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3 November 2026

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála, An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902

Case reference: VA04.324632

Description: Proposed development of a 220kV Air Insulated Substation (AIS) and Loop-in Grid Connection at Greenhills Solar Farm

Case type: Electricity Development Application

Location: Townlands of Ballyneague, Ballydaniel, Knocknagappagh, County Cork

Parties: Perigus Energy Ireland Midco Limited

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am submitting this objection regarding the proposed development of a 220 kV air-insulated substation and loop-in grid connection at Greenhills Solar Farm, Case Reference VA04.32463. The attached photographs illustrate the proximity of my residence to the proposed development at Greenhills Solar Farm. My family and I have significant concerns about our safety because of its location.

The development would directly overlook our country home, raising concerns about its environmental and visual impact on families in the area. We are particularly concerned about the potential effects on mental health, given the scale of the development and its unavoidable presence.

I am also concerned about the emergency procedures that would apply in the event of a fire at the facility. Before Perigus Energy Ireland Midco Ltd took ownership, Ørsted advised that evacuation might be necessary. However, there has been no communication regarding evacuation routes or safe locations, particularly in relation to children who may be attending

school during such an incident. This lack of information has caused anxiety within the community about the effectiveness of the emergency response plans. Questions also remain as to whether local fire services have the resources, training and water supply needed to manage a fire of this scale.

As climate change is expected to bring hotter Irish summers, the recent wildfire on Slievenamon, near Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, highlights the growing risk. Fire crews from Clonmel, Carrick-on-Suir and Cashel responded to the large blaze, which later reignited and required aerial support and assistance from several stations. Smoke from the fire was noticeable outside our home, approximately 97.5 kilometres away, or around a 1.5-hour drive. A fire at the proposed solar farm could similarly cause serious air pollution and endanger the health of people exposed to the fumes.

Having grown up on a farm, I am deeply concerned about the impact on agricultural land, animals and wildlife. As shown in the attached photographs, a variety of wildlife regularly visits our garden, including mice, deer, cats, rabbits, foxes and badgers. The proposed loss of agricultural land is particularly concerning because the site includes one of the largest dairy farms in Ireland. Converting land from agricultural use to energy production could affect wildlife, reduce local employment and decrease food production, potentially affecting the national dairy supply and product quality.

I acknowledge the importance of renewable energy; however, I believe that smaller-scale projects distributed across different locations would be more appropriate. The current proposal places an undue burden on one community and risks undermining local well-being and livelihoods.

I appreciate your attention to these concerns and thank you for considering this submission.

Kind regards,

Elizabeth Fitzgerald

















