

Conor Mc Carthy  
3 Ceide Garrai Glas,  
Athenry,  
Co. Galway,  
H65 FX03

An Coimisiún Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Rotunda,  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

**RE; Planning Reference Number PA07.324113**

**Project Name; Cashla Peaker Plant — located in Pollnagroagh and Rathmorrissey**

Date; 21st April 2026

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Athenry and believe the proposed Cashla Gas and Diesel Power Plant should not be built for the following reasons:

- Health concerns.
  - o I have young nieces and nephews that visit and spend time outside playing and walks very close to the proposed site.
  - o I hope to have kids of my own soon having chosen Athenry as my long term home and they would be growing and developing in close contact to the proposed plant in formative years.
  - o Studies have shown from similar plants that pollutants are strongly linked to asthma and respiratory illness especially in young kids.
  - o Health concerns are even higher considering how unstable energy sources are in today's world its not out of the question the gas supply could be interrupted due to war or geo-political changes and forcing a shift to using diesel more than the minimum testing hours leading to way higher amount of pollutants.
  - o Also there is a proposed number of hours for the plant to operate but with proposing this new peaker plant after others have already been built and with energy needs expanding it will not run at the suggested amount of hours it will be higher and so the amount of pollutants will be much higher.
- Safety Concerns
  - o Storing 6.2 million litres of diesel on site in above ground tanks means plant is classified as COMAH / Seveso Hazard Site and is a major accident hazard facility meaning that there is a large danger to the community in case of accident or deliberate attack on the site which as seen in recent months/years power

infrastructure like the proposed plant are often targeted meaning there could be a serious incident of fire/explosion/fuel leaks that can endanger people in the vicinity via fire and pollutants and/or leaking fuel/chemicals on site into ground and the water table for the community.

- o Take the previous point and add to the fact that Athenry does not a full fire brigade service after a major incident in Claregalway in the event of accident or deliberate attack there is insufficient resources to deal with that.
- Infrastructure
  - o The proposed plant will have a single access road onto small existing rural road which will not be capable of serving the community and the plant for example during construction for workers/supplies, initial fill of diesel tanks and filling there after.
  - o I use that road constantly to get in out and of Athenry for work and outside of work.
  - o The proposed plant is to use natural gas and diesel as fuel sources and operational life until 2050 which goes against the objectives for cleaner and greener energy and there a ways to build a grid with different sources of energy (solar/wind/hydro) and even combine with battery storage to be able to have enough energy even for peak times.
- Location
  - o The proposed location for the plant is not suitable it is surrounded by school, housing and public amenities (e.g football club) meaning people will be directly affected by light, sound and most importantly air pollution and most affected will be kids.
  - o Taking this point and keeping in mind the proposed site is between Oranmore which can only really expand east and Athenry which likely expand west to be closer to Galway this problem will only get worse as the area around the plant will be further developed by the expanding communities.

Yours Sincerely,  
Conor Mc Carthy