

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	288733
ACP-	
29 JUN 2026	
Fee: € 50	Type: <i>Plus</i>
Time: 4/15	By: <i>DR</i>

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Planning Application Reference VA04.324274 – Coom Green Energy Park – Proposed 110kV Substation and Underground Cable Connection

Please accept this email as our submission in relation to the above planning application.

We recognise the important role that renewable energy will play in helping Ireland meet its climate and energy targets, and we understand that the proposed substation and underground cable connection are intended to facilitate the export of renewable electricity to the national grid. We are not opposed to renewable energy in principle. However, we have a number of concerns regarding this proposal which we respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to carefully consider before making a decision.

Our concerns include the following:

- The impact of the proposed development on the rural landscape and the character of the surrounding area.
- The disruption that the installation of almost 14 kilometres of underground cabling will have on local roads, residents, businesses, landowners and farming activities.
- The adequacy of the proposed traffic management arrangements during construction, particularly on narrow rural roads where significant delays and road safety issues may arise.
- The cumulative impact of this proposal when considered alongside existing and proposed renewable energy developments in the area.

A particular concern is the lack of clarity regarding the long-term purpose and future use of this infrastructure. While we understand that the immediate purpose of the proposed substation and underground cable is to connect the Coom Green Energy Park to the national electricity network, many local residents remain uncertain as to whether this infrastructure has also been designed to facilitate additional future developments or further expansion beyond what is currently being presented. If this is the case, those cumulative impacts should be fully assessed now rather than through a series of separate applications. The public is entitled to understand the full long-term purpose and capacity of the infrastructure being proposed before any decision is made.

We also seek confirmation that a comprehensive ecological assessment has been carried out across the full extent of the proposed development. The area is recognised locally as supporting a rich diversity of habitats, wildlife, flora and fauna, and there is understandable concern regarding the potential impact of the proposed works on biodiversity. We respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála be satisfied that all ecological surveys have been undertaken at the appropriate time of year, that protected species and habitats have been fully identified and assessed, and that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement fully address

these issues. Any mitigation measures should be robust, enforceable and monitored throughout both the construction and operational phases of the development.

Should permission be granted, we respectfully request that strict planning conditions be attached to ensure that all roads, verges, drainage systems, entrances, walls and boundaries affected during construction are fully reinstated to the satisfaction of the relevant local authority, with appropriate financial bonds in place to guarantee these works.

Finally, we respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála ensures that the proposal has been comprehensively assessed in terms of its environmental, ecological, social and infrastructural impacts and that the precautionary principle is applied where any uncertainty remains.

We thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Yours faithfully,

William O'Leary

Ballybrowney

Rathcormac

Co. Cork



Liam Cotter

Coolnakilla

Fermoy

Co. Cork



Micheál Harrington

Mullintoura

Rathcormac

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