

An
Bord
Pleanála

Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Observer's details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's name

Fergal MacMahon

(b) Observer's postal address

Gaoith na Mara,
Ballinoe,
Miltown Malbay,
Co.Clare.
V95 X583.

Agent's details

2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

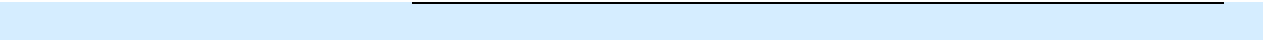
If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

N/A

(b) Agent's postal address

N/A



Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1

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The agent at the postal address in Part 2

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Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Bord Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**
(for example: 300000)

PAX03.324270

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

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

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Within the townlands of Tooreen, Fahanlunaghta More, Glendine North, Curraghodea, Silverhill, Cloghaun More, Letterkelly, Doonsallagh East, Knockalassa, Slievealoughaun and other townlands, Co. Clare.
(www.slieveacurryplanning.com)

Observation details

5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word** limit as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

I wish to object to SID Application Ref. 324270 by Slieveacurry Ltd.

A Chara

I wish to make an observation on the following application to ACP.
(PAX03.324270)

Please also refer to An Bord Pleanála Board Order ABP-312728-22.
Planning Register Reference Number 211226.
which already refused application for wind turbines in this area.

I wish to object most strongly to the proposed development of wind turbines at the above location. My farm bounds the proposed area of development for over 2,KM in length and in particular turbines T7 & T8 and substations and other plant and cable routes associated with the proposed wind farm will adversely affect me.

I'd also like to make it clear that the proposed turbine T9, and the link to T4, including enhancement works, roads construction and deforestation have all been planned for, on land that doesn't belong to the individual named on the planning application, and he doesn't have any claim or legal right to this land.

All lands included in Folio's CE10487 & CE10587 are the subject of High Court proceedings, (High Court – Record No: 2024/409) and as such should not have been included in the planning application. If the lands are used as part of any grant of planning I will pursue legal proceedings.

I'm more than surprised that "Slieveacurry Ltd" accepted the bona fide of this person, as he has previously claimed to own lands at Coore, Miltown Malbay, where a windfarm had been planned, but didn't then or doesn't now own them.
(<https://clarechampion.ie/public-behind-windfarm-say-developers/>)

5. Grounds

Strictly Private & Confidential
Company Secretary
Slievecurry Limited
Lissarda Business Park
Lissarda
County Cork

Our Ref:
DHAF4800

Your Ref:

Date:
10th June 2026

Re:- The Estate of the late Michael McMahon, Deceased/ Teresa McMahon
High Court - Record Number: 2024/409
Our client: Fergal McMahon

Dear Sirs,

We confirm we act for Fergal McMahon who is currently involved in High Court litigation bearing the above record number against the Estate of Michael McMahon, Deceased and Executrix, Teresa McMahon.

Our client has viewed a letter written by a Roman McMahon, son of Teresa McMahon, care of Glendine, Miltown Malhy, County Clare, wherein he consents to the use of lands in a planning application to be lodged by you and which he describes as his "identified lands".

It is our understanding that some of those lands are the subject matter of this ongoing litigation, do not belong to Roman McMahon and in those circumstances it is extraordinary that such a letter would have been written and given to you for use in a planning application.

We wrote to the solicitors acting for the Estate of the late Michael McMahon, Deceased / Teresa McMahon seeking an explanation and no reply is forthcoming.

In those circumstances, our client has had no option but to now write to you and also to Roman McMahon.

Unless the matter is resolved satisfactorily by the withdrawal of this letter injunctive relief will be sought against all parties as well as our client's legal costs

Yours faithfully,

Hassett Considine Solicitors LLP
E-mail: ghassett@hassettconsidine.ie

This development has previously been refused planning permission by Clare County Council on 4 major and broad grounds, and subsequently been rejected by An Board Pleanala on appeal, and I feel that there are several reasons that this area is unsuitable, none the least the lack of need or demand in the area with the proposed construction of an off shore wind farm off the Clare / Galway coast.

