



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Our Case Number: ACP-323980-25

Planning Authority Reference Number:

Portumna & District Angling & Boating Association
c/o Joseph Doyle (Hon Secretary)
Boula
Portumna
Co. Galway
H53 CY94

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
Glao Áitiúil 1890 275 175
Facs (01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost 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

Submission Objecting to the Proposed Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region –

SHANNON to DUBLIN WATER SUPPLY PROJECT (Ref. PA92.323980)

Applicant: Uisce Éireann

NAME: Portumna & District Angling & Boating Association

ADDRESS: c/o Joseph Doyle (Hon Secretary) Portumna & District Angling & Boating Association

Boula, Portumna, Co. Galway, H53 CY94

I / We the above named formally object to the Proposed Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region. The project, as currently proposed, presents unacceptable environmental, social, and economic impacts for local communities, with the perceived benefits overwhelmingly accruing to Dublin, while the local area bears disproportionate risks

1. Environmental Impacts

- The proposed abstraction at the Parteen Basin lies within the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (SAC), threatening critical habitats and protected species, including pollan, salmon, and trout as well as the habitats of endangered species of water birds.
- Modeling indicates that even under current proposals, Lough Derg and the Parteen Basin could experience dangerously low water levels during drought conditions, risking ecological collapse. Climate change analysis by the ICARUS Institute at Maynooth University have shown that in a short number of years, Ireland and the Mid West could experience increased times of drought during the summer months. This would mean that the proposed 2% water abstraction would in fact become a 30% abstraction due to the lowered levels of the river.
- Potential impacts on water quality and river resilience are significant, particularly during low flows, which could affect both biodiversity and downstream communities.
- The development does not adequately safeguard against long-term environmental degradation, and mitigation measures proposed are insufficient and non-binding.

2. 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 risks to public safety.
- The scale of works, including large construction compounds and abnormal load movements, will generate significant noise, dust, and loss of agricultural access, with impacts lasting up to 24 months per land parcel.
- Local tourism, a vital economic driver for the Shannon region, Foynes Port and up as far as Lough Derg, will be adversely affected, with potential damage to boating, sailing, and recreational amenities.

It is my/our belief that there are many other options open to Uisce Eireann to increase water supply in the Dublin region without recourse to damaging the integrity of the River Shannon. There is the Poulaphouca reservoir which is currently under the control of the ESB but is hardly used to generate electricity. This massive reservoir alone would be enough to service Dublin and beyond if the electricity generating apparatus was removed. There are the Slaney, Boyne and Barrow rivers, all of which are far closer to Dublin than the Shannon and with far less disruption to agriculture and habitats.

Finally there is the proposal that Uisce Eireann begin a massive campaign to replace leaky, lead, Victorian pipe work which is currently allowing up to 50% of all expensively treated drinking water simply leak into the ground.

For these reasons I / We hereby object in the strongest possible terms to the planning application by Uisce Eireann.