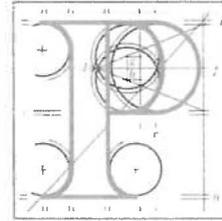


**Our Case Number:** ACP-323980-25

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

Castleconnell Boat Club  
c/o Cathal Corbett  
Mountshannon  
Lisnagry  
Co. Limerick  
V94 V9Y5

**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](http://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

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**Name. Cathal Corbett (on Behalf of Castleconnell Boat Club)**

**Address: Mountshannon, Lisnagry, Co Limerick, V94V9Y5**

**Phone Number: 0872224050**

**I wish to make the following observations (objections) to the Uisce Éireann proposed abstraction of water from the river Shannon for all of the following reasons.**

Observation 1. (Objection 1.) The “public consultation” carried out by Uisce Éireann is incomplete as the open public meetings in held at various locations along the Shannon excluded Limerick City and County and did not consider the public knowledge of the lower Shannon below Parteen Wier A public meeting should have been held in Limerick City or County. Uisce Éireann response to this matter was simply “ Limerick will not be affect” with a take our word for it sort of response. That is not acceptable to the Rowing Clubs and communities that use and rely on the lower Shannon.

Observation 2. (Objection Reason 2). Uisce Éireann claim they gave carried out “Extensive hydrological and water quality modelling” that demonstrates the change to the water levels on lough Derg during drought periods will be “virtually unnoticeable”. Uisce Éireann declined to make “Hydrological Modelling” available to the public in time for an independent review despite request made through on seanad éireann in 2025. The Hydrological Modelling should have been made available and presented to the public at the open public meetings and given the public and independent professionals time to review and respond. The time allowed (planning objection period) was insufficient time.

Observation 3. (Objection Reason 3 The proposed abstraction is in direct conflict with Minister Anne Rabbitts proposed new Bill Electricity (Supply) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2025: Second Stage. The said bill seeks to control the levels of the Shannon and prevent flooding by letting water flow more freely in anticipation of heavy rain fall including unseasonal flooding during the summer months. Uisce Éirean believe they can manage the summer droughts by holding water back. Minister Rabbitts proposal seeks to allow more water to flow, hence they are in direct conflict.

Observation 4. (Objection Reason 4.) Rowing.

The rowing clubs of Limerick are all located on the lower Shannon. UL at Plassey, Shannon Rowing Club at Mountshannon, three clubs located at Castleconnell, Castleconnell Boat Club, Aurthlunkard Rowing Club, and UL again, St Micheals have a facility at O Briens Bridge. The lower Shannon between Castleconnell and O Briens Bridge is used continuously by all the Limerick clubs and relied on for their success at a national and international level.

Uisce Eireanns proposed abstraction poses a major risk to Limerick rowing and has the potential to finish rowing in Limerick entirely. The lower Shannon is a delicate ecosystem where there is already issues with heavy reed beds caused by silting due to reduced water flow. The statutory min flow of 10m<sup>3</sup> /s has already been breached and the effects are already clear. Uisce Eirean Hydrological modelling is inaccurate and makes unrealistic assumptions for the drought period. In a drought scenario when there is peak demand on the pipeline and the modelling has failed, the level at Lough Derg will become unexpectedly reduced, and the knock-on risk to the Lower Shannon and a complete breach of statutory min flow of 10m<sup>3</sup> /s is highly likely. Over time that will cause the river between Parteen Wier and Castleconnell to silt up becoming overgrown with reed and make it impossible to row. That will put and end to the spot of rowing in Limerick. There are four major rowing events on the Irish National Callander held on that stretch of river between castleconnell and O Brien's Bridge each year. Those events are attended by thousands of rowers of all ages travelling from as far away as Enniskillen, and Skibbereen. The proposed abstraction poses a significant risk to those events.

1. Observation 5. (Objection Reason 5) Swimming and the use of the the Shannon as a valued public amenity.

Thousands of people rely on the Shannon at Castleconnell to bath all year round. The breach in The statutory min flow of 10m<sup>3</sup> /s has already caused a significant increase silt build up and reeds growing in the popular bathing spots at Castleconnell. Any further reduction in the flow caused by Uisce Eriwnn proposed pipeline line abstraction will cause these popular swimming spots to be completely grown over during the summer and the great public natural amenity enjoyed by tens of thousands every year will be lost.