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Castlelambert  
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Galway

An Coimisiún Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

19 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,

My family has deep roots in the area having lived and farmed the land here for generations. I am gravely concerned about this development and the cumulative impact this will have on my own and my extended family's welfare. I reside in Castlelambert and my farmland is located in both Castlelambert and Tobar na bhFiann with my home being 1.26km from the proposed site.

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

#### **Health Risks**

The application includes a 30m chimney stack which will burn gas and diesel releasing air pollutants directly into our home, which gives us huge cause for concern given our own age profile and our vulnerability to the harmful effects of these pollutants. In the below diagram we fall directly within the modelled concentration areas for the wind dispersion of the pollutants. I have 6 grandchildren living locally who spend a significant amount of time at my home and attend the local primary school which is 2.8km from the proposed site and I am greatly troubled by the impact this will have on their long term health and future in the area. Children are most vulnerable to air pollution.

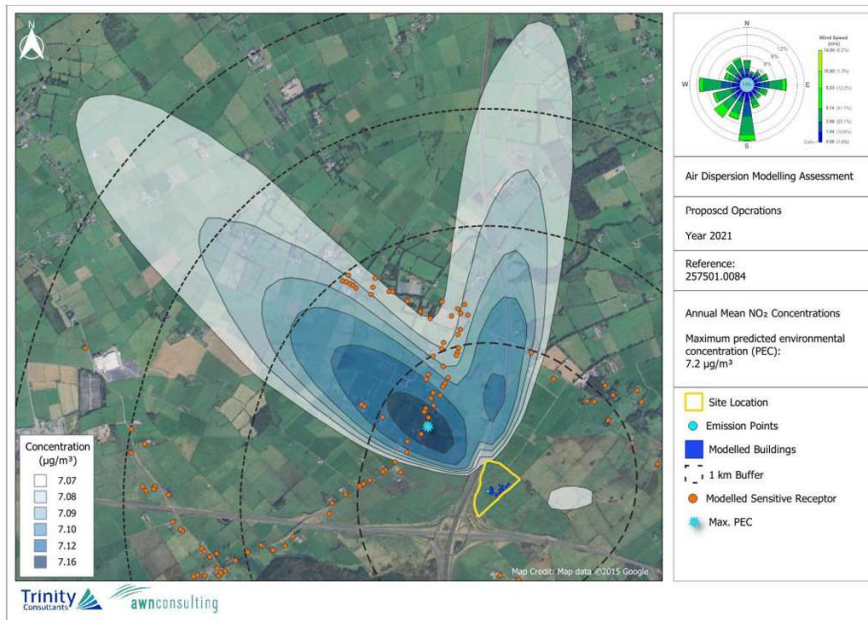


Figure 7-6 – Proposed Operations Modelling Results – Maximum Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations

### Impact on Residential Amenity – Emissions, Noise, Lighting and Excess Traffic

Furthermore, our front door is south facing and we have installed solar panels on our roof which are also south facing. Based on this model for wind dispersion of emissions, the efficiency of our solar panels will be directly impacted by any dust/fine matter which will have a negative impact on us financially.

This development will permanently industrialise our rural community and we are also extremely apprehensive about the long term impact the noise and lighting from the site will have on our health and in particular the disturbances it may cause to our sleep. The site itself will have a number of floodlights in addition to 20m high floodlights on the internal road network to the site.

Our home is situated on the L3103 and we are concerned about the increased volume of traffic on the road in particular the heavy duty vehicles or tankers required to move fuel/water/waste etc. to/from the site on a continuous basis once it is operational. The road itself is a small rural road with no side margins and hidden dips and bends. It is not suitable for this type of traffic and it creates serious road safety risks for our children, grandchildren and neighbours.

### Impact on Rural Amenity and Long-Established Farming Use

As a farmer I am also worried about the environmental risks posed to the area and in turn my own livelihood. I have long family ties to the land, a daily outdoor working routine and livestock yards close to home. This development will undermine the quiet, clean agricultural character of the area. The emissions produced during both normal gas-fired operation and emergency diesel operation can directly affect crop health, soil quality, and animal respiratory function.

**Fire and Explosion Risk**

The proposed peaker plant introduces a clear and unacceptable fire and explosion risk due to the storage and use of natural gas, diesel fuel and high voltage electrical infrastructure. There is an inherent hazardous risk associated with pressurised gas systems, ignition sources and combustible materials, any of which can fail during operation, emergency start up or extreme weather events. The consequences of such an incident on our home and farmland would be severe. Rural areas typically experience slower emergency response times, meaning a fire could escalate rapidly before assistance arrives.

The cumulative impact of this development will materially diminish our quality of life and undermine the long-term value and enjoyment of our home for future generations of our family.

We respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála reject this application.

Yours faithfully,

Patrick Quirke.