I feel that the loses to biodiversity along with the adverse effects on the blanket bogs, streams and watercourses, are too great in this instance, in an area already shouldering the burden of wind energy.

As a farmer in the area, I have changed my system of farming over the years, as have many of my neighbours, to become more Environmentally friendly, realising that we live and farm in a unique environment.

We don't cut turf in our bogs, we don't cut our hay or silage in protected meadows until the ground nesting birds have hatched and the fledglings have moved on, we protect our watercourses and are very careful with the application of fertilizers on our land.

The result of this is that wildlife is abundant in this area, The Hen Harrier can now be seen most days here. The March Fritillary Butterfly is thriving in our meadows, among a host of other protected birds and mammals. I would like echo my son Cathal's observation in an effort not to duplicate information.

It seems totally alien to me that it makes sense to dig up hundreds of tonnes of peat from the bogs, and fill it back in with hundreds of tonnes of concrete to erect industrial wind turbines, and then call it green electricity, with scant respect for the environment. There has to be a better way.

5. Grounds

This proposal forms part of an ongoing concentration and proliferation of wind energy development across the Slieveacurry, Slievenalicka, Illaunbaun, Tooreen, Lackamore and adjoining West Clare uplands.

The area has already been the subject of multiple planning refusals by Clare County Council and An Bord Pleanála, including ABP Case Ref. 312728, where serious concerns were identified regarding:

- unacceptable visual impact,
- skyline intrusion,
- cumulative landscape impact,
- peatland disturbance,
- hydrological risk,
- biodiversity impacts,
- and impacts on protected species and European sites.

The current proposal has failed to adequately overcome these previously identified concerns.

This development must not be assessed in isolation.

It must be assessed cumulatively alongside:

- the previously refused Slieveacurry proposal,
- the refused Illaunbaun Wind Farm proposal,
- the Slievenalicka proposal,
- existing operational turbines,
- and all associated substations, access roads, grid connections and related infrastructure across the same upland landscape.

There is a serious concern that the cumulative environmental effects of these connected wind energy projects are being fragmented across separate planning applications rather than assessed comprehensively as a single cumulative wind energy cluster.

Under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended), projects cannot be artificially segmented or “project split” in a manner which understates their true cumulative environmental effects.

Given the overlap in:

- townlands,
- landscape character areas,
- ecological corridors,
- hydrological systems,

5. Grounds

- visual receptors,
 - and shared infrastructure,
- the cumulative effects of these developments require full integrated assessment.

The continued proliferation of large-scale wind energy development across this sensitive upland landscape would result in the excessive industrialisation of rural West Clare and would materially damage the visual character and amenity of the area.

The previous refusals already identified the landscape as visually sensitive and unsuitable for turbine development of this scale.

The proposal would also adversely affect residential amenity through:

- overbearing visual impact,
- dominance of the surrounding landscape,
- noise and shadow flicker concerns,
- and the degradation of the rural living environment.

The cumulative industrialisation of the area also gives rise to legitimate concerns regarding the long-term attractiveness, residential desirability and value of homes within the surrounding communities.

Particular concern also arises regarding impacts on protected species including Hen Harrier, Golden Plover, Curlew and Marsh Fritillary habitat.

The Hen Harrier is protected under Annex I of the Birds Directive 2009/147/EC.

The Marsh Fritillary is protected under Annex II of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

Under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, permission can only be granted where it has been established beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site either individually or in combination with other plans or projects.

