

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
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By:	REG-POST

Paddy Dwyer
Longford Pass
Urlingford
Thurles
Co.Tipperary
E41H342

To : An Coimisiún Pleanála

Re: Case Ref. 324370-Formal

Objection to the Proposed Borrow Pit (Quarry) Associated with the Littleton Wind Farm Development

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir /Madam,

I wish to lodge a formal complaint to the proposed borrow pit (quarry) forming part of the Littleton Wind Farm Development.

I have turbary rights to a bog with a right of way passing purposed borrow site and have been Bullied by Board Na Mona in a Mafia style tactics.

On March 2023 Alastair Cobbe working for Board Na Mona went to our right of way to my bog at a gate entrance on a Board of Works Road where I initiated a purposed Gate to be installed to stop illegal dumping that had taken place over some years with the help of board na mona in Littleton in the briquette factory.

My family have been in this bog for generations I have turbary rights to my bog and there was some ground to one side of my boundary that was given to me by Bord na Mona briquette factory under Ray Yates former manager and Mr O Grady and Christy Healy. For the reason being it was waste ground to them and it is on the boundary of my bog.

I have had a close relationship with this group for years we all looked after this area together when I suggested a gate to stop dumping , board na mona accommodated the site with a gate. which I had bought a lock to secure and given a key to board na mona. Over the years many locks were cut due to people looking to dump but I prevailed by getting another and dropping keys to the briquette factory every time.

So, to my horror on April 2023 when it came to my attention that Alastair Cobbe had instructed Martin Moore who was hired in to dig a trench across a board of works right of way to prevent access to my bog and when approached about it, they

threatened to dig up the whole road to my bog which is approximately one mile further in. At the bog site Alastair Cobbe instructed Martin Moore to dig up the bog so it could not be used ,all this was done without my knowledge.

When approached in relation to above I was told they didn't know who owned the bog but everyone in this area and around know who owns this bog as we have been there for five generations to date. I have been greatly disturbed in relation to this as I am elderly man of now just going to be 80 years of age this has caused great stress and disappointment in my life it is the devastation that was instigated by Alastair Cobbe to my bog that I looked after my whole life with turf for my family only.

My son Paul Dwyer had rang Colm Dempsey to help with situation but was ignored after numerous calls he never rang back once over a two year period and it is with great disappointment that he is called liaison officer for Board Na Mona eventually this year gone Colm Dempsey came to site to see destruction and looked very dump founded as what he saw on behalf of his company.

Pictures have been included with this letter to show destruction and bullying tactics used by Board Na Mona.

So, my complaint for the borrow quarry pit on proposed site, is that it's going to be done in the same manner under cloak and dagger tactics with local residents not been considered and there voice's not been heard in relation to this site. That is questionable from the start it seems to me that there is behind the scenes financial gain to all that is concerned ie . Haydens .Board Na Mona ,Colm Dempsey.

Having reviewed the planning application and the environment impact assessment report, I have serious concerns regarding the impact this development will have on my family and nearby residents and the local environment and surrounding countryside.

1: Blasting, Noise and Vibration

The planning application states that blasting may be required within the purposed borrow pit to extract rock.

Given the close proximity of my home, I am extremely concerned about the blasting generating excessive noise, vibration and dust. These impacts will seriously affect the peaceful enjoyment of our home and concerns of effect of nearby buildings and property.

I respectfully ask the Board to carefully examine whether the predicated levels of blasting, vibration and noise are acceptable where homes are located so close to the proposed borrow pit.

2. Dust and Air Quality

The proposed quarry will generate dust from blasting, excavation, rock crushing and heavy vehicle movements. Dust will affect nearby homes, gardens, farmland and the surrounding environment.

I am concerned that this will reduce air quality and negatively affect the health and wellbeing of my family and neighbouring residents.

3. Groundwater and Water Well

I have my water well and I have concerns that blasting and excavation could affect both the quality and quantity of the groundwater supplying this well. I am also joined in a local group water scheme that supplies water to residents, 12 number houses in total. I have concerns for the water well also.

4. Traffic and Road Safety

My family lives on a cul-de-sac road which is used by local residents and is not designed to accommodate significant volumes of construction traffic.

I am extremely concerned that construction workers' vehicles, heavy quarry traffic and large lorries will regularly use this road to access the borrow pit.

This will increase traffic, noise and congestion while creating a serious safety risk for residents, pedestrians and children living on the road.

I ask that a full independent traffic assessment and road safety audit be carried out before any decision is made.

5. Impact on My Family

Two of my grand children have been diagnosed with dyslexia. They benefit from a quiet, calm and stable home environment to support their learning and wellbeing.

The continuous disturbance from blasting, heavy machinery, quarry operations and increased traffic would significantly disrupt our family life and their ability to study and concentrate at home.

6. Wildlife and Biodiversity

I am concerned that the proposed borrow pit will damage the local natural environment and disturb wildlife living in the area.

Blasting, excavation, vegetation removal, noise and increased activity could affect birds, mammals and other wildlife that depend on these habitats.

I ask that An Coimisiún Pleanála carefully considers the impacts on biodiversity and ensures that protected species and habitats are fully safeguarded.

7. Restoration of the Borrow Pit

If permission is granted, I request that legally enforceable planning conditions require the borrow pit to be fully restored to its original agricultural condition once extraction has finished.

A financial bond should also be required to guarantee that restoration is completed regardless of any future change in ownership or the financial position of the developer.

8. Availability of an Existing Licensed Quarry

I understand that there are two existing licensed quarries located close to the proposed borrow pit.

Maher's quarry is 10 mins from proposed site and Roadstone ,Killough quarries are 19 mins away.

I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to consider whether it is necessary to permit a new borrow pit close to family homes when a licensed quarry already exists nearby.

I request that the applicant clearly demonstrates why suitable rock cannot be sourced from the existing licensed quarry instead of creating a new extraction site with additional environmental and residential impacts.

9. Loss of Residential Amenity

The combined effects of blasting, vibration, dust, heavy traffic, noise and visual impact will significantly reduce the quality of life of my family and other nearby residents.

I do not believe these impacts are acceptable given the close proximity of the proposed borrow pit to our home.

Conclusion

For all the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuses planning permission for the proposed borrow pit associated with the Littleton Wind Farm development. The proposal would have significant adverse impacts on nearby residents through blasting, vibration, dust, noise, traffic, potential effects on groundwater, impacts on wildlife and biodiversity, and the loss of residential amenity.

I also ask the Board to carefully consider the safety implications of construction traffic using our cul-de-sac road, the impact on my family, including my two grand children with dyslexia, and whether a new borrow pit is necessary when there is an existing licensed quarry located so close to proposed site. Should the Board decide to grant permission, I request that the strictest possible planning conditions be imposed, including independent monitoring of blasting, vibration, noise, dust, groundwater and traffic, together with legally enforceable restoration of the borrow pit supported by an appropriate financial bond.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours faithfully,

Paddy Dwyer







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