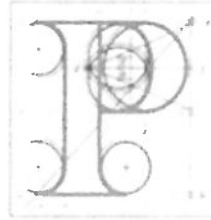


Our Case Number: ACP-323980-25



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Senator Dee Ryan
Leinster House
Kildare Street

Date: 04 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>.

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,



Eimear Reilly

Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

PA09

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Eimear Reilly

From: LAPS
Sent: Wednesday 22 July 2026 10:24
To: Eimear Reilly
Subject: FW: Proposed Shannon to Dublin Water Supply Project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: PA Only

From: Dee Ryan <Dee.Ryan@oireachtas.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 21 July 2026 17:06
To: LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>
Cc: Avril Moran <Avril.Moran@oireachtas.ie>
Subject: Proposed Shannon to Dublin Water Supply Project

You don't often get email from dee.ryan@oireachtas.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

Supplementary Submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála

I wish to make this supplementary submission to reinforce my concerns regarding the proposed Shannon to Dublin Water Supply Project.

In addition to the issues previously raised, I am increasingly concerned about the potential ecological impact of extracting significant volumes of water from Lough Derg and the River Shannon system, including the Lower Shannon downstream to Limerick City.

These are environmentally sensitive and economically important waterways that support biodiversity, tourism, recreation, fisheries, and local communities.

The prolonged dry periods experienced this summer have really demonstrated the vulnerability of our freshwater resources, resulting in noticeably reduced water levels on the Shannon. Unfortunately we know that climate projections indicate that in Ireland we are likely to experience more frequent and prolonged summer droughts in the years ahead placing increasing pressure on rivers and lakes throughout the country.

In that context, it is reasonable to question the wisdom of committing to a project that would involve extensive excavation across the centre of Ireland while simultaneously increasing reliance on a freshwater system that is itself likely to come under greater environmental stress in the decades ahead.

While I fully acknowledge the need to secure a reliable long-term water supply for the Greater Dublin Area, I believe we should instead be pursuing a more diversified and climate-resilient approach to water security.

As an island nation surrounded by seawater, we should be seriously investing in desalination technology as part of our national water infrastructure. A desalination plant would provide a dependable, long-term source of potable water without placing additional pressure on our rivers and lakes, helping to future-proof water supplies while protecting the natural environment.

Uisce Éireann should prioritise a balanced strategy that combines alternative water sources, including desalination, with continued investment in leakage refuction. Such an approach would strengthen national water security while avoiding unnecessary environmental risks to one of Ireland's most important freshwater ecosystems.

I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to give full consideration to these concerns and to carefully assess whether this proposal represents the most sustainable and resilient solution in light of the environmental challenges posed by climate change.

Le meas,

Senator Dee Ryan

087 2930033

Spokesperson on Further and Higher Education

Beartas ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh. oireachtas.ie/ga/email-policy/
Oireachtas email policy and disclaimer. oireachtas.ie/en/email-policy/