

Tushaline Sahseetharan

From: sarah barkans <sarahbarkans@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: Saturday, August 29, 2026 6:15 PM
To: SIDS
Subject: ACP-324165-26 FURTHER SUBMISSION

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Sarah Barkans
Hagal Farm
Coomleagh West
Bantry
P75 K773
2026/8/29

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: ACP-324165-26

I write with reference to An Coimisiun Pleanála's letter of 14 August in which I was invited to provide a further submission with regards to nature conservation in response to the planning request by Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Ltd to erect turbines in 'our' valley.

My main concern with the applicant's response concerns the night time lighting of the turbines (EIAR Ch15 15.2.4.3). The applicant has confirmed to the Department of Defence that each of the 14 turbines is to be lit up 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with strong red aviation obstacle lights of 2,000 candela. There have been no surveys or assessments made by the company regarding how these bright lights will impact on night time flight to migrating birds, owls etc. They have not collected any data on night time flight.

Artificial light sources can alter the sensory perception of nocturnal insects and birds (phototaxis), causing disorientation, exhaustion and fatal collisions with man made structures. Migratory songbirds navigate primarily at night and the risk to them is increased during periods of low visibility such as fog or low clouds which is a common occurrence in the Mealagh Valley.

A study by M Grubisic et al - Insect declines and agroecosystems: does light pollution matter? <https://doi.org/10.1111/aab.12440> found that artificial light also has a profound effect on insect populations which has consequences for natural pest control, pollination and nutrient cycling.

I would also like to remind you that the Derreenacrinnig West turbines are planned to have fixed red lights (EIAR 13.8.5) - which in all likelihood will exacerbate the situation for both birds and insects.

Please would you kindly request that Maughanaclea Renewable Energy addresses my concerns regarding artificial night lighting on birds, insects and the environment and backs up any claims with long term studies and surveys.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Barkans