

To: The Secretary,
An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1, DO1 V902.

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	084663-25
ACP-	
20 NOV 2025	
Fee: €	50 type: PMS
Time:	9:15 By: RST009

**Submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála
In relation to a proposed Windfarm (Strategic Infrastructure Development)
ABP – 317616-23
ACP case reference number – 323783-25**

Date 18th November 2025

**Planning Permission to develop a Windfarm located within the townlands
of Glenconauun More, Craghera and Cloonkett, Co. Clare.**

Dear Inspector,

I, Noreen Holland, of the townland of Cloonsnacht, Cranny, Kilrush Co Clare V15K765 wish to formally object to the proposed Cloonkett Wind Farm Development at Cloonkett and Burrenfadda, County Clare and I am appealing to you not to grant planning permission to this wind farm proposal for the following reasons,

1) Personal Concerns

The proximity of the proposed wind farm from my house is just 800metres or less and my Neighbors houses are even closer at 600metres from what I can make out, as the maps are very poor and it's hard to know exactly the distance or weather one's house is on the map at all! even at the 600 or 800 meters it is just way to close from the perspective of noise, vibration, visual effect and flicker, these wind turbines should be at least 2km away from any house or community as they are so big in size and can be seen from 30 miles away, I am so shocked that somebody could imagine a 14 Wind Turbine Farm of this magnitude in this location as it is such a biodiverse, scenic & historical place and so close to residential properties and it looks like some of the houses are not included on their maps.

2) Health Issues

I am very concerned about my mental health if it goes ahead as I moved to the Co Clare from Dublin 19 years ago to get away from the noise and pollution.

When I arrived here, I knew it was such a special place of peace and tranquility and of such beauty, there was no light pollution, however that has changed so much over the last 8 years with the amount of wind farms

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in west Clare and from my Kitchen window I can now see between 30 to 40 wind turbines and their red lights flashing at night.

I paid a visit to the Crossmore Wind Farm. This wind farm comprises of 7 turbines with a tip height of 125 meters. The aerodynamic noise was very audible on the day I travelled and made a very noisy whooshing sound. This noise can lead to numerous health issues affecting both the physical and mental aspects of life. Research has shown that individuals living near wind turbines experience a range of problems, including decreased quality of life, stress, sleep disturbance, headaches, anxiety, depression, and cognitive issues. (Jeffery, et al., 2013) (Webster & Anor V Meenacloghspar (Wind) Limited)

3) Natural Habitat

I am very concerned about the natural habitat for our wildlife and red listed birds here such as the Hen Haier, Marsh Harrier, Snowy Barn Owl, Curlew, White Tale Eagle & Other birds such as the Cuckoo, Pheasants, Swans, Geese who all breed here and for other migratory birds that arrive here. Other wildlife such as Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Hare, Fox, Red Squirrel.

Please find enclosed Photographs I have taken in the area and around my house.

In their ecology report, they have named 9 red listed birds, 23 ambers listed (hen harrier is an amber listed) 8 of those species are also listed as annex 1 requiring EU member states to take special conservation measure in relation to their habitats. The white eagle was also spotted 4 times. They also fail to mention any connection between the lake and the bog habitats even though both Gortlass lake (001015) and Cloonsnaghta lake (001004) are proposed national heritage areas.

4) Cloonkett Green Energy Company

Cloonkett Green Energy Company wrote to me and my neighbors who are within the 1km of the wind farm proposal 2 years ago and said to us that they would hold a meeting in the local community hall in Kildysart to engage with us about the proposal, at first we all thought that this meeting would happen and then we didn't hear anything till we all received a letter in late September 2025 to say that the planning had been submitted to an Coimisiun Pleanala, I was so shocked to receive this letter and for the Company not engage with us on this, I believe that there was a meeting held in the West County Hotel last May 2025 and yet I & all of my neighbours and the people who are very much opposed to this wind farm

were not informed about this meeting, so definitely no community engagement what so ever.

5) Public Drinking Water Supply – Gortglass Lough

Gortglass Lough serves as the public water abstraction point for the Kildysart Public Water Supply, operated by Uisce Éireann. This lake provides treated drinking water to one thousand two hundred residents in the Kildysart and Coolmeen areas. The river draining the Cloonkett bog feeds into this lake, meaning that any sediment, chemical, or pollutant runoff from turbine construction, peat disturbance, or maintenance will flow directly into the drinking-water catchment.

