Joe Foley, Creggane, Charleville, Co. Cork

29/10/2025

P56HE09

### To:

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanala,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
V01 V902.

Re: Formal objection to Planning Application Ref. 323635 – Proposed Wind Farm by Garrane Green Energy Limited at the townlands of Garrane, Ballynagoul & Creggane, Co Limerick.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to formally object to the proposed development (323635) of nine wind turbines and associated works which is to be located at the townlands of Garrane, Ballynagoul and Creggane Co Limerick. The development is being proposed by: - Garrane Green Energy Ltd.

The reason for my objection is the huge impact the construction traffic will have on existing vehicular traffic, Charleville town traffic congestion and public safety on the N20 Limerick /Cork road and on Charleville Main Street in particular. Charleville Main Street is widely recognised as one of the most dangerous in the country, with ten fatalities in the past number of years. As stated in the planning application, construction traffic is to travel southbound on the N20 from Limerick - Foynes into Charleville town centre. Then turn left off the main street onto R515, Kilmallock Road and then turn left again on L1537 Ballynagoul / Bruree road. This huge volume of extra traffic will add significantly to the already very serious traffic jams that occur on a daily basis in Charleville town and adjacent area. The notorious main street will become even more dangerous for pedestrians including the school going children of the five schools located within the town and indeed all road users.

Similar to Charleville town, the N20 Limerick to Cork road is an extremely busy road, it is the link for all road traffic for two major cities. The section of the road between Charleville and Croom is extremely narrow, with dangerous bends and has no hard shoulder. The location of the entry site for the development is within this section of the road. My concern would be if several delivery vehicles were to arrive at the site entrance at the same time it will cause even more congestion on a road that's already at breaking point, with accidents happening regularly. One of the worst accident black spots on this road is located within 400 metres of the site entrance. In an article I am attaching which addresses the traffic volumes it reads "the call locally is for a ring road around the town to take the HGV's off the street to alleviate the 15,000 vehicles that use the main street daily". This means if this volume is coming through the main street of Charleville they will also be travelling the N20 and will have to pass the site entrance every day.

I am attaching other newspaper articles which highlight the concerns of both local people and public representatives re Charleville town centre and N20 road traffic and public safety issues. I hope An Coimisiun Pleanala will give the above concerns very serious consideration and for the safety of the large number of road users and pedestrians, will not grant permission for development 323635.

Regards,

Joe Foley





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ipport is vital to deliver the strong message: must retain a workable Nitrates Derogation.

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# Charleville remembers crash victims in emotional ceremony

Ten white balloons were released to remember 10 pedestrians who died on the town's main street, with attendees carrying banners saying 'Charleville says enough is enough'



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Charleville Community Forum said urgent action is needed on road safety. Picture: Larry Cummins

THU, 16 MAY, 2024 - 20:15

**SEAN MURRAY** 



A solidarity event to remember road traffic victims on the N20 Cork to Limerick road took place in Charleville this evening.

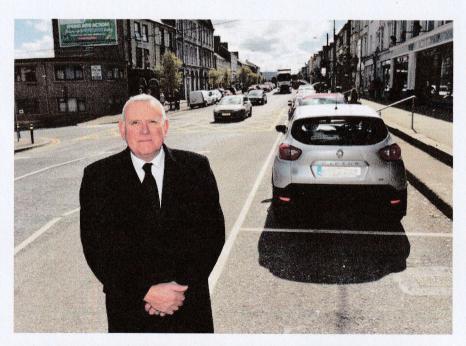
Ten white balloons were released to remember 10 pedestrians who died on the main street in the town, with attendees carrying banners saying "Charleville says enough is enough" and "We deserve a safer main street".

The event was organised by the Charleville Community Forum, which said urgent action is needed on road safety in the town and the wider area. "All the towns and villages are impacted by the huge volumes of traffic and the horrific incidents that have now become part of our everyday lives," the forum said.

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Enough is Enough. How much more do our communities and emergency personnel have to endure, before the much-needed road infrastructure is put in place? Decades of promises of motorways and bypasses that never happened.

For years, locals have said the long-awaited bypass "can't come soon enough". Speaking to the *Irish Examiner* in 2022, undertaker Austin O'Malley said he had overseen the funerals of six people killed by trucks in the town centre and witnesses near misses in Charleville nearly every day.



Undertaker Austin O'Malley said he had overseen the funerals of six people killed by trucks in the town centre and witnesses near misses in Charleville nearly every day. Picture: Eddie O'Hare



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"The safety of elderly pedestrians is paramount and taking big trucks out of the town will improve safety."

The upgrade of the N20 Cork-Limerick road is expected to begin by 2027, and be completed by 2031. It is expected to cost in excess of €1bn.

It comes on what has been another devastating year so far on Irish roads, with another road death in Mayo on Thursday bringing the total number of deaths in 2024 to 73. This is 18% more than the same period in 2023.

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## Charleville Community Forum to host further public meeting on town centre traffic



Charleville Community Forum chair Evelyn O'Keeffe.

### **3y Michael McGrath**

Corkman Ved 17 Jan 2024 at 00:00

**Privacy** 

The past year was a horrendous one for the people both living in and frequenting Charleville town in that two elderly people lost their lives in incidents involving heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) on the Main Street, bringing to ten the number of people who have perished in similar circumstances in the last decade.

Little has changed since the most recent deaths to remedy the situation by Cork County Council, save for electronic signs at the southern and northern entrances to the town, urging motorists to look out for pedestrians.

Smaller signs telling people to use the controlled pedestrian crossings to cross the street have also been erected, but to no great affect as they are too high up on poles to be seen. So, people continue to persist in crossing the street heedlessly, still risking their lives.

It is also hugely distressing for the drivers of these HGVs, and grossly unfair to them, as they already have on enormous responsibility ensuring that they safely negotiate the street without causing harm or damage to people or property.

The call locally is for a ring road around the town to take the HGVs off the street to alleviate the 15,000 vehicles using the Main Street daily.

Despite this being raised in Dail Eireann by Michael Moynihan TD, and at Cork County Council level by Cllrs Ian Doyle and John Paul O'Shea, and being approved by the T.I.I., and being further recommended by The Coroner for Co. Cork, who conducted the inquests in to the latest deaths, nothing has happened, at Least outwardly. This calls into question the effectiveness of the town's representation at both national Local levels.

Charleville Community Forum organised a public meeting last June, but neither has this borne any fruit in providing an effective solution to the traffic problem. They have now organised a further public meeting for the Charleville Park Hotel for Monday evening, 29th January.

They will be inviting all local and national public representatives, and the members of the Cork County Couuncil roads authority to be present to outline their response to providing Charleville with a ring road that is so badly needed.

Commenting on the proposed meeting, community council chair Evelyn O'Keeffe said: "Charleville Community Forum wants better engagement between Cork County Council, the local community, and ou elected representatives. Too many announcements have been made over the years, and nothing delivered on terms of HGV traffic reduction on Charleville's Main Street.

The latest announcement from Cork County Council is just another feasibility study (see report on page 0) and we know how long that takes," she said.

Putting table tops on the pedestrian crossings will have little effect on pedestrian deaths, and won't take one HGV off of the Main Street.

The meeting will give us a chance to pin down what is or what is not happening," Evelyn added.

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