

Ellen Matthews

From: Communications
Sent: Monday 24 November 2025 09:12
To: Marine
Subject: Fw: Ref: 323791
Attachments: 20251121-ACP-323791.pdf

From: Sean O'Callaghan <socallaghan@antaisce.org>
Sent: 21 November 2025 16:11
To: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>
Subject: Ref: 323791

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A Chara,

Please find enclosed An Taisce's submission on planning application ref: 323791.

Is mise le meas,

Seán O'Callaghan
Planning and Environmental Policy Officer
An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland
Email: socallaghan@antaisce.org
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An Taisce

The National Trust for Ireland

5 Foster Place

Dublin 2, Ireland

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20251121-ACP-323791

An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

Sent by email to: bord@pleanala.ie

21st November 2025

Ref: 323791

App: Futureenergy Scart Mountain DAC

For: Development of a 110kV Electrical Substation and Grid Connection

Site: Co. Waterford, located approximately 4 km northeast of Cappoquin and approximately 13 km northwest of Dungarvan.

A Chara,

An Taisce would like to make the following observations on the above proposal.

It should be clarified as to whether bentonite powder is to be utilised by the applicant during Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), as this substance can introduce contaminants to groundwater, surface water and sensitive ecological receptors, especially due to fugitive drilling mud and fluids, referred to as "Inadvertent Returns" (IR).¹ This requires an articulation of stringent mitigation measures due to HDD operations being proposed underneath six waterbody receptors, including a section of the Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC (site code: 002170) and the good quality status 'Finisk_020' river waterbody. Therefore, the proposal should be assessed against Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) to ensure the absence of adverse environmental impact due to potential bentonite drilling fluid usage and associated IR effects.

Please acknowledge our submission and advise us of any decision made.

Is mise le meas,

Seán O'Callaghan

Planning and Environmental Policy Officer

An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland

¹ <https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/sab/sab-hdd.pdf>

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