There is a natural spring well just adjacent to Gort Glass lake which is used by the local community for water and will be at risk of pollutant runoff from turbine construction.

Under the Water Framework Directive and EU Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184), Ireland is required to prevent deterioration of surface-water quality at public abstraction points. The precautionary principle therefore mandates that no project be permitted where such contamination cannot be ruled out beyond reasonable scientific doubt.

6. Devaluation of Property

My house and land will devalue because of the proximity to the proposed wind farm. This would have significant financial consequences to me, I live alone here now and it is a place I love so much but hard to manage in winter time so I always felt I would have the option to move back east to be nearer my family when I retire which is only 8 years away, when one is older with no family support around it is hard and my is fear is I won't be able to sell this property in the future because of this.

7. Road infrastructure & Subsidence in the bog

The road infrastructure in the area is definitely not suitable for heavy traffic or large vehicles, oversize trucks & cranes drawing materials to and from sites. I am living in the area for just under 20 years and these country roads have no road marking, are way too narrow for two cars to pass easily, let alone large vehicles, I am very concerned about subsidence as the bog gets flooded so often with heavy rainfall. – see photo enclosed

8 Turbine Blade Erosion and Microplastic Pollution

Modern turbine blades are manufactured from glass-fiber and epoxy resin composites with polyurethane coatings. Over time, their leading edges erode due to wind, rain, and particulate abrasion — releasing microplastic and polymer particles into the surrounding environment. Peer-reviewed research estimates losses between 8–50 grams per blade per year, with larger modern turbines releasing more. These fragments are chemically stable, buoyant, and capable of travelling long distances through surface-water runoff.

Given the hydrological link between the turbine sites and Gortglass Lough, these microplastics could enter the public water supply and the aquatic ecosystem of the Lower River Shannon SAC. The EIAR provides no assessment of this risk — an omission inconsistent with the precautionary principle and with national obligations to safeguard water resources.

9. West Clare seems to have numerous wind farms

In West Clare alone there are 115 wind farms permitted, 29 awaiting decisions and 29 proposed, that is 173 in total. It seems like west Clare is a dumping ground for these wind farms.

10. The Shannon Estuary Website.

This appears in the Shannon Estuary website “Kildysart is blessed with some lovely walks, one of which includes the Gortglass loop. Gortglass Lake is also a popular trout fishing lake and is a great amenity for swimming, paddleboarding, canoeing and is home to the local Curragh club. It is also having a crannog dating back to the Bronze age.”

See Photo's enclosed taken by me over the last couple of years.

11. Conclusion

The proposed Cloonkett Wind Farm presents unacceptable risks to protected species, public drinking water, peatland stability, biodiversity, and community wellbeing. The new information concerning Gortglass Lough as a drinking-water source and the presence of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel and Curlew only amplifies the case for refusal. The EIAR is materially incomplete, its mapping outdated, and its hydrological assessment inadequate.

Under the Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive, and Planning and Development Regulations, the Planning Authority and An Bord Pleanála must apply the precautionary principle and refuse this application outright.

Should the developer wish to resubmit, they must first produce updated and peer-reviewed hydrological and peat stability models, a drinking-water source protection risk assessment, comprehensive avian and bat surveys covering Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, and Curlew flightlines, and accurate mapping of all residential dwellings and visual receptors.

Until then, granting permission would breach both EU environmental law and the State's duty of care to public health and biodiversity.

12. Kildysart Lough Goodwillie 1972 ASI Clare a Preliminary Report on Areas of Scientific Interest in Co Clare, see enclosed.

Kildysart Lough was also referenced in Goodwillie 1972 ASI Clare
 A PRELIMINARY Report on areas of Scientific Interest in Co. Clare

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Name of Area	GORTGLASS L.
Area	31 ha
Grid Reference	R. 22, 59
Scientific Interest	Zoological, Botanical
Rating	Regional
Priority	C

Description of Area

This lake is surrounded by acid grassland and patches of bog, but at the west end it is overhung by small alder and birch trees. There include some *Betula pendula* (silver birch). It has a stony bottom in which grow *Lygodes* sp. (quill wort), *Lobelia dortmanna* (water lobelia), *Littorella uniflora* (shoreweed), *Juncus bulbosus* (bulbous rush) and *Polygonum amphibium* (amphibious *potamogeton*). In deeper water the white water-lily (*Nymphaea alba*) grows.

