

PLANNING REFERENCE VA07.324162

FROM PETER AND TERESA MCTIERNAN,

POOLAGOOIL, CASTLELAMBERT, ATHENRY, CO GALWAY.

POSTCODE H65F240

We strongly object to the above planning application based on the following reasons -

1. ROAD SUBSOIL & LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURE

- Permanent 220kV cable and concrete joint bays will remain beneath local rural roads beside homes and farms long after construction ends
- No landowner along L-7109, L-71093, L-7108, L-71082 or L-3103 has been consulted — no wayleave, compensation or access discussion initiated

2. ROAD CLOSURES — NO DIVERSION PLAN

- L7105: **5 months full closure** (applicant's own EIA)
- L7109: **3.5 months full closure**
- No road-by-road diversion plan provided for any affected road
- No assessment of emergency access, school buses or farm access

- The application gives no information on future maintenance, future road openings or long-term access impacts on these communities

3. CASTLELAMBERT BRIDGE — CONFIRMED UNSAFE

- Applicant's own engineers (Akins/Beakis) formally certified the bridge as structurally unsafe under project loads
- The cable route runs directly past the same bridge — no combined structural assessment provided for machine crossing the bridge or working around it

- Walkers, cyclists and runners face complete route disruption with no alternative planned

4. ROCK BREAKING — YOUR HOME AND FARM

- 22-tonne rock breaker confirmed for use in karst limestone — close to homes and farm buildings
- No vibration assessment or pre-construction structural survey offered to any landowner
- GNI high-pressure gas main at Knocknacreeva — no assessment of 400m blasting exclusion zone conflict

5. NOISE — NO BASELINE SURVEY

- No noise survey at any home along the 6km road corridor
- Comparable Gannow application on the same roads has a full baseline survey — this one does not

6. ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS

- No EMF assessment at any residential property or farm along the 6.1km cable route
- Published research links ELF-EMF to impacts on dairy cattle — not assessed

7. BATS & BIODIVERSITY — PROTECTED SPECIES

- 7 bat species confirmed along the route — all protected under EU Habitats Directive
- Bat survey: only **13 nights in June** — inadequate methodology
- 11 × 20m permanent floodlighting masts at Rathmomssey operating at night in confirmed bat habitat
- Hedgerow loss: permanent significant negative effect — only mitigation offered is 2 years monitoring

8. SPLIT APPLICATION — NO CUMULATIVE ASSESSMENT

- Two separate applications prevent a full combined environmental, traffic and ecological assessment of the overall project
- Gannow Wind Farm (ACP 500493) proposes to use the same roads — 142 HGV movements per day with no combined impact assessment