



Uisce eireann observation

From Aine Rowan(C) <aine.rowan@water.ie>

Date Thu 4/23/2026 4:03 PM

To SIDS <sids@pleanala.ie>

 1 attachment (326 KB)

UÉ Response_PA07.324113 – Proposed Gas and diesel-Fired Peaker Plant, Athenry.pdf;

You don't often get email from aine.rowan@water.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to a referral for An Coimisiún Pleanála- Planning Ref PA07.324113 – Proposed Gas and diesel-Fired Peaker Plant, Athenry [324113](#) | [An Coimisiún Pleanála -](#)

Please find attached Uisce Éireann's observations.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Aine Rowan

Planning Application Specialist

Uisce Éireann

Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire

Uisce Éireann

Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

www.water.ie

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Is don duine amháin nó don eintiteas amháin ainmnithe ar an seoladh an fhaisnéis agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh na tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid den fhaisnéis. Tá toirmeasc ar aon daoine nó aon eititis; nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis-aon athbhreithniú a dhéanamh, aon atarchur a dhéanamh nó aon athdháileadh a dhéanamh, nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as an bhfaisnéis, nó aon ghníomh a bhraithfeadh ar an bhfaisnéis seo a dhéanamh agus d'fhéadfaí an dlí a shárú dá ndéanfaí sin. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas as aon ghníomh agus as aon iarmhairt bunaithe ar úsáid neamhúdraithe na faisnéise seo. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo agus séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann leis an bhfaisnéis a fháil. Má tá an ríomh-phost seo faighte agat trí dhearmad, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir más é do thoil é agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. D'fhéadfadh ríomhphost a bheith so-ghabhálach i leith truailithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasuithe neamhúdraithe. Séanann Uisce Éireann aon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo nó as aon dochar do

chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin tar éis a sheolta. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfadh monatóireacht a bheith á dhéanamh ar theachtairreachtaí chuig Uisce Éireann agus ó Uisce Éireann d'fhonn ár ngnó a chosaint agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuiltear ag teacht le beartais agus le caighdeáin Uisce Éireann. Is cuideachta gníomhaíochta ainmnithe é Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, a bunaíodh de bhun fhorálacha na n-Achtanna um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2007-2022, a bhfuil a bpríomh-ionad gnó ag Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential, commercially sensitive and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful. Uisce Éireann accepts no liability for actions or effects based on the prohibited usage of this information. Uisce Éireann is neither liable for the proper and complete transmission of the information contained in this communication nor for any delay in its receipt. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. E-Mail may be susceptible to data corruption, interception and unauthorised amendment. Uisce Éireann accepts no responsibility for changes to or interception of this e-mail after it was sent or for any damage to the recipients systems or data caused by this message or its attachments. Please also note that messages to or from Uisce Éireann may be monitored to ensure compliance with Uisce Eireann's policies and standards and to protect our business. Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company limited by shares, established pursuant to the Water Services Acts 2007-2022, having its principal place of business at Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.

Thank you for your attention.

Uisce Éireann's Ref: PN26000038834

Planning Ref: Planning Ref PA07.324113 – Proposed Gas and diesel-Fired Peaker Plant, Athenry

Planning Authority: Galway County Council

Issue Date: 23 April 2026

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

Development Description: Proposed Gas and diesel-Fired Peaker Plant, Athenry

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 448
Oifig Sheachadta na
Cathrach Theas
Cathair Chorcaí

Uisce Éireann
PO Box 448
South City
Delivery Office
Cork City

www.water.ie

A Chara,

Uisce Éireann (UÉ) has reviewed the plans and particulars submitted with the application and has the following observations;

Water Connection

The applicant has engaged with UÉ via a Pre-Connection Enquiry and UÉ can confirm that a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF) has been issued to the applicant advising that a water connection is feasible.

The COF states a connection is feasible without infrastructure upgrade by UÉ. It notes that no direct connection is permitted to the existing 300mm Trunk Main. The connection is feasible, however, a water network extension will be required to be installed by UÉ and funded by the applicant in order to facilitate the proposed development. Approximately 2 km's of existing water mains will be required to be upsized to 150mm in order to satisfy the proposed demands. The main will also need to be extended along the public road to the proposed connection point (approximately 150 metres). Tank Filling will be limited to occur only during night time off peak flow times. The applicant will be responsible for ensuring the tanks are to be filled strictly between the hours of 12am and 6am by way of automated controls.

