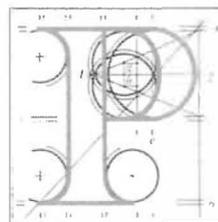


**Our Case Number:** ACP-323980-25

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

Eileen Mc Namara  
Lisanerla  
Castle Road  
Castletroy  
Co. Limerick  
V94 V8RW

**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

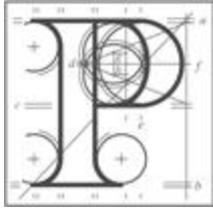
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Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902



## Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

### Observer's details

#### 1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's  
name

Eileen Mc Namara

(b) Observer's  
postal address

Lisanerla,  
Castle Road, Castletroy, Limerick, V94V8RW

### Agent's details

#### 2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Click or tap here to enter text.

(b) Agent's postal  
address

Click or tap here to enter text.



## Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

**You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1**

**The agent at the postal address in Part 2**

## Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Coimisiún Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**

(for example: 300000)

PA92.323980

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

Proposed Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Counties Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Kildare, Dublin and others

## Observation details

### 5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word** limit as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

Dear Sir or Madam,

I feel like I should open this letter with the phrase – ‘I am not a crack!’

I am a qualified Architect, interested in the key infrastructural and innovative projects for Ireland, and elsewhere. I am a Limerick native. I support the project in principle and applaud the investment in infrastructure for the future. I am concerned about the approach for several reasons. I attach copy of my observation letter submitted to Uisce Éireann last March. There was a generic response to my submission. I am concerned it fell on deaf ears. I am submitting my observations to The Board in the hope that it might cause a ‘Pause’ and an opportunity to effect change.

I note that the Board adjudicates on Planning matters.

In principle I support the project.

I object to the proposed intake location for the following reasons:

- It is my opinion that the location of the in-take of waters from the Parteen Basin is too close to the Ard na Crusha Hydroelectric Station. There are major issues with **flooding** and **water levels** in this area. Ard na Crusha influences this currently. The additional of another significant factor, i.e. the removal of tonnes of water from the

## 5. Grounds

same immediate location is needless and will definitely impact the current situation.

- The Water Project is for the Midlands and Eastern region. I object to the location of the water extraction in the South West. The extraction could be located in the Midlands on Loch Ree. Still taking water from the Shannon. This would reduce the impact of the proposed project significantly in distance and lengths of service runs. This has many benefits.

I would request that the Board investigate the reasons for the location selected for the in-take station. I suggest that the relocation of the water intake station to Loch Ree will be beneficial on many grounds:

- Reduced distance of pipeline
- Which reduces impact on the landscape,
- Reduced build costs,
- Reduced future maintenance costs,
- Pipeline routed through the actual area requiring water, which facilitates easier supply.

I object to the route of the pipeline for the following reasons:

- The route proposed appears to be exclusively 'Greenfield' land. The route passes through 'Ireland's Ancient East'. I object due to the impact on the environment, local ecologies, farms, archaeology and architectural heritage.
- I object due to the expense and time incurred in the CPO of the lands for the route.
- I object on the basis that if the pipeline fails in any location, it will entail major works. Negotiating access onto remade farmlands, excavation, repair reconstruction on private land. Failure is very likely as water is

## 5. Grounds

a force of nature and under pressure becomes more difficult to control.

- The pipeline route could be shorter and more immediately located within the supply area and still use the Shannon as a supply, rather than starting in the South West.
- The pipeline could use existing government owned, Brownfield routes. I.e. Royal Canal - connects to Shannon River and routes to Dublin, via the midlands and is a water duct. It is manmade and limits impact on environment, ecology, local areas. Maintenance systems and are already in place.

Grand Canal – same as above.

M4 & M6 motorway – same as above.

Railway Lines – same as above.

I urge the Board to look at the above suggestion. The existing, government owned service routes provide a huge opportunity to route the pipeline from the Shannon River, through the Midlands, to Dublin on Brownfield, government owned lands. This could reduce archaeological, architectural, ecological impact on a 'Greenfield route' and reduce time and costs.

I object to the proposed 'underground' nature of the pipeline:

- Water is a force of nature. By burying the pipes and making good the route it will make maintenance of the system very difficult.
- New connections will be costly and difficult as future connection points will have to be accessed and excavated on private land.

I urge the Board to challenge the designers to a more innovative solution.

Ard na Crusha is an example of excellence in design. A predominantly

## 5. Grounds

overground pipeline on existing 'brownfield' routes facilitates, construction, maintenance and future expansion – quickly, easily and cost efficiently.

I have engaged in the process. I have reviewed the documents at Limerick City and County Council. I think the overall approach offers little in innovative thinking. The project will be costly. Before the State is committed to the venture, I would urge that the overall idea and design approach is achieving the best result. In my opinion it is not.

Yours sincerely,

Eileen Mc Namara



Uisce Ireland  
Observation and obje

## Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

## Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

### **Observers (except prescribed bodies)**

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

## Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to request the Coimisiún to hold an oral hearing, please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

**Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing**

**No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing**

## Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

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**For Office Use Only**

<b>FEM – Received</b>		<b>SIDS – Processed</b>	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

**Notes**