

Sharon Nilan
Tobar na bhFiann
Athenry
Galway

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
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16 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 approximately 2km northeast of the proposed site in Tobar na bhFiann with my young family. Our 3 children attend a local primary school which is 2.8km from the proposed peaker plant and this has been our family's homeplace for generations. 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 wish to lodge a formal objection to the proposed Cashla Peaker Plant development on the following grounds:

Health Risks

The application includes a 30m stack chimney which will burn gas and diesel releasing air pollutants directly into our home. In the below diagram we fall directly within the modelled concentration areas for the wind dispersion of the pollutants. I am greatly troubled by the impact this will have on both our own and our children's long term health and future in the area.

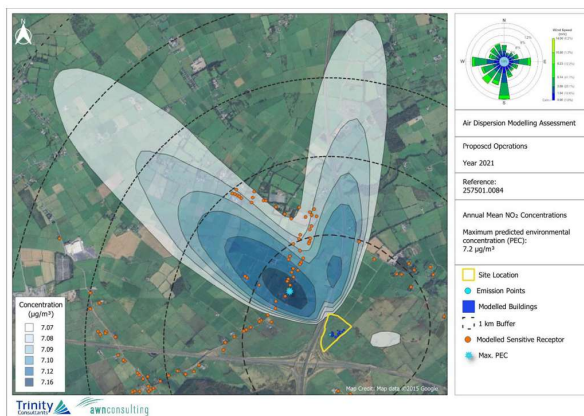


Figure 7-6 – Proposed Operations Modelling Results – Maximum Annual Mean NO₂ Concentrations

Furthermore, our home has a private well which is our main water source for drinking and all other household requirements. The proposed site is located in a karst region and we are deeply concerned by the potential contamination risk that will arise should there be any leaks, spillages or run-offs from the site and the numerous hazardous substances that are used in its operation.

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

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 family's sleep. The site itself will have a number of floodlights in addition to 20m high floodlights on the internal road network to the site.

The site entrance to the development is located 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, extended family and neighbours. It will severely disrupt my own family's daily life as we use this road to commute to and from work and school on a daily basis.

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 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,

Sharon Nilan.