The applicant shall enter into a Connection Agreement with Uisce Éireann to provide for a service connection to the public water supply and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.

Public Water Source Protection

The proposed development is located in the drinking water abstraction catchment for the Tuam Regional Water Supply, with the development being located c.25 km from the abstraction on Lough Corrib. The proposed development is not located within a groundwater catchment / Zone of Contribution (ZOC).

The applicant's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) notes that no surface water features were identified within the study area and there is no hydrological connection from the development site and Lough Corrib. UÉ's assessment concludes there are no streams or drains identified on the site. The applicant's EIAR and the Construction & Environment Management

Plan (CEMP) submitted with the application are comprehensive and propose strong mitigation measures for the protection of surface water and groundwater.

Additionally, in Section 12.3.5 (Public Water Supply & Reservoirs) of the EIAR, it is noted by the applicant of the contact made at pre-planning stage with UÉ as part of the EIAR scoping exercise, where UÉ requested the applicant to consider: 'Any and all potential impacts on the nearby reservoir as public water supply water source(s) are assessed, including any impact on hydrogeology and any groundwater/ surface water interactions'. Their report notes that the closest public reservoir is Ballydavid which is over 4km in a direct line from the Proposed Development. *A public water supply such as this is assigned a very high importance, though the large distance from the site and the projects general lack of interaction with groundwater means that the risk to this receptor is negligible and thus has not been considered further. Additionally, reservoirs are typically hydraulically disconnected from the local groundwater regime thus it is considered extremely unlikely that changes to groundwater quality and flow would have the potential to impact the reservoirs.*


UÉ has undertaken a review of this application, and the supporting EIAR and CEMP submitted as part of this application. The proposed Open-cycle gas turbine power plant and associated infrastructure is located in the drinking water abstraction catchment for the Tuam Regional Water Supply, with the development being located c.25 km from the abstraction on Lough Corrib. UÉ requests that all of the mitigation measures outlined Chapter 12 of the EIAR Report and the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) are implemented for the duration of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed project.

To ensure adequate provision and protection of water and wastewater facilities, Uisce Éireann recommends the following;

1. Uisce Éireann requests that all of the mitigation measures outlined Chapter 12 of the EIAR Report and the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) are implemented for the duration of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed project.
2. Where the applicant seeks a connection to the public network, the applicant shall enter into a connection agreement with Uisce Éireann prior to the commencement of the development and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.
3. There shall be no build over of public infrastructure from these proposals. Separation distances as per Uisce Éireann's Standards Codes & Practices shall be achieved where public infrastructure is in situ within and/or adjacent to site boundaries*.
4. The development shall not impact public drinking water sources and/or abstraction point(s) and/or abstraction infrastructure**.
5. The design and construction of the Water & Wastewater pipes and related infrastructure to be installed in this Development shall comply with the Uisce Éireann Connections and Developer Services Standard Details and Codes of Practice.

Queries relating to the terms and observations above should be directed to planning@water.ie

Yours sincerely,



Dermot Phelan
Connections and Developer Services

Advisory Note(s):

*Uisce Éireann does not permit build over of its assets. Separation distances from public infrastructure, as per Uisce Éireann's Standards Codes and Practices must be achieved. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit a diversion enquiry to Uisce Éireann Diversions Section (diversions@water.ie) prior to construction, where a potential build over of public assets is in question and/or where the applicants proposals cannot achieve separation distances from public infrastructure as per UÉ Standards & Codes of Practice.

** Protection of drinking water source(s) from potentially adverse impacts is a priority for Uisce Éireann. It is Uisce Éireann's current policy to maintain safe and secure drinking water supplies and ensure that development will not give rise to any deterioration in water quality. Development proposals shall not impact public drinking water sources and/or abstraction point(s). It is also a requirement of the Water Framework Directive that waters used for the abstraction of drinking water are protected to avoid deterioration in quality. Development proposals shall not impact public drinking water sources and/or abstraction point(s).

Any person discharging trade effluent** to a sewer, must have a Trade Effluent License issued pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 (as amended). More information and an application form for a Trade Effluent License can be found at the following link: <https://www.water.ie/business/trade-effluent/about/> . Trade effluent is defined in the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 (as amended).

Uisce Éireann does not permit surface waters into the public sewer network.