The acid grassland is full of rushes with occasional herbs. The following are the commonest species:-

<i>Juncus effusus</i>	soft rush
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	creeping bent
<i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>	rush
<i>J. articulatus</i>	"
<i>J. inflexus</i>	hard rush
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	devil's bit
<i>Carex biservis</i>	a sedge

Closer to the lakeshore other species come in, e.g. *Achillea ptarmica* (sneezewort), *Carex rostrata* (bottle sedge), *Rudbeckia palustris* (our marigold) and *Ranunculus repens* (Lesser water plantain) and where seepage and flowing water appear, these are joined by *Elodea nuttallii* (water-cress), *Myosotis caespitosa* (forget-me-not), *Glyceria fluitans* and *Q. plicata* (fote-grass)

The patches of blanket bog have been cut in places; some is modified to drier acid grassland with Phalaris decumbens (beath grass), Agrostis tenuis (common bent). This contains Ophioglossum vulgatum (adder's tongue). Other parts retain a typical Sphagnum - Erica tetralix (cross-leaved heath) community while Utricularia minor is found in bog drains.

Mute swan and moorhen were seen on the lake, while snipe and water rail occur in the marginal cover.

Several examples of the char (Salvelinus gairdneri) have been taken from this lake.

Evaluation

The main reason for including this lake is the presence in it of Cole's char. This fish is a glacial relict species which has become isolated in usually upland lakes and evolved there into different races. This particular race is thus restricted to three lakes in Clare and four in Kerry.

The vegetation is typical of an acid lake, but has several unusual constituents, e.g. Isocetes sp., Lobelia Dortmanna, Ridgwaya cornuta and Festuca pendula.

Vulnerability

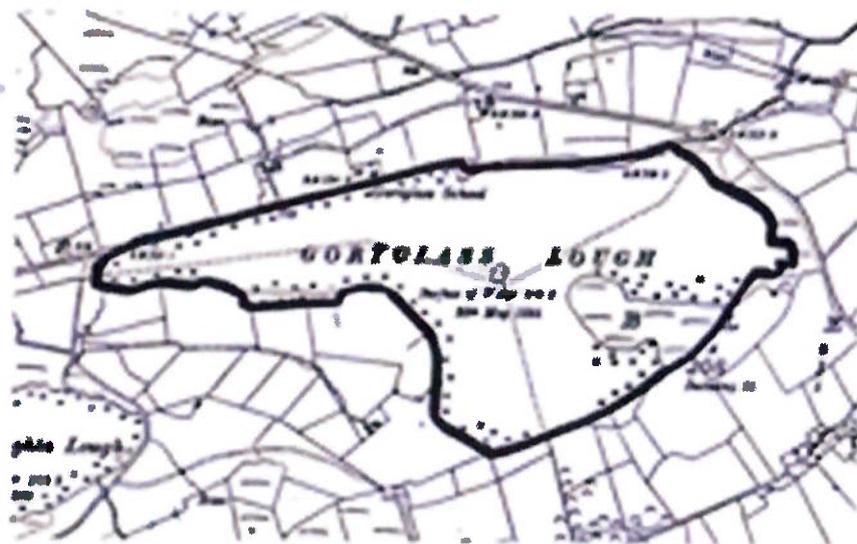
Drainage or pollution might be expected to damage the fish population and the flora but neither seem likely to occur significantly.

Recommendations

Land use should be continued in the same pattern as at present.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile





Hen Harrier - My Garden - VISK 765 800 meters from site.



Hen Harrier & Curlew - Cloonsnaghta - VISK765
800 meters from proposed wind farm,
My Garden.



Sent from my iPhone

Curlew - Cloonsnaghta - V15K765

800 metres from proposed wind farm.

