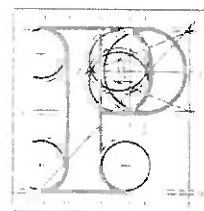


**Our Case Number:** ABP-319023-24



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

Kim and Jason Henry  
Togher  
Croghan  
Tullamore  
Co. Offaly  
R35 C2H7

**Date:** 08 April 2024

**Re:** Combined Cycle Gas Turbine and Open Cycle Gas Turbine Thermal Power Plant, Electricity Grid Connection including 2 no. substations, and associated buildings, plant, site works, service and ancillary development on land within the townlands Knockdrin, Derrygreenagh, Derryarkin, Derryiron, Ballybeg, Coolcor, Barrysbrook, Clonin, Togher and Coole, Co. Offaly. ([www.derrygreenaghpowerplanning.ie](http://www.derrygreenaghpowerplanning.ie))

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the local authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie).

If you have any queries in the meantime please contact the undersigned officer of the Board. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

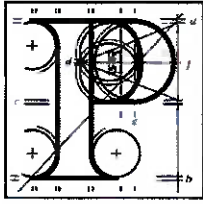
Yours faithfully,

Ellen Moss  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737285

PA04

Tel	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Gfao Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
Ríomhphost	Email	<a href="mailto:bord@pleanala.ie">bord@pleanala.ie</a>

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902



## 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

(b) Observer's postal address

### 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

(b) Agent's postal address

## 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)

319023

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

Combined Cycle Gas Turbine and Open Cycle Gas Turbine Thermal Power Plant, Electricity Grid Connection including 2 no. substations, and associated buildings, plant, site works, service and ancillary development

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

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

on land within the townlands Knockdrin, Derrygreenagh, Derryarkin, Derryiron, Ballybeg, Coolcor, Barrysbrook, Clonin, Togher and Coole, Co. Offaly.

## 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).

**1. Road Upgrade:** The road L1010 between Rhode village and Taylors Cross must be upgraded to accommodate construction traffic before any work begins. Currently built on peat foundations, this road presents challenging driving conditions for everyday car use and is in a constant state of repair. The bottleneck near the Rhode GAA pitch, where the road narrows to a single-vehicle pass, is already hazardous. Adding construction traffic to this congested area will exacerbate safety concerns. Given that BNM plans to utilize this route for 40% of construction traffic, it is imperative that necessary upgrades are made to ensure the safety of residents and commuters.

**2. Preservation of BNM loco walkway:** I propose that the proposed underground development be preserved as a walkway for local residents to continue to enjoy. This will not only provide a recreational space for the community but also contribute to the preservation of our natural environment.

**3. Community Benefit Fund Extension:** The proposed community benefit fund of €90,000 should be extended beyond the proposed 5-year agreement. This extension will ensure that the local community continues to benefit from the development over the long term.

## 5. Grounds

4. **Near Neighbouring Scheme:** Given that my family resides within 200 meters of the proposed underground cable proposal, we anticipate significant disruption during the construction phase. To mitigate the impact on our daily lives and property value, I urge BNM to consider "near neighbouring" scheme, providing necessary support and compensation to affected residents.

5. **Visual Impact:** The installation of pylons will irreversibly alter the landscape and heritage of Croghan Hill and the surrounding scenic peatlands. The visual intrusion of these structures will diminish the natural beauty of our surroundings and forever alter our skylines. I strongly oppose any development that compromises the integrity of our local environment and heritage.

## 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.

---

**For Office Use Only**

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

**Notes**