

Ronan Megannety

From: Appeals2
Sent: Friday 28 August 2026 10:29
To: Ronan Megannety
Subject: FW: Meen bog wind farm Ref no SU05E.324433/ACP-324433-26

From: philip mannus <phil_mannus34@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday 27 August 2026 19:23
To: Appeals2 <appeals@pleanala.ie>
Subject: Meen bog wind farm Ref no SU05E.324433/ACP-324433-26

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I am submitting a formal objection to the application referred to above.

In 2024, the High Court in Dublin directed that construction on this project must stop. The developer is now applying for Substitute Consent to regularise works already carried out without authorisation and to complete the wind farm. In my view, this raises serious concerns under the Habitats, Water Framework and Birds Directives.

- Blanket bog and peat soils are exceptionally sensitive environments that have developed over millennia. Major works such as road construction and turbine foundations can destabilise them. The previous landslide has already shown the consequences, and there is no clear indication that the site's geotechnical risks have been resolved.
- The impacts did not stop at the local site boundary. Material from the development entered the Shruhangerve Stream and then the Mourne Beg River, affecting waters that flow across the border and may impact protected areas in Northern Ireland. Residents throughout the wider area remain concerned that this could happen again.
- This was not simply a matter of minor non-compliance. The courts determined that the entire wind farm amounted to unauthorised development, making the issue one of fundamental planning and environmental compliance.
- The November 2020 peat slide was a serious warning. An estimated 86,000 cubic metres of peat and debris left the site and entered nearby watercourses. Such an event demonstrates the potential scale of harm if ground conditions fail.
- Approving Substitute Consent after the fact could send the wrong message: that developers may proceed with unauthorised construction first and seek permission retrospectively later.
- Previous grid-connection proposals were rejected as premature. Given that the legal and planning position of the overall development remains uncertain, it would also be premature to grant approval for this application at this stage.

- The project has remained incomplete since 2019, with turbines and rotors reportedly still being stored rather than installed. This prolonged delay does not inspire confidence in the project's management or in the ability to deliver it safely.
- Confidence in the developer has been damaged. The finding that the approved scheme was departed from in 25 separate ways gives legitimate cause for concern about whether future conditions and safeguards would be complied with.

For these reasons, I ask that the application be refused.

MY name is Philip Mannus and my address is 35 Omagh Road, Drumquin, Omagh, BT78 4QY

Can you please ensure that my name and address are kept private only for your records.

Many thanks

Phil.