My House & Garden



Sent from my iPhone

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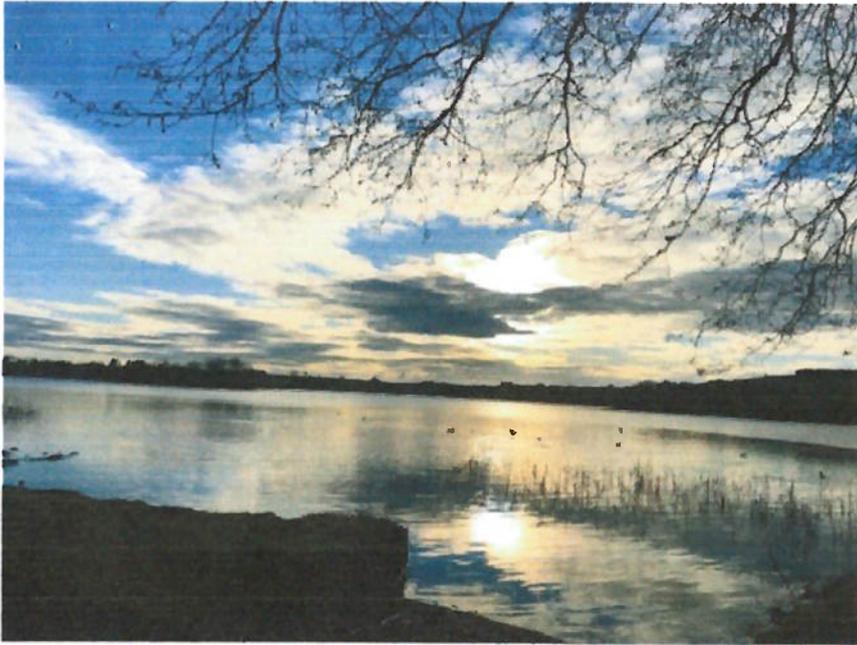
Photo Taken cloonsnight - My Garden. V15K765



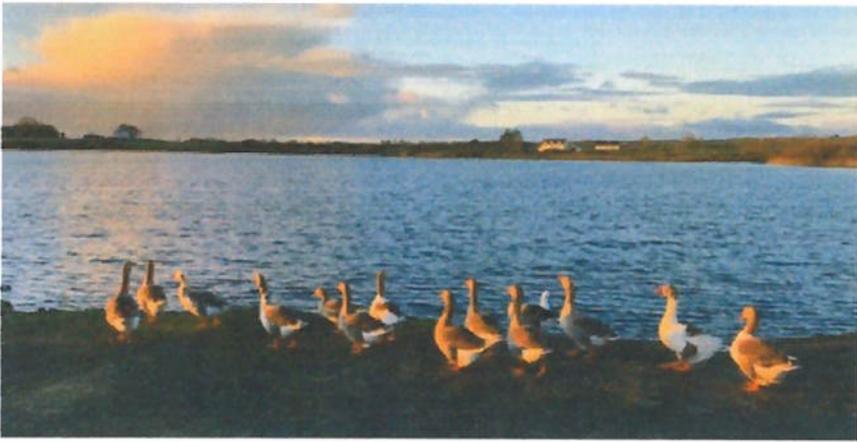
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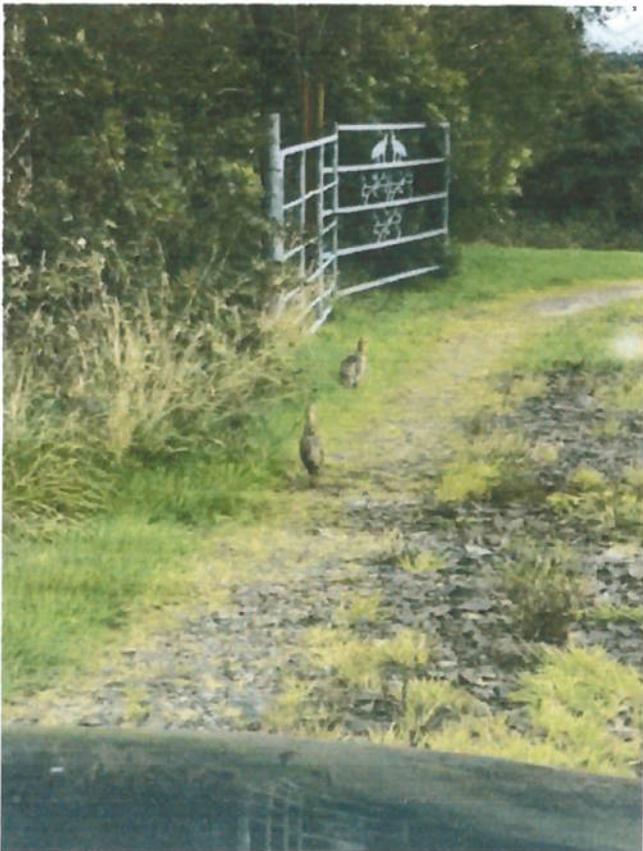
Cloonsraughta - My Garden.
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Gort Glass
Lake .



