Sinead White

From:

Communications

Sent:

Friday 31 October 2025 14:35

To:

Marine

Subject:

FW: An Coimisiún Pleanála Case reference: PAX91,323635-Submission

Attachments:

Fáilte Ireland Submission-PAX91.323635.pdf

From: Yvonne Jackson < Yvonne Jackson@failteireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 12:49 PM

To: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>

Subject: An Coimisiún Pleanála Case reference: PAX91.323635-Submission

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Dear Secretary,

Fáilte Ireland would like to take the opportunity to make a submission to Case Reference: **PAX91.323635** in relation to **Submission in relation to Section 37E application for permission for Garrane Green Energy Project.** For a period of 10 years, for development comprising the construction and operation of a wind farm and related works in the townlands of Ballynagoul, Creggane and Garrane, County Limerick.

The attached submission has been prepared by Fáilte Ireland, the National Tourism Development Authority.

I would be grateful if you could send a reply email acknowledging receipt of submission.

Regards,

Yvonne

Yvonne Jackson

Product Development-Environment & Planning Support | Fáilte Ireland

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An Coimisiún Pleanàla, 64, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1. D01 V902

By email: bord@pleanala.ie

31st October 2025

ACP. Ref.:

PAX91.323635

Applicant:

Garrane Green Energy Limited

Re:

Submission in relation to Section 37E application for permission for Garrane Green

Energy Project:

For a period of 10 years, for development comprising the construction and operation of a wind farm and related works in the townlands of Ballynagoul, Creggane and

Garrane, County Limerick.

An EIAR and NIS has been submitted with the application.

Dear Secretary,

This submission has been prepared by Fáilte Ireland, the National Tourism Development Authority, in response to an application for the erection of 9 no. Wind Turbines and associated wind farm infrastructure development in the vicinity Garrane, south County Limerick. The wind turbines will have a rotor diameter of 170m and a hub height. We note that the site also adjoins the boundary with north County Cork.

1.0 Introduction

As a prescribed body in the planning process, one of the main objectives of Fáilte Ireland is to advocate for the protection of key tourism assets and amenities. The Irish landscape is one of the primary assets for tourism in the country and has been the cornerstone of international tourism marketing campaigns for decades. International visitors to Ireland consistently rate scenery as an important reason for their trip. Therefore, as the Irish landscape is one of the primary reasons for visiting the country, it is essential that the quality, character and distinctiveness of this valuable resource is protected.



Equally Fáilte Ireland recognises the importance of developing the State's renewable energy sector. In this regard, Fáilte Ireland has been supportive of and contributes to the preparation and adoption of the Wind & Renewable Energy Strategies for counties across the Country. These Strategies have provided invaluable guidance to Applicants, Shareholders and Planning Authorities alike in identifying potential sites and in assessing the potential for development of appropriately located renewable energy infrastructure. Within the hierarchy of plans, these Strategies have ensured that the development of renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind farms, is plan-led and can be located to avoid, or minimise disproportionate negative impacts on other land uses, including tourism-related uses and the receiving environment.

2.0 Submission in relation to consideration of Tourism in the EIAR submitted with the Application

An EIAR has been submitted with the proposed development. Tourism and impact on tourism is addressed in Chapter 5 Population and Human Health of the EIAR.

The baseline description notes, under local context:

- Lough Gur, 15km
- Adare Manor, 18km
- Kilmallock Cycle Hub, Route 3 3km, Route 1 4.3km
- Ballyhoura Waymarked Trail 9km
- Kilmallock hosts several historic landmarks within 6km to the east including: 13th century
 Dominican Abbey, SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Castlecourt and a museum.
- Charleville Golf Course (c. 6km south-west of site)
- Bruree Mill (2.6km north-east)
- Effin GAA Club (c. 5.7km south-east)
- Kilmallock GAA Club (c. 6km)

Baseline description under tourism also expands to a wider Limerick County context.

Visitor attitudes to wind farms are discussed at Section 5.3.5.3. Public perception of wind farms is discussed at Section 5.3.6.

While the Ballyhoura Waymarked Trail is described as been 9km from the wind farm we would note that the site for the proposed wind farm is actually located within the promoted Ballyhoura Region, which takes its name from the Ballyhoura Mountains on the boundary of southeast Limerick and northeast Cork. This is a landscape of undulating pastures, woodlands, hills and mountains easily accessible from the N20, which adjoins the wind farm site, as well from the M7, N24, N73 and M8. The region offers ancient and unspoilt landscapes, significant heritage sites, and a wide range of outdoor activities including mountain bike trails, walks and drives, all in a rural setting. Further detail, including link to map of region (attached to this letter also), can be found at https://visitballyhoura.com/pages/about-us



We also note the presence of existing wind farms in the wider area, as well as the many planned and being proposed for the south Limerick, north Cork region including Ballinlee Wind Farm and therefore, we would ask that An Coimisiún Pleanála gives consideration to the potential adverse direct impact of the proposed development both on its own and cumulatively with other similar development, on the landscape of the Ballyhoura Region.

Yours sincerely,

China Ori -

Shane Dineen, Manager of Environment and Planning, Failte Ireland



Turasóireacht Náisúnta An túdara Eorbartha National Tourism Development Authority



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