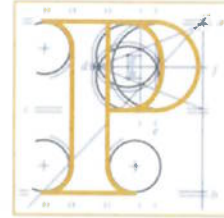


Our Case Number: ACP-323980-25



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

John Fingleton
Mountrath Road
Portlaoise
Co. Laois
RE32 FKW0

Date: 19 August 2026

Re: Proposed Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region
in the counties of Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Offaly, Kildare, and Dublin.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

The Commission will revert to you in due course in respect of this matter.

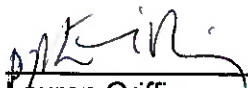
Please be advised that a copy of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for inspection on the Commission's website at the following link:
<https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/323980>.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Commission's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission.

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,



Lauren Griffin
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737244

PA09

Tell	Tel	(01) 858 8100
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Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	communications@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	
ACP-	323980-25
19 AUG 2026	
Fee: €	Type:
Time: 9:15	By: Post

Mountrath Road,
Portlaoise,
Co. Laois.

18th August, 2026

An Coimisiun Pleanala,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.
D01 V902

A Chara,

Re: Proposed Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midland Regions
Case Reference Number 323980

I refer to your letter dated 24th June 2026.

Summary

The responses to the submissions are generally very thorough and helpful. However, I think that in some instances the responses are justifying the original decisions rather than addressing valid points raised.

In summary, the response

- Does not provide a rational reason why the source should not be changed from Parteen basin to Slevoir in the northeast area of Lough Derg
- Acknowledges that the use of the break pressure tank will increase the energy use but is inconsistent in the use of break pressure tanks
- Does not include the metrics used in selection the pipe diameter of 1600mm

The issues I raised were as follows,

Extracting Water from Northeast end of Lough Derg

This was addressed in section 3.7.1 of the EIAR.

A Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) was carried out on 5 extraction points from Lough Derg.

Table 3.7 shows the results of the analysis. Slevoir impact was 1 level higher than Parteen on Ecology, Surface Water, Landscape and Risk and 1 level lower on Planning Policy. The remaining criteria have the same level of impact.

This analysis focused on the extraction point and did not consider the environmental benefits of eliminating 37 km of the pipeline through scenic areas. This analysis is incomplete until the impact of the pipeline length associated with each of the 5 extraction points is included.

This is a major shortfall in the EIAR.

Consider reducing pipe size to 1500mm

The EIAR section 3.8.2.1 states

"Whilst 1500mm was marginally cheaper it was very close to the 16bar threshold at the peak design flow (300ML/d) and had no capacity beyond that if 16bar rated"

I am not sure of the reason for a 16bar limit as steel pipes are operated at pressures over 100bar. Refer to 3.8.3.2 Steel Pipe.

The report acknowledges that 1500mm is adequate but does not give any data to support the additional cost for 1600mm pipe.

Use of gravity.

The reason for the Break pressure Tank (BPT) was originally stated to save energy. The response acknowledges that pumping water to a high point would use more energy than is saved.

The response now states that the BPT is needed for safety reasons relating to control and transient pressures.

This statement ignores the development of variable speed drive electric motors and control systems over the past 40 years.

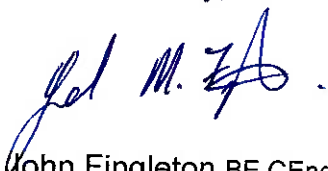
The main causes of transient pressure surges are,

- Sudden pump starting/ stopping, this is eliminated by variable speed drive electric motors and flywheels on the pumps.
- Sudden valve closure, this is much less likely with full bore ball valves than butterfly valves. In any case the surge is not reduced by a BPT unless the BPT is close to the valve closure.

Conclusion

The response does not provide a rational reason why the source should not be changed from Parteen basin to Slevoir in the northeast area of Lough Derg. The Multi-Criteria Analysis should be revised to include the impact of the reduced length of the pipework associated with each of the 5 extraction points.

Yours faithfully,



John Fingleton BE CEng FIEI