Cloonsnaghta Lake



Cloonsnaghta VIS K 765
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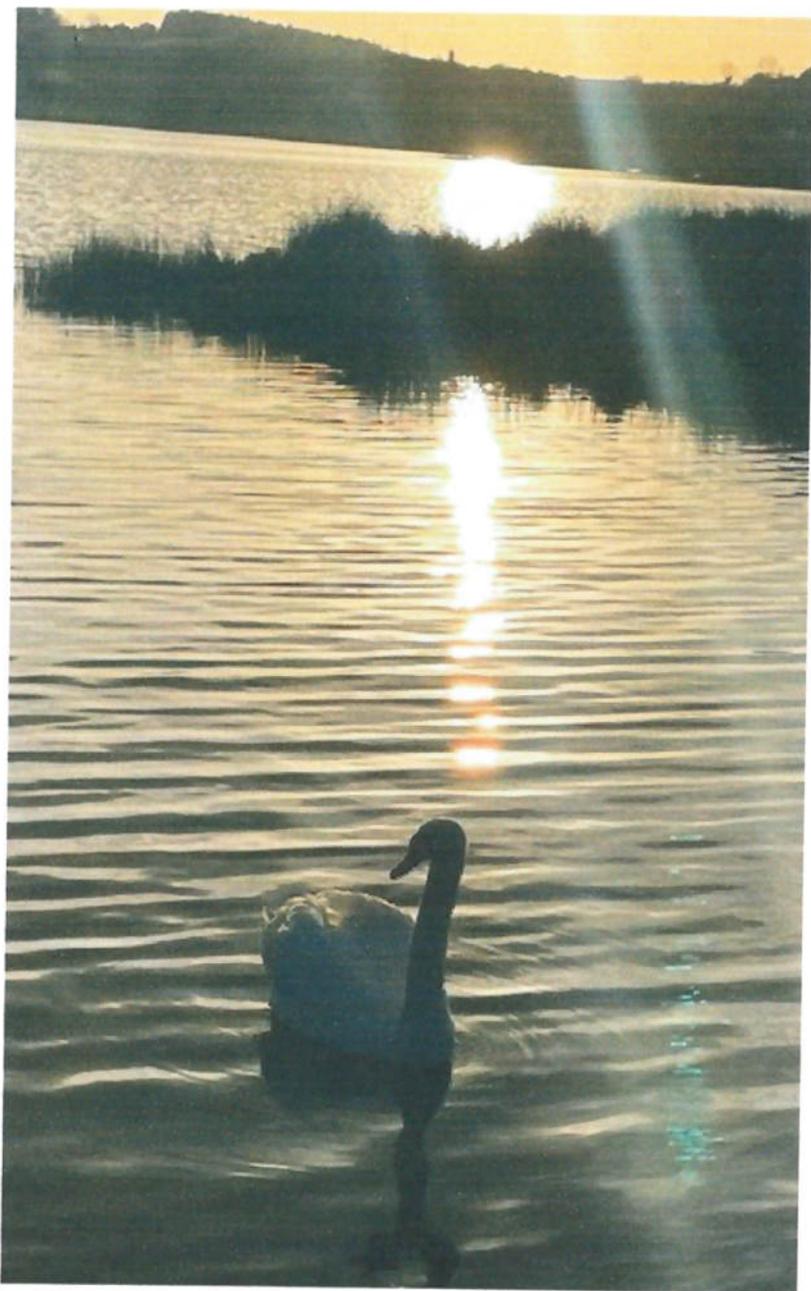
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Clonsnaghta Lake.



