

Catherine

Derek Kelly

From: James Cantwell <jamesjccantwell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday 5 November 2025 07:21
To: Appeals2
Subject: Case SU19. 323676 Submission Regarding Lemanaghan Wind Farm
Attachments: Case 323676_Substitute Consent for Peat Extraction at Lemanaghan Bog_James Cantwell.pdf

Caution: This is an External Email and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

To whom it may concern

Please see letter attached with my submission in opposition to planning case 323676.

I ask you to carefully consider the past and future impacts of all peat extractions and commercial developments to the Lemanaghan Bog habitat, and oppose any development that will hinder peatland restoration of the area under consideration.

Kind regards
James Cantwell

Leabeg, Ballycumber, Co Offaly

Substitute Consent for Historic Peat Extraction at Lemanaghan Bog

11/4/2025

An Bord Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Ireland

Case Reference SU19.323676

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the application for substitute consent for historic peat extraction at Lemanaghan Bog, Co Offaly.

As a concerned citizen, I believe it is essential to consider the profound ecological, climate, and cultural significance of this unique landscape when assessing any applications related to its prior, current or future use. The legacy of industrial peat extraction by Bord Na Mona has already left a lasting mark on the bog, and it is crucial that future decisions prioritize the restoration and protection of this sensitive habitat.

As a concerned stakeholder, I wish to emphasize the importance of ensuring the future rehabilitation of this unique peatland habitat, and to express my strong opposition to any future peat extraction or disturbance to the structure of the bog, particularly for energy generation development.

Protecting Lemanaghan Bog for Future Generations

Lemanaghan Bog represents a vital ecological resource, not only for its biodiversity and local heritage, but also for its significant role as a natural carbon sink. The preservation and restoration of bogs such as Lemanaghan are critical in mitigating climate change, as healthy peatlands sequester vast amounts of carbon and help regulate atmospheric

greenhouse gases. Any further disturbance or extraction threatens to release stored carbon, undermining national and global efforts to address climate change.

Opposition to Future Peat Extraction and Energy Development

I respectfully urge An Bord Pleanála to firmly oppose any proposals for renewed peat extraction or energy generation developments that would disturb Lemanaghan Bog. The evidence is clear: the long-term ecological and climate benefits of restored peatlands far outweigh the short-term gains from further exploitation. Allowing additional extraction for the means of energy development, such as the excavation of peat for deep concrete foundations to support wind turbine masts (like those required previously at other Co Offaly wind farms such as Mount Lucas and Cloghan), would jeopardize the bog's ability to function as a carbon sink, and would have irreversible impacts on the local environment and community.

Advocating for Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management

Looking forward, I advocate for comprehensive rehabilitation of Lemanaghan Bog. Restoring the natural water table and native vegetation will enhance its carbon sequestration capacity and provide valuable habitat for wildlife. Such efforts will ensure that the bog continues to benefit future generations, serving as a living legacy of sustainable environmental stewardship.

Conclusion

In closing, I urge An Bord Pleanála to prioritize the long-term health of Lemanaghan Bog by supporting its rehabilitation and rejecting any future disturbance for commercial development. By resourcing and valuing the bog's carbon sink potential, we can safeguard a vital asset for our children and the wider community for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

James Cantwell

Leabeg,

Ballycumber

Co Offaly

R35YC93