



Our Ref: 152-2025

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

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	_____
ACP-	_____
23 APR 2026	
Fee: €	_____ type _____
Time:	9:15 by neg post

Re: Submission on Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development in County Galway – Cashla Peaker Plant, Rathmorrissey and Pollnagroagh, Co. Galway.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see comments from regional engineer below in relation to Strategic Infrastructure Development in County Galway – Cashla Peaker Plant, Rathmorrissey and Pollnagroagh, Co. Galway.

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the above development and would like to make the following Submission on this application:

If any new culverts or bridges (or modifications to any existing culverts or bridges) are required to cross watercourses as part of the development or on proposed or existing access roads to serve or access the development, you should be aware that these require consent from the Commissioners of Public Works. This is a requirement of Section 50 of the Arterial Drainage Act of 1945 as amended.

Further information on the process including copies of the appropriate application form and brochure are available on our website at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/957aa7-consent-requirements-constructionalteration-ofwatercourse-infrastru/>

Please note that, in the context of seeking consent under Section 50, the current required design standard for bridges or culverts is based on the flood with an annual exceedance probability of 1% (often referred to as the 100 year flood), increased by 20% to cater for the effects of Climate Change. Bridges or culverts are required to be able to convey this design flood without significantly altering the hydraulic characteristics of the



watercourse – further details on this issue are available in the brochure and can be clarified depending on the circumstances of any particular proposed bridge or culvert.

You should be aware that a grant of Planning Permission by a planning authority for a development which contains bridges or culverts does not confer section 50 consent on the applicant, nor does it absolve the applicant from the requirement to obtain such consent from the Commissioners.

With regard to any proposed Grid Connection Route which may cross several water courses. If the cable and ducting are to be buried in the road, as they cross bridges over the water courses, and there is no interference with the opening in the bridge spanning the watercourse, then there is no issue. On the other hand, if it is proposed to pass the cable in its ducting through the opening of any bridge or culvert, this would be considered to be a modification of a bridge and it would require the consent of the Commissioners under Section 50 as mentioned above. Similarly, if it is proposed to carry the cable in its ducting across watercourses on new support structures spanning the watercourses, these should be treated as if they are bridges, and the consent of the commissioners under Section 50 should be obtained. If the cable and ducting is to be buried under the natural bed of the watercourses being crossed, Section 50 would not apply, and we would recommend that the duct be buried a sufficient distance below the natural bed to allow for erosion and mobility of the stream bed.

We would recommend that a flood risk assessment be carried out with regard to the proposed development and its construction. This should consider all sources, pathways and receptors of flood risk including nearby drainage district channels. This should be carried out in accordance with the principles set out in the guideline document “The Planning System and Flood Risk Management” as published by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the Office of Public Works. Please be aware that this is a separate issue from the requirement to obtain Section 50 consent as mentioned above.

In terms of the preparation of an EIAR, the matters referred to above principally relate to the Hydrology Section, and the Risk of Flooding on a development such as this can impact on Landscape (e.g. landslides that have been reported in recent years), Infrastructure (roads and bridges) and people and their homes, among other things. The aim of the Section 50 process, and the Flood Risk Assessment which is recommended would be to mitigate any increased risk of flooding and the consequences of same, as arising from the proposed development.

When referring to document Appendix 2. Project Description 2.2. Stage 1 Flood Risk Assessment – Section 4.1 Flood Risk Investigation, Subsection 4.1.1 OPW Flood Maps, a comment is made re: “Since there are no available flood maps, based on the map viewer, there is no flooding indicated at the proposed site”.



When you enter <https://www.floodinfo.ie/map/floodmaps/> a disclaimer is provided at the top right of the web page which in part states:

“It is a condition of use of this Website that you agree to be bound by the disclaimer and other terms and conditions set out herein (together, the "Terms and Conditions") and to the privacy policy on this Website. You are required to read the Terms and Conditions. By accepting the Terms and Conditions, you are entering into a legal agreement with the Commissioners to waive any legal rights on your part in respect of the content provided. By clicking “Confirm” and proceeding to access, retrieve, view, read and / or download any content, you are agreeing unconditionally and absolutely the Terms and Conditions. If you decline to enter into this legal agreement, you may not proceed to use this Website or access any content on the Website”. The disclaimer details the limitations and Conditions of Use for Flood Maps on floodinfo.ie. It should also be noted within Floodinfo.ie – Flood Maps under the National Indicative Flood Mapping – Present day Layer, “Data has been produced for catchments greater than 5km² in areas for which flood maps were not produced under the National CFRAM Programme and should be read in this context. River reaches that have been modelled are indicated by the NIFM Modelled River Centrelines dataset”.

Another important point to note is that since the submission of this planning application updates have been ongoing on floodinfo.ie which include the surrounding area of the proposed development. A print out is attached to this report entitled “Past Flood Event Local Area Summary Report” which summarises all past flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

Taking the above information into consideration the comment “Since there are no available flood maps, based on the map viewer, there is no flooding indicated at the proposed site” cannot be taken as factual due to the recent updates on floodinfo.ie and therefore a thorough and rigorous local flood risk analysis should be carried out at the site in question in relation to the proposed development.

Please also see appendix 1 attached entitled “Past Flood Event Local Area Summary Report”.

Yours sincerely,

Amy Reid

Amy Reid
Flood Project Management
17/04/2026

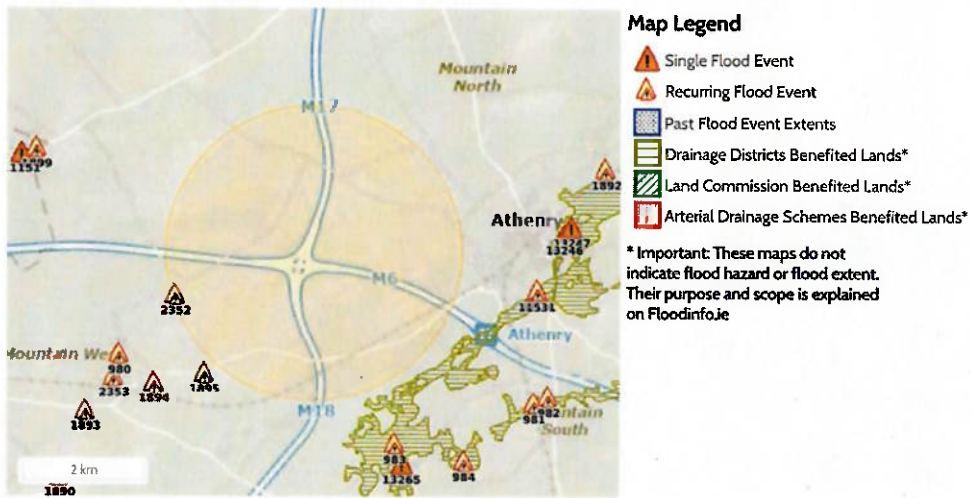
Past Flood Event Local Area Summary Report



Report Produced: 16/4/2026 19:33

This Past Flood Event Summary Report summarises all past flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

This report has been downloaded from www.floodinfo.ie (the "Website"). The users should take account of the restrictions and limitations relating to the content and use of the Website that are explained in the Terms and Conditions. It is a condition of use of the Website that you agree to be bound by the disclaimer and other terms and conditions set out on the Website and to the privacy policy on the Website.



1 Results

Name (Flood_ID)	Start Date	Event Location
1. Lisheenkyle East Galway Recurring (ID-2352)	n/a	Approximate Point

Additional Information: [Reports \(1\)](#) [Press Archive \(0\)](#)