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Gort Glass
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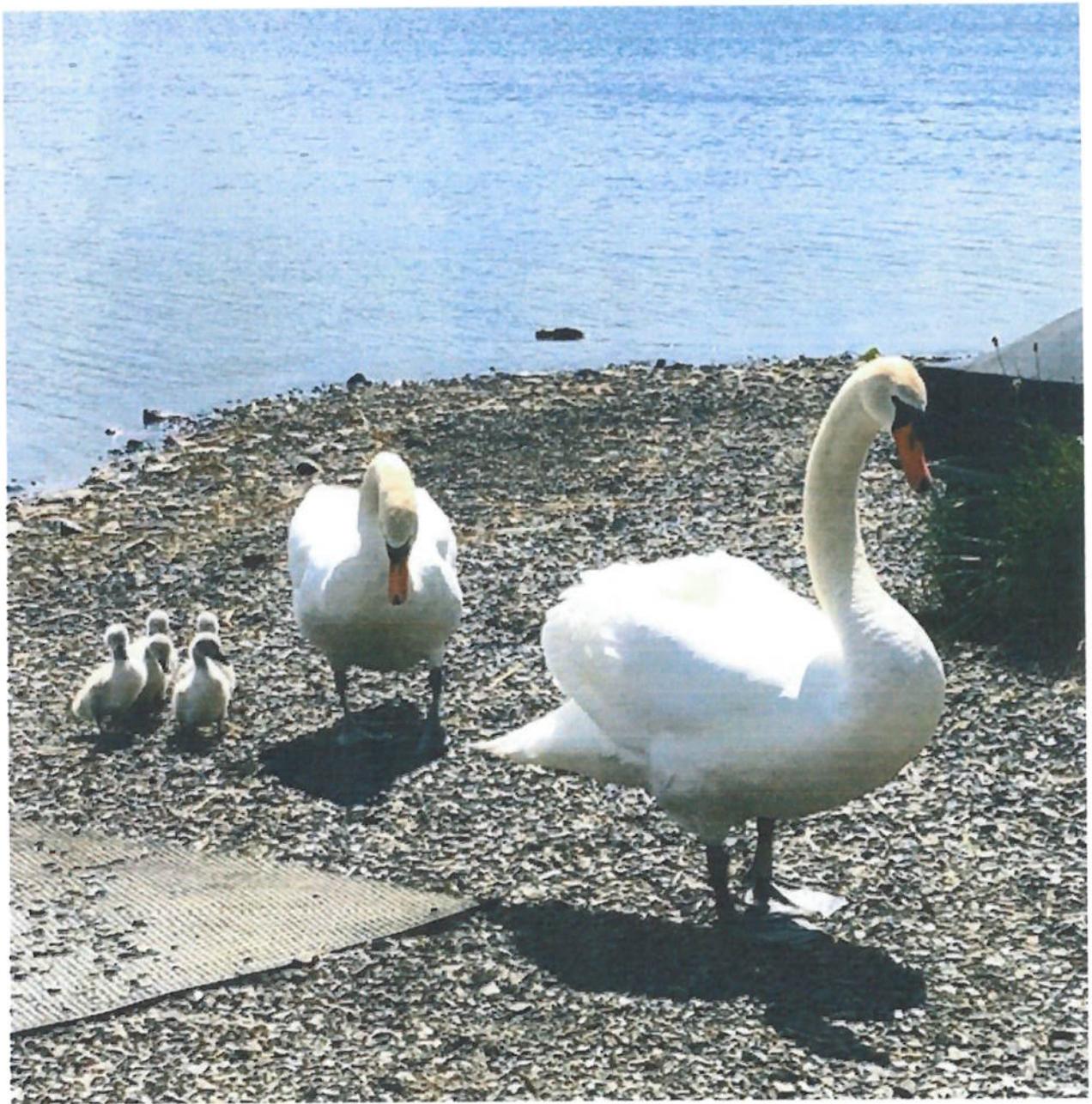
At the old School
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Gort Glass Lake 600 / 700 meters from Site.





Gort Glass Lake 600 / 700 meters
from site



Gort Glass Lake 600 / 700 Meters
From Site

Gort Glass Lake .