Given the scale and concentration of wind energy development now proposed within the same upland landscape and adjoining townlands, significant uncertainty remains regarding:

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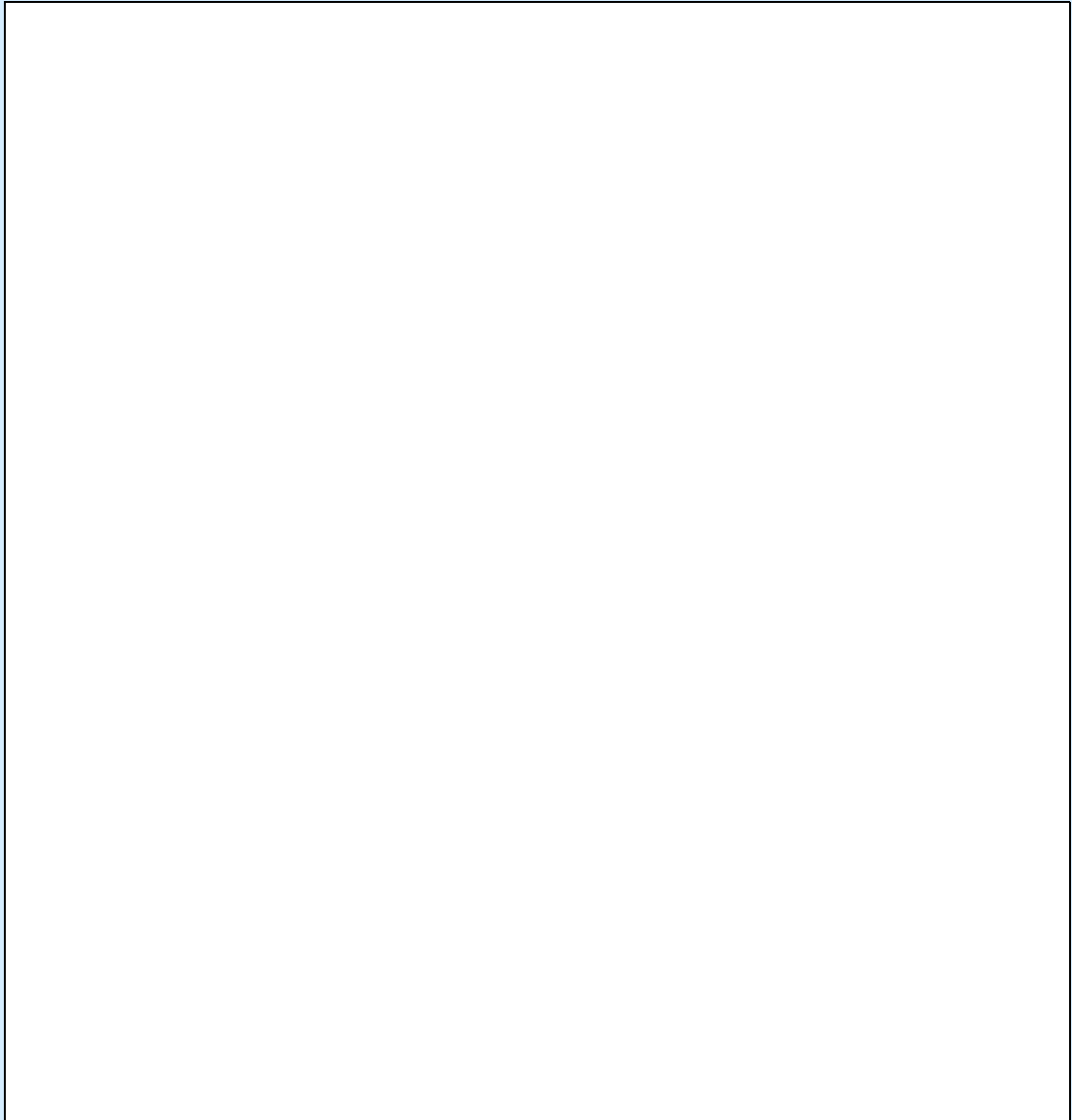
- cumulative ornithological impacts,
- habitat fragmentation,
- peat stability,
- hydrological impacts,
- and downstream impacts on European sites.

The precautionary principle must therefore apply.

The proposed development would materially conflict with the landscape protection, biodiversity protection and residential amenity objectives of the Clare County Development Plan.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed development.

5. Grounds



Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to [request the Board to hold an oral hearing](#), please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing

☐

No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

☐

Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

For Office Use Only

FEM – Received		SIDS – Processed	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

Notes