

ACP 323891 25

Wednesday 18 February 2026 08:08



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Audio recording started: 09:53 Wednesday 18 February 2026

Inspector opens oral hearing

Opening statement

Alan Dodd confirms attendance on behalf of Uisce Éireann

John Dore (FBA Consultants) confirms attendance with Bill Hutch on behalf of Edward Houlihan

Inspector continues opening statement

Inspector invites Uisce Éireann to give a brief overview of CPO & development

Alan Dodd responds with attendance list for Uisce Éireann:

1. Laura Henehan - Project lead
2. Paul Cloonan - Engineer
3. Sam Wallace - Planning
4. John Daly - Landowner engagement
5. Áine Gilhooly - Administrative process

Alan Dodd provides brief overview of the project

Laura Henehan speaks, provides project overview

Map of route

Project overview

Route selection

Necessity of CPO

Permanent & temporary acquisitions

Response to objection:

Point A

Point B

Point C

Point D

Point E

Point F

Laura Henehan concludes her statement

Paul Cloonan is invited to provide statement

Paul Cloonan speaks

Section 2.2, Route Selection Report

River crossing

Temporary wayleaves

Directional drilling images

Response to objection:

Scheme route

Lack of awareness of location of the existing suction pipe

Loss of residential site

Environmental impact

Proposed trenchless crossing

Conclusion

Paul Cloonan concludes his statement

Alan Dodd queries agenda

Inspector requests Mr Wallace focusses on Section 5 of his statement

Uisce Éireann is experiencing technical issues, requests 5 minute break. Inspector approves

5 minute break - to return at 11:08

Inspector reconvenes hearing

Sam Wallace speaks

- Planning process overview
- River crossing (HDD) & bridge
- Development potential of the land in question
- Chosen route
- Permanent wayleave
- Reinstatement of land
- Future residential dwelling
- Wayleave
- AA screening
- EIA
- Planning policy
- Conclusion

Sam Wallace concludes his statement

John Dore presents objector's statement

- Proposed permanent wayleave
- Route selection
- Trenchless crossing
- Horizontal direct drilling
- Necessity of NIS
- OS maps - riparian grove
- Archaeology & listed structures
- Reference to the N21 Adare Bypass
- Risk
- Lack of awareness of scheme
- Conclusion

John Dore concludes his statement

Bill Hutch continues objector's statement

- Route selection
- River crossing
- Northern side of bridge
- Problem of existing intake pipe
- Cost analysis
- Northern side of bridge

Bill Hutch concludes his statement

Edward Houlihan is invited to give statement, does so

- Delays over requested information

Edward Houlihan concludes his statement

Inspector invites Uisce Éireann to respond to objector's statements

Alan Dodd responds

Absence of documentation
Appropriate Assessment
Route selection
Lack of engagement/knowledge among the public
Interference with protected structures
Land take

Concludes

Inspector invites objector to question Uisce Éireann

Mr Dore has questions for Uisce Éireann concerning the river bed

Mr Dodd responds

Mr Dore questions UÉ re pipe under roadway

Mr Dodd responds

Mr Dore replies

Mr Hutch responds to Mr Dodd re technical difficulties concerning north side of the bridge

Mr Hutch concludes

Inspector confirms end of question from objector

Mr Dore seeks clarification re environmental impact

Inspector responds

Inspector invites UÉ to question objector

UÉ have no questions

Inspector questions UÉ

Private land involved in project

Land to the north of the river

Proposed changes to boundary treatments on objector's lands & reinstatement of land

Mr Dore has questions re access points to permanent & temporary wayleaves

UÉ responds

Mr Dore seeks clarification on location of access to construction site & permanent wayleave

UÉ responds

Mr Houlihan would prefer a gate for access to the wayleave

Inspector seeks clarification on UÉ's access to wayleave

UÉ responds

Mr Dodd responds, mentions Code of Conduct

Mr Dodd refers back to question re land ownership north of bridge (in private ownership)

Inspector seeks clarification on ACA

Mr Hutch responds

Inspector has no further questions, invite closing statements

Mr Dore provides closing statement on behalf of objector

Mr Dodd provides closing statement on behalf of Uisce Éireann

Inspector gives closing statement

Hearing is closed

