position

Actual Turbine 2 position

Swallow Holes: History and Significance

Introduction

Swallow holes, also known as sinkholes, swallets, or ponors, are natural depressions or holes in the ground where surface water disappears underground. These features are primarily associated with karst landscapes, which form in regions of soluble rock such as limestone, gypsum, and dolomite. Swallow holes play a crucial role in the hydrological and geological processes of these environments.

Geological Background

Swallow holes are created by the chemical weathering and physical erosion of soluble rocks. Over time, slightly acidic rainwater reacts with calcium carbonate in limestone, dissolving the rock and enlarging fractures and bedding planes. This process can form underground channels and caves. When the roof of a cave collapses or surface water finds a way into an underground system, a swallow hole is formed.

Types of swallow holes include:

Solutional swallow holes – formed by dissolution of rock along joints and bedding planes.

Collapse swallow holes – created by the collapse of a cave roof.

Dropout swallow holes – result from loose material falling into underground voids.

Historical Understanding

Swallow holes have been observed and studied since antiquity:

Ancient civilizations such as the Greeks and Romans noticed disappearing streams and attributed them to the work of gods or spirits.

During the Renaissance, scholars began to understand these phenomena more scientifically, linking them to underground water movement.

By the 19th and 20th centuries, the rise of modern geology and hydrology brought more precise studies of karst landscapes, with swallow holes recognized as integral parts of subterranean drainage systems.

Hydrological Significance

Swallow holes serve several important hydrological functions:

Groundwater Recharge: They allow surface water to infiltrate quickly into underground aquifers.

River Disappearance and Reappearance: In karst regions, entire rivers may vanish into swallow holes and emerge miles away as springs.

Flood Mitigation: In natural settings, swallow holes can help reduce flooding by draining excess water.

However, their rapid drainage capabilities can also lead to:

Groundwater contamination: Pollutants can bypass natural filtration systems and enter aquifers directly.

Unstable land: Collapse-prone areas may cause damage to infrastructure and pose risks to human safety.

Ecological and Environmental Importance

Swallow holes are often gateways to unique subterranean ecosystems:

Species found in these environments include troglobites (adapted to darkness) and rare aquatic organisms.

They help maintain aquatic biodiversity by supporting habitats in karst aquifers.

Environmental concerns include:

Pollution from agricultural runoff or sewage can threaten these delicate systems.

Improper land use can accelerate erosion and sinkhole formation.

Cultural and Economic Impact

Cultural Significance

In folklore, swallow holes were often associated with supernatural beliefs—seen as portals to the underworld or homes of spirits.

Many myths and legends have developed around mysterious disappearing waters.

Economic Impact

Tourism: Karst landscapes with dramatic features like swallow holes and caves attract tourists.

Water Resources: In many parts of the world, karst aquifers provide essential drinking water.

Engineering Challenges: Construction on karst terrain can be hazardous, requiring special techniques to avoid sinkhole damage.

Modern Research and Management

Today, scientists use remote sensing, geophysical surveys, and dye tracing to study the formation and flow patterns related to swallow holes.

Proper management includes:

- Protecting recharge zones from contamination.
- Monitoring land use and structural stability in karst regions.
- Public education about risks and conservation needs.

Conclusion

Swallow holes are more than just geological curiosities—they are vital components of the Earth's hydrological system and windows into complex underground worlds. Understanding their formation, functions, and vulnerabilities is essential for managing water resources, preserving biodiversity, and ensuring safe land development.

See attached survey including swallow holes surveyed on the lands where proposed turbines are to be installed. It is my opinion that insufficient site investigations have been undertaken in this area.

Survey of slogaires Swallow holes





