

# OBSERVATION/SUBMISSION TO PLANNING APPLICATION

Case Reference: 324113

David Carty and Colette Carty

Lisheenkyle West

Oranmore

Galway

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Date: 08 April 2026

**Re: Observation to the proposed development of open-cycle gas turbine (OCGT) and generator with ancillary equipment.**

Location: Pollnagroagh and Rathmorrissy (Townlands), Athenry, Co. Galway

Applicant: Bord Gáis Energy Limited

Dear Sir/Madam,

My residence is 2.94km from the proposed site of the Cashla Peaker Plant (Athenry).

Myself and my family live 2.94km from where the peaker plant will be constructed. The process by which the peaker plant functions from start up, ramp to running uses crude technology. A lack of gas efficiency, the resultant pollution and an open book in regard to the frequency and duration of use of the plant causes us great concern as a family.

While on the surface the purpose of the peaker plant seems well intended, it's a solution that is akin to using a sledgehammer to crack a nut. It's a solution that poses great cost to air quality, public health and welfare.

The peaker plant shows a lack of big picture/ national strategy to cater for peak demand when so many alternative technologies such as BESS, Solar and wind are available.

**Children & Health**

### **Cumulative Impact on Child's Development**

Fine particulate matter can travel significant distances and accumulate over time, meaning children may be exposed not only during peak events but also through repeated low-level exposure. The cumulative effect of these exposures is particularly concerning during key stages of physical development, where long-term impacts on lung function and overall health may arise.

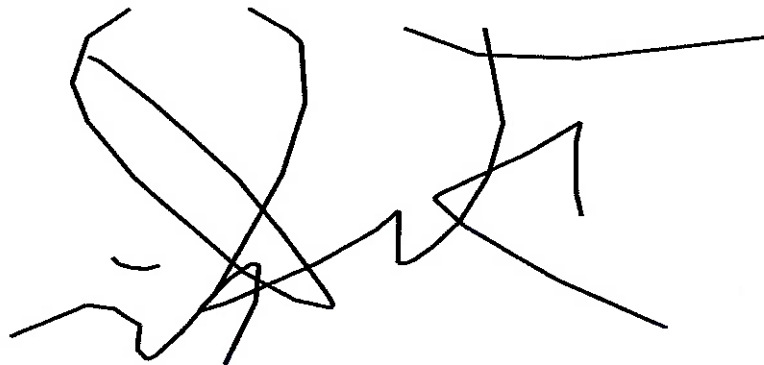
### **Reliance on Regulation Does Not Eliminate Risk**

The Environmental Impact Assessment relies on future regulation, licensing, and monitoring to control environmental impacts. However, regulatory oversight does not eliminate environmental risk or guarantee that real-world emissions and impacts will align with modelled predictions. There remains uncertainty regarding how the development will perform in practice over time, particularly under varying operational conditions.

### **Precautionary Refusal Based on Uncertainty and Risk**

The proposal raises significant concerns in relation to environmental protection, public health, farming, road safety, and community wellbeing. The level of uncertainty regarding operational frequency, diesel use, and cumulative impacts means that the development cannot be considered acceptable. In the absence of a complete and precautionary assessment, it cannot be concluded that significant environmental effects will not arise. I respectfully request that permission for this development be refused.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines, appearing to be a joint signature of two individuals.

Name: David Carty and Colette Carty  
Date: 08 April 2026