

From: Isabella Donnelly <idonn88@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday 3 September 2025 21:35
To: Appeals2
Subject: Case reference: QD05E.323037 - Isabella Donnelly Submission

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to make a submission/observation in relation to Case Reference: QD05E.323037 concerning Substitute Consent (SC) for the above quarry application in Ballymagroarty and Glasbolie. My house is located approximately 100 metres west from the north quarry boundary and 400 metres from the active quarry.

I consider the application for substitute consent to be questionable in many ways, as outlined below:

- Some of the conclusions in the remedial environmental reports are questionable regarding ecological value and the potential for the surrounding habitats to support features, particularly species named in S.I. No. 235 of 2022. As surveys were carried out outside of flowering season it is difficult to identify the diverse range of flora in and around the quarry. Therefore, it cannot conclusively be said there are no protected flora in or around the site.
- Habitats scoped out (excluded) for further consideration even though they are ideal soil types for diverse species. An example would be Devils Bit Scabious, which is widespread on lands owned by the quarry. This particular plant is a species of Annex 1 habitats which are protected. In the Substitute Consent application the surrounding grassland is referred to as having low ecological value despite an abundance of highly diverse, native flora being observed in August 2025.
- The fencing surrounding the north quarry and the active quarry is wholly inadequate. The rNIS and Environmental Management Plan (Appendices) says 'all lagoons and ponds have been properly fenced'. The fencing is sheep proof only and would not keep adventurous teenagers/adults/children out. We have witnessed teenagers climbing the sheep wire and easily gaining access to the approximately 130metre sheer rock face which is a straight drop into the lagoon. If this is the standard of fencing that is put in place on the redundant north quarry I have no faith in the quarry undertaking any of the remedial actions promised for the end-of-life/remedial plan for the entire quarry.
- No meaningful consideration was given to aquifer damage from previous operations, mainly blasting and its impacts on regionally important aquifers. Anecdotal stories of well water being irreparably damaged have been heard locally. Also, the depth of the north quarry has made the feasibility of local homes digging for wells impossible.
- No engagement with our house or any of our direct neighbours. The public consultation process has been grossly inadequate and lacking sufficient transparency (site notices and one notice in a national paper). A number of recent legal cases have highlighted the importance of meaningful engagement and outlines that SC does not remove the need for full compliance with EU public consultation rules (mainly EU Directive 2003/35/EC). No public participation had occurred before the environmental assessments were completed and the first sight we had of them was when they were published on An Coimisiún Pleanála website.
- The reports lack transparency as it is very difficult to find sample results for dust, noise, vibration, air, water etc. Also it is very difficult to find quarry licenses and to find out who the responsible people for environmental management are.

I would also like to note, separately to my above concerns, that the SC states no further activity is proposed but several factors make me question this. Mainly the purchase of land adjacent to the quarry as recently as 2021. The

purchase of this land would connect the quarry to other land owned by the quarry pre 2021. The fact there has been no engagement with many of the neighbours makes me question the quarry's motives.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this submission and I hope you will consider my above points in your decision.

Kind regards,

Dr. Isabella Donnelly,

Glasbolie,

Ballintra,

Co. Donegal,

087 2880002



Isabella Donnelly <idonn88@gmail.com>

Hardcopy

Case reference: QD05E.323037 - Isabella Donnelly Submission

Isabella Donnelly <idonn88@gmail.com>
To: appeals@pleanala.ie

3 September 2025 at 21:35

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I consider the application for substitute consent to be questionable in many ways, as outlined below:

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Thank you for taking the time to consider this submission and I hope you will consider my above points in your decision.

Kind regards,

Dr. Isabella Donnelly,

Glasbolie,

Ballintra,

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	_____
ACP-	_____
08 SEP 2025	
Fee: €	Type: _____
Time: 9:15	By: PST

04/09/2025, 13:25

Gmail - Case reference: QD05E.323037 - Isabella Donnelly Submission

Co. Donegal,

087 2880002

Hard copy.