



Date: 25th June 2026

To

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

**Magheraboy
Killygordon
Co Donegal**

R.E. An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: PAX03.324270

Proposed development of 9 no. wind turbines, a permanent extension to the existing 110kV Slievecallan substation at Knockalassa, and associated infrastructure and works

A Chairde,

I wish to make a formal observation and submission in relation to the above Planning Application.

This proposal consists of 9 no. wind turbines.

I write in my capacity as an elected member in Donegal, having been appraised of this development by locals in County Clare who will be affected by this development. They contacted me as I have an extensive history in regard to wind turbine development and planning applications in my own County.

I want to make specific reference to a windfarm development at Meenbog, Co. Donegal. You may be aware of a very serious bogslide which occurred at the Meenbog Windfarm site on the 13th November 2020. That morning, the earth literally began to move at Meenbog, when thousands of tonnes of peat slipped down the hillside from the area surrounding the windfarm development. The resulting suspended solids caused the river to become saturated with peat. A subsequent video which went viral that weekend with the shocking images of fully grown trees sliding down the hill.

Magheraboy, Killygordon, Co. Donegal.



Material from the bog slide made its way into the Shruhingarve stream which is a tributary of the Mourne Beg River. Donegal County Council liaised with a wide range of agencies from both jurisdictions in order to coordinate the response to the event and a multi-agency response was initiated between DCC, Derry City and Strabane District Council, Lough's Agency, NIEA, NPWS and the EPA.

The Meenbog landslide has been acknowledged by Department and Statutory agencies in both jurisdictions as being an environmental catastrophe.

The windfarm development at Meenbog was opposed by the elected members of Donegal County Council and a majority of residents in the area at the time of the application. Expert analysis during the planning process, particularly from Dr Paul Johnson and Dr Pdraig O'Cathain warned that a bogslide of this kind was a probability if this windfarm was granted planning permission. Yet, we the elected members and the people living in the locality were ignored by An Bord Pleanála.

I would reference at this point mapping which was carried out by Geological Survey Ireland, called the National Landslide Susceptibility Mapping. This survey was done between 2007 and 2016. These maps were prepared with the purpose of assessing landslide susceptibility to assist in the identification of areas that are likely to experience land sliding and develop a model for susceptibility mapping on a national level. <https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c>

These maps ascertained that the area surrounding the Meenbog Windfarm was of a Moderate risk of landslides, not high, moderate. Yet due to the large scale industrial development in the area to construct a windfarm, we had a major landslide in November 2020.

It is my understanding that the terrain of the proposed windfarm subject to this planning application is of a similar nature to that of Meenbog.

I would implore you to take into consideration the disastrous events at Meenbog which occurred at the site of a major windfarm development. Please pay close attention to the GSI Mapping with reference to landslide susceptibility.

And please, learn from the mistakes of the past. Learn from Meenbog and Derrynbrien. Ensure that environmental and ecological disasters are prevented rather than having to take mitigating measures to deal with the aftermath that large, industrial scale development can cause to unsuitable terrain.

I am happy to support the local residents, and would urge you to find against this development.

Should you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact me.

Is mise le meas,

Magheraboy, Killygordon, Co. Donegal.



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Cllr Gary Doherty
Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
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