



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

Richard O'Donoghue TD

(b) Observer's postal address

Kilatal, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick

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

Not applicable

(b) Agent's postal address

Not applicable

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)

323635

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

Garrane Green Energy

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

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

Garrane, Co. Limerick

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).

As a Teachta Dála representing county Limerick, I wish to make this submission on behalf of local residents and community groups who are strongly opposing the proposed Garrane Green Energy Wind Farm ACP ref 323635, close to Bruree.

This project is one of three large-scale wind energy developments currently proposed within the constituency, with several more at pre-application stage. It raises serious concerns about the cumulative impact of industrial-scale turbines located near homes, key healthcare facility Cuan Mhuire and key community facilities in nearby Bruree.

I have repeatedly raised in the Dáil the urgent need for the Government to revise and modernise Ireland's outdated Wind Energy Development Guidelines, first issued in 2006. These guidelines no longer reflect the current body of international research or medical understanding regarding the potential health impacts associated with turbine noise, including low-frequency and amplitude-modulated components.

Both international and national health authorities — including the World Health Organisation & the HSE — recognise that chronic exposure to environmental noise can adversely affect sleep, cognitive performance, and

5. Grounds

general wellbeing. It is therefore essential that new wind energy proposals are assessed in full accordance with up-to-date scientific evidence, and that the precautionary principle is applied in circumstances where residential and community impacts are likely.

Recent High Court decisions have underlined the importance of robust assessment and community protection and have exposed the risks of continuing to adjudicate major wind energy proposals under outdated or inadequate guidance.

I have met with the local community group and many concerned residents who have articulated well-founded fears for the wellbeing of their community, the protection of local wildlife and habitats, and the preservation of vital social and recreational amenities. Their concerns are genuine, evidence-based, and deserving of full consideration in the planning process.

I would therefore urge An Coimisiun Pleanála to give due weight to these legitimate and well-informed objections in its assessment of the application, and to ensure that public health, community wellbeing, and environmental protection remain central to any decision made.

5. Grounds



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

☐

No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

☐

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