

Daniel O'Connor

21/0 27/8

From: Sarah Conaghan <sarahconaghan8@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday 27 August 2026 21:26
To: Appeals2
Subject: Case Reference: SU05E.324433
Attachments: Case Ref SU05E324433 Meenbog S Conaghan.docx

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Hi

I have sent it as an attachment also. Thank you.

Observation submitted by: Sarah Conaghan, Kinletter, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal F93T92H

Case Reference: SU05E.324433

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to application for Substitute Consent for Meenbog Wind Farm development.

I previously objected to this development during the original planning process in 2015 and again in 2018. At that time, many local residents and community members raised concerns about the suitability of this sensitive upland peatland landscape for such a large-scale development. Unfortunately, the events that followed proved those concerns were justified.

My home place in Tyrone was only half a mile from Meenbog across the border. My grandparents owned the farm in Meenbog near directly below where the bogslide took place. As a child 60years ago my family and I worked there with my parents and uncles. We were told and we knew not to go into the hill above the farm as it was a bog and was dangerous due to swamp conditions. However, the wildlife had a haven there untouched for years, we had the lapwing, buzzards, hen harrier, foxes and deer all had a home untouched and safe. As recent as the time of the windfarm planning we still had 2 pairs of hen harrier there.

On the morning of 13th November 2020 I was first at Meenbog bridge on way to work, the bogslide occurred the night before. The photos and videos captured the images and the sound of the bog and trees rolling down the hill into the Shruhanganarve burn on its way to the river Mourne and on to rivers in Co Tyrone. For me it was the overwhelming smell of the ancient peat rolling down the hill, that no footage can ever truly capture and for days that smell lingered in the area. It was an eerie feeling being there those days.

The developer is now seeking to regularise and complete this development through the Substitute Consent process. In my view, the history of this project does not justify such an outcome.

The fact that environmental damage occurred, combined with the planning and legal issues that have arisen, raises serious concerns about whether this site was ever suitable for this form of development. The natural environment is one of this region's most valuable assets and once damaged it cannot easily be restored.

The experience at Meenbog demonstrates that the concerns raised by local communities and independent experts were well-founded. This is not a case where objectors were proven wrong, it is where the very risks that people warned about subsequently occurred.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála refuse substitute consent and refuse permission for the completion of this development.

Yours faithfully,

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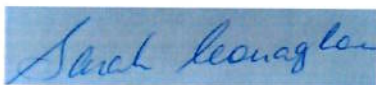
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