

OBSERVATION/SUBMISSION TO PLANNING APPLICATION

Case Reference: 324162

Daryl Fahy
Lisheenkyle East
Athenry
Galway
H65NY65

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 26 May 2026

Re: Observation to the proposed development of a 220kV substation, telecommunications mast and underground electricity cable infrastructure with associated works.

Location: Rathmorrissey, Pollnagroagh, Moanbaun, Castlelambert, Knocknacreeva, Caraunduff, Caherbriskaun, Lisheenkyle East, Barrettspark and Cashla (Townlands), Athenry, Co. Galway

Applicant: Bord Gáis Energy Limited

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am the owner and occupier of a dwelling located less than one kilometre from the proposed development. I wish to object on the basis of the direct and material impact that the associated electrical cable works may have on my property and residential amenity.

The proposed cable route appears to run along the road directly in front of my house. This would result in prolonged and significant disruption immediately adjacent to my home, potentially for a period of months. I am concerned about the effect this will have on access, traffic safety, noise, dust, vibration, and the day-to-day enjoyment of my property, particularly given that my house is situated at a busy junction.

I am also concerned as to how these excavation works may affect existing and future utility connections serving my property, including water, electricity, broadband, drainage, and other services. No clear information has been provided as to how such services will be identified, protected, maintained, or reinstated during and after the works.

A further concern is the risk of damage to the entrance area and tarmac directly adjoining my property. Any excavation or heavy construction activity in this location creates a real risk of damage, poor reinstatement, and long-term deterioration in the surface and approach to my home. Clear assurances are required in this regard.

Of very significant concern is the possibility that trees at the junction across from my house may be removed or disturbed. These trees currently screen a busy neighbouring farmyard and help buffer the visual impact, noise, and odours associated with that use. Their removal would materially reduce the amenity value of my property, expose my house to a much poorer outlook, and, in my view, adversely affect the value of my home.

These are direct, personal, and property-specific impacts which should be fully assessed and addressed as part of the planning process.

Having reviewed the application documentation, I have outlined my concerns regarding the proposed development

Cumulative Construction Impact on Health and Wellbeing

I believe insufficient information has been provided regarding the cumulative impact of construction activity, heavy traffic movements, excavation works, noise and prolonged disruption on the health, wellbeing and quality of life of residents living close to the proposed infrastructure works.

Unsuitable Rural Location

I believe the proposed substation and mast are not suitable for this rural location. The development would introduce permanent industrial-scale infrastructure, including a 220kV substation, security fencing, lighting and telecommunications equipment, into an area characterised by homes, farms and open countryside.

Disruption to Rural and Residential Communities Along Route

The proposed 8.1km underground cable route would pass through a number of established rural and residential communities, including Rathmorrissey, Castletambert, Knocknacreeva, Caherbriskaun, Lisheenkyle East and Cashla. These are active farming and residential areas with homes, schools, farms and local businesses located along narrow rural roads. I am concerned about the level of disruption the proposed works would cause to residents, farms, local roads and daily community life.

Inadequate Assessment of Disruption to Communities

I believe insufficient consideration has been given to the effect prolonged trenching works, stop/go traffic systems, temporary road closures and traffic diversions would have on the normal functioning of local communities. I do not believe adequate assessment has been provided regarding the likely impact of prolonged disruption on residents, emergency access, school transport, farms and daily community movement, particularly given the scale of the proposed construction activity and associated HGV traffic on local roads including the L3103.

Protection and Reinstatement of Mature Trees and Hedgerows

I do not believe sufficient information has been provided regarding how mature trees, hedgerows and root

systems would be protected during construction works or how damaged vegetation would be reinstated afterwards. In my view, the long-term maintenance, stability and safety implications for roadside trees and boundary vegetation have not been adequately addressed.

Safety Risks Near Lisheenkyle National School

The proposed cable route passes in close proximity to Lisheenkyle National School along narrow rural roads with limited visibility and no proper hard shoulders. I am concerned that trenching works, construction activity, increased traffic volumes and temporary traffic management measures would create additional safety risks and disruption for children, parents and school staff, particularly during school drop-off and collection times.

Impact on Property Values and Investment Confidence

The proposed substation, underground cable infrastructure and associated development could negatively influence future residential development, land use potential and investment confidence within the area. As a resident/property owner in the area, I am concerned that the cumulative impact of this infrastructure could reduce the attractiveness of the locality for existing and future residents and adversely affect the long-term enjoyment, value and future use of nearby properties and landholdings.

Cannot Be Assessed in Isolation from the Wider Development

Although this application relates to grid connection infrastructure, I believe the proposed substation, mast and cable route cannot be properly assessed in isolation from the wider connected energy development to which it relates. The planning documentation does not adequately assess the combined and cumulative impact of the proposed infrastructure on the surrounding rural area, road network, residential amenity, agricultural activity and local environment in accordance with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

Conclusion

I believe the proposed development is not suitable for this rural location and would contribute to the long-term industrialisation of the surrounding countryside. The likely impacts on homes, farms, schools, local roads, biodiversity and community life have not been fully addressed or adequately mitigated within the application documentation. For these reasons, I do not believe the proposal is consistent with proper planning and sustainable development, and I respectfully request that permission be refused.

Yours Sincerely,

Daryl Fahy

Name: Daryl Fahy

Date: 26 May 2026