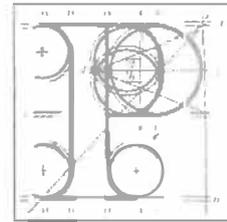


Our Case Number: ACP-323980-25

Planning Authority Reference Number:



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Carol-Anne Murphy
51 Inis Cealtra
Ballina
Co. Tipperary
V94 WAOT

Date: 04 March 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 recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

The Commission will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the local authority and at the offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála when they have been processed by the Commission.

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,

Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

PA04

Teil (01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil 1890 275 175
Facs (01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin www.pleanala.ie
Riomhphost communications@pleanala.ie

Tel (01) 858 8100
LoCall 1890 275 175
Fax (01) 872 2684
Website www.pleanala.ie
Email communications@pleanala.ie

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

Carol-Anne Murphy

51 Inis Cealtra, Ballina, Tipperary V94WA0T

Formal Observation / Objection Re: Shannon to Dublin Water Supply Project Applicant:
Uisce Éireann To: An Bord Pleanála

Date: 25/02/2026

I am formally lodging observations in objection to the proposed Shannon to Dublin Water Supply Project.

I live within close proximity to Lough Derg and have resided in the Mid West beside the Shannon river for 30 years. My concerns are personal, linked to my living in this area with my son and our wide community of neighbours, colleagues and friends; but also as a citizen concerned about the direct and opportunity costs of this development for all citizens and future generations. The environmental condition, water levels, and ecological integrity of the river Shannon and Lough Derg materially affect the health of the regional ecosystem and biodiversity, the multiple leisure and commercial activities associated with the region, not least local employment and tourism, cultural and heritage assets. The proposal materially affects these for people living locally and nationally. The direct costs of building this pipeline and the indirect costs of the potential impacts will ultimately be borne by all citizens. My key concerns are as follows:

1. Based on information shared locally, it appears that the project, as currently proposed, may fail to meet mandatory legal standards under EU and Irish environmental law and should be refused.

Under article 4 of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) – a binding obligation to:

- Prevent deterioration of the status of any water body
- Protect and enhance aquatic ecosystems

Is imposed. The proposal does not demonstrate to the standard required, that deterioration will not occur — particularly under projected future drought conditions and as such the application should be refused.

Lough Derg for example has already demonstrated recurrent instances of toxic algal bloom, which have increased recently and would be at risk of far greater water temperature increases, toxicity and other impacts with the building of this supply system. The Shannon system, including Lough Derg, is already subject to cumulative pressures including nutrient loading, agricultural runoff, wastewater inputs that are detrimental to water quality; and is subject to fluctuations due to climate driven changes in water flow. There is no evidence in the application of a detailed plan to mitigate these risks, which would be exacerbated during extraction in low periods; nor is

there evidence of the concerted intersectoral planning and implementation required for mitigation involving not just the applicant but other public bodies.

2. The Shannon system is hydrologically connected to multiple European Sites (Special areas of conservation and SPAs). Under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), consent may only be granted where there is no reasonable scientific doubt as to the absence of adverse effects on site integrity. The plans for the pipeline and associated stations will cause long-term and permanent habitat degradation thus constituting adverse effect on integrity. Given climate uncertainty, and the scale of abstraction proposed, reasonable scientific doubt remains as to:

- Flow-dependent habitat stability
- Aquatic species conservation objectives
- Downstream ecological resilience

The Appropriate Assessment test is therefore not lawfully satisfied.

The development does not adequately safeguard against long-term environmental degradation, and mitigation measures proposed are insufficient and non-binding.

3. Construction and Traffic Impacts

The five-year construction period will cause severe disruption to local communities, including heavy traffic on regional and rural roads, temporary road closures, and potential risks to public safety, exacerbated given increased traffic generally arising from social and economic activity in the region. The size of the project including large construction compounds and abnormal load movements, will generate significant noise, dust, and loss of agricultural access.

While the applicant's website suggests that alternatives have been examined a citizen's council with a comprehensive and sustained multi-stakeholder involved cost benefit analysis of all alternatives is required.

For these and other reasons I hereby object in the strongest terms to the planning application by Uisce Eireann.