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Castlelambert  
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An Coimisiún Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

13 April 2026

**Planning Application Reference Number:** 324113

**Subject:** Submission on the Construction of an open-cycle gas turbine power plant, primarily fuelled by Natural Gas, Above Ground Installation and ancillary development

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

**Applicant:** Bord Gáis Energy Limited

Dear Sir/Madam,

I reside in Castlelambert with my home being 1.29km from the proposed site.

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the proposed Cashla Peaker Plant development on the following grounds:

#### **Human Health & Air Pollution**

Emissions from a peaker plant, particularly where diesel is used during start-up or high-demand periods, can negatively affect both air quality and human health. Diesel exhaust contains a complex mixture of pollutants, including nitrogen oxides, fine particulate matter, volatile organic compounds, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, all of which are associated with respiratory illness, reduced lung function, and cardiovascular disease. These emissions may occur in short but intense bursts that are not fully captured by average modelling assumptions used in Environmental Impact Assessments. This creates a scenario where nearby residents such as myself may be exposed to higher-than-expected pollution levels, particularly during peak operation periods, in calm weather conditions, or where dispersion is limited.

#### **Local Roads & Safety - Unsuitability of Rural Road Network**

My home is located on the L3103 which I use on a regular basis. The proposed site entrance is located on an exceptionally dangerous section of the L3103. Establishing an access point at this specific location introduces an unacceptable level of risk due to several compounding hazards:

- Severely Restricted Width: The road is currently too narrow to safely permit two Heavy Goods Vehicles to pass simultaneously.
- Absence of a Hard Shoulder: There is no safe refuge or margin for error for manoeuvring vehicles.

- Critically Poor Visibility: The immediate area is affected by blind dips and blind corners, severely compromising driver sightlines.

These immediate dangers constitute a severe threat to public safety and require urgent and mandatory remediation. In addition to these existing hazards, local roads are not designed to accommodate sustained industrial traffic. The interaction between heavy goods vehicles, farm machinery, and everyday residential traffic creates a complex and potentially dangerous road environment. The introduction of additional industrial traffic, including diesel deliveries and construction vehicles, further compounds these risks.

I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Planeala reject this application.

Yours faithfully,

Patricia Ruane.