Cloonsnaght Lake .



Sent from my iPhone

Cloonsnaghta Lake & Surrounding
Gort Glass Lake.
AREA -

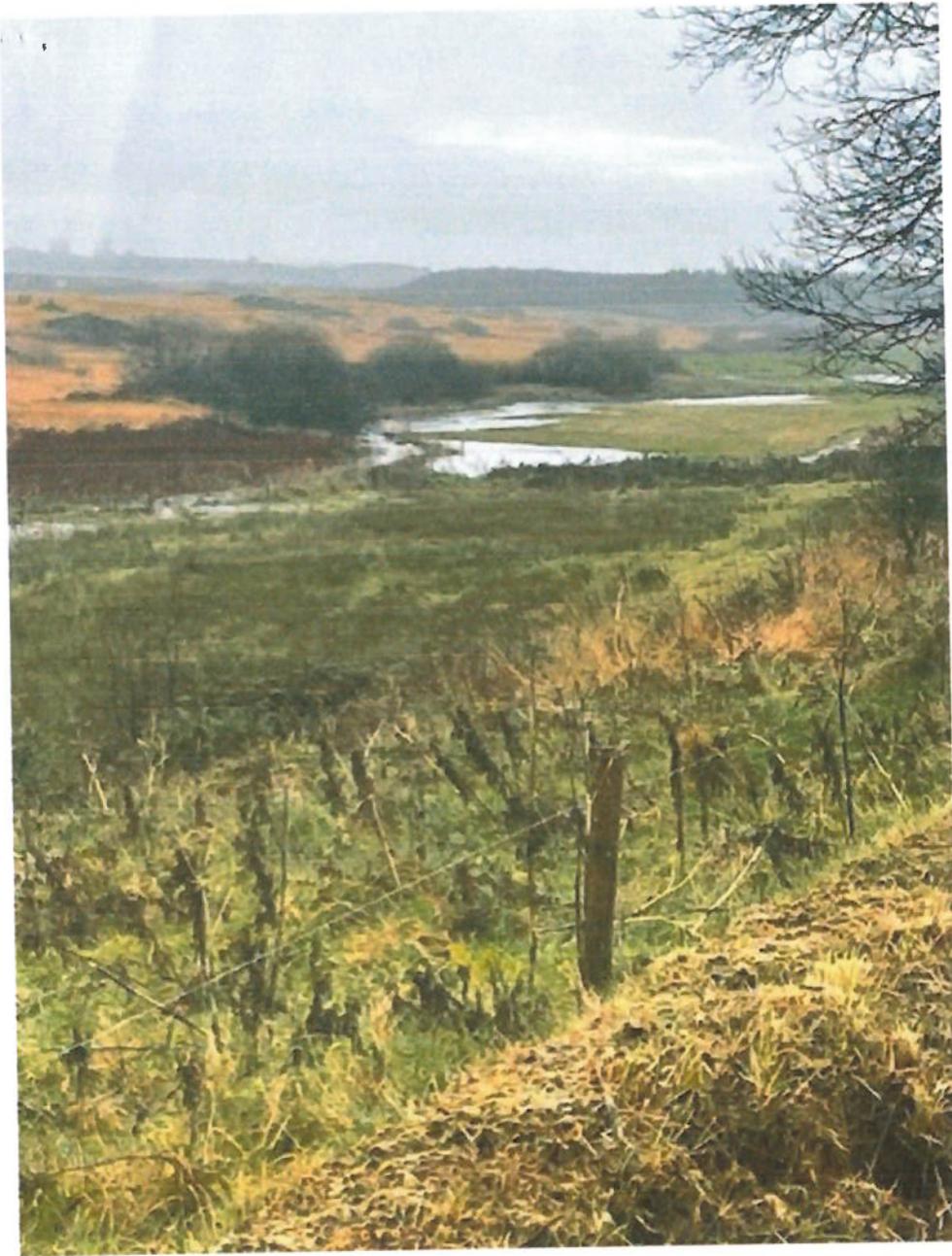


Photo Taken of the Bog Area Thursday 13/11/25 by me.
After Heavy Rainfall, it is prone to Flooding
I would be worried about Subsidence.