

# Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

## Observer's details

### 1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's name

Caroline and James King

(b) Observer's postal address

Clonsast Lower Bracknagh Rathangan Co Kildare  
R51 Kw60

## Agent's details

### 2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Click or tap here to enter text.

(b) Agent's postal address

Click or tap here to enter text.

## Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

**You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1**

**The agent at the postal address in Part 2**

## Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Bord Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**  
(for example: 300000)

324055

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

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10 year permission for Derrynadarragh wind farm comprising of 9 no. wind turbines, onsite 110kV substation, turbine delivery route and a grid connection route.

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

located in various townlands in County Kildare, County Offaly and County Laois.



## Observation details

### 5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word limit** as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

Our family has lived in this area for 4 generations and have been privileged to live in an area so immersed in nature .

Of those 4 generations all 4 have farmed the land. They were and are custodians for future generations which has allowed us to continue to live in the area and help continue their legacy .

We have always been supportive of embracing environmentally friendly ways of ensuring the area and local wild life are protected for generations to come .

The local area currently has 6 wind farms . Mount Lucas, Monavane, Cloncreen , Yellow River and Cushling to consider the addition of another 9 turbine windfarm would completely saturate an area which is already at full capacity .

The proposed turbine towers will be approximately 105m in height and some 187m in height when the tip of the blade is at its highest .

This would be more than double the height of Irelands current highest building . There are no studies to confirm the effect of a structure of this height on the local habitat of residences as there are currently no structures of this magnitude in Ireland .

## 5. Grounds

To allow for the erection of the turbines ,60,100 sqm of trees will have to be destroyed which will have a profound and immediate effect on the local wildlife and landscape .

Wind farms can effect local wildlife through collision , habitat loss and displacement , primarily impacting birds and bats .Construction can destroyed habitats , while operating turbines can cause mortality through direct collision with blades . Noise and visual disturbances can also cause animals to avoid the area , disrupting their nesting and foraging behaviours .Over the last number of years we have seen an increase in the local wildlife due to the Glas schemes and bat boxes . These schemes have resulted to an increase in the local species of pine martins , sparrow hawks and bats but to name a few .

The introduction of wind turbines to their habitat will result in higher mortality and a decline in their numbers.

We have grave concerns as to the proposed windfarm which will result in 2 wind turbines being constructed in slightly over 1km behind or home .

I personally suffer from migraines which are debilitating and very painful .

These migraines can be triggered instantly by any form of flicker and result in my inability to attend work for a number of days due to their severity .

My concern is that the wind turbines cause flicker due to the rising and setting sun at different times of the day . We have received no assurances from Dara Energy Limited that this will not be the case .

My daughter suffers from Tinnitus . Tinnitus is the perception of sound in the ears or head when no external source is present, commonly described

## 5. Grounds

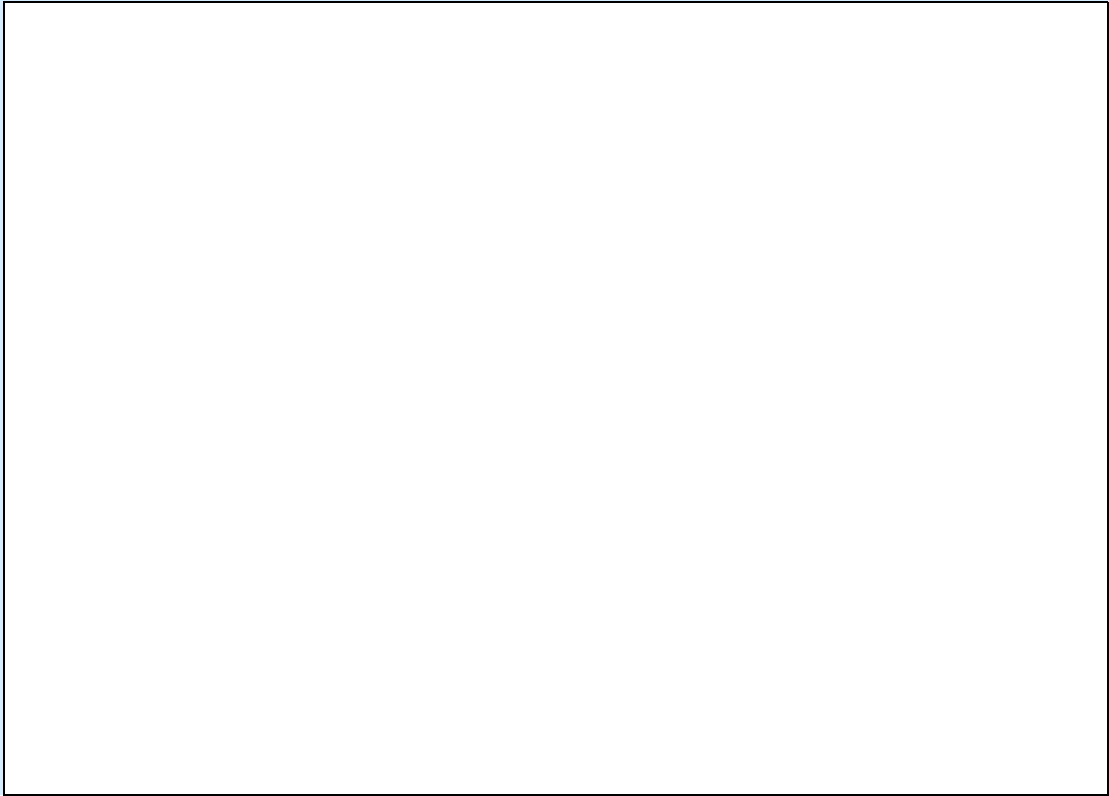
as ringing, buzzing, hissing, or clicking. It can range from an occasional annoyance to a persistent, bothersome condition that affects daily life, sleep, and concentration. Many factors can cause tinnitus, including loud noise exposure which we are concerned can be caused by the wind turbines and depending on the conditions sound can travel a considerable distance which will result in a worsening for her condition and lead to an increase and prolonged occurrence of her symptoms .

Property devaluation from nearby wind farms can result in a 8-12% drop within a 2 km radius , as our family home is situated just over a kilometre from the nearest wind turbine , our home currently valued at between E600,000 and E650,000 would devalue by between E48,000 and E78,000.

Having spent our whole married lives working to build a family home and having investing a considerably amount of money and time in achieving this, it very concerning to realise that if this wind farm should go ahead we will be at the loss of between E48,000 and E78,000.

We ask that you please consider the long term effects on an area which is already saturated with wind turbines for the short term gain as a wind turbine only has a proposed lifespan of 35 years and in many cases this can be up to 10 years less but the effects to the local environment may takes generations to recover if it ever can .

## 5. Grounds



## Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

## Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

### **Observers (except prescribed bodies)**

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

## Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to [request the Board to hold an oral hearing](#), please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

**Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing**

**No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing**

## Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

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**For Office Use Only**

<b>FEM – Received</b>		<b>SIDS – Processed</b>	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

**Notes**