Our Case Number: ABP-310286-21



Sean O'Connor Oakdene Carrignafoy Cobh Co. Cork

Date: 11th June 2021

Re: Railway works and all works necessary to eliminate and, where necessary, upgrade seven numbered level crossings and carry out all associated and ancillary works along a 24-kilometre section of the Dublin to Cork Railway Line.

Fantstown, Thomastown, Ballyhay, Newtown, Ballycoskery (Ballyhea Village), Shinanagh and Buttevant, Co. Cork and Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed railway order and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

A receipt for the fee lodged is enclosed.

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 Cork County Council, Limerick City and County Council, 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.

If you have any gueries 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,

Kieran Somers
Executive Officer

Direct Line: 01-873 7250

Your ref: NA04.310286

Dublin to Cork Railway Line (Elimination and Upgrade) of Level Crossings between Limerick D PLEANÁLA

Junction and Mallow Order 2021.

An Bord Pleanala 64 Marlborough St Dublin D01 V902

Dear Sir/Madam,

This submission is made regarding the closing of the level crossing at Ballycoskery, Ballyhea, Charleville, Co. Cork, level crossing 212, on the Dublin Cork line. This submission is made by Cllr. Sean O'Connor, Member of Cork County Council and Member of the Southern Regional Assembly.

This submission makes the following observations:

- 1. Cork County Council received a Part 8 application from CIE in 2010/2011 for a road over rail bridge at Ballycoskery, Ballyhea, Charleville, Co. Cork.
- 2. The application was refused by Cork County Council.
- 3. Cork County Council advised CIE to develop an alternative proposal for the level crossing at Ballycoskery and closed the application.
- 4. The railway order application now made to An Bord Pleanala in respect of Ballycoskery level crossing 212 is practically the same as the one for which Cork County Council refused permission in 2011.
- 5. The reasons why Cork County Council refused the application are still present and possibly worsened by the present application.
- 6. In the application, CIE speaks of a period of consultation with local stakeholders at Ballycoskery. It does not include an of the submissions made at the public hearing in the Charleville Park Hotel nor later in the month of January 2020.
- 7. The present application made by CIE does not even give the number of submissions made on the Ballycoskery nor an analysis of the views expressed by the local stakeholders at Ballycoskery. The lack of this information is a serious flaw in the present application and makes any decision difficult.
- 8. The present application does not give a case reference number to the Part 8 application which it should for transparency purposes.

I call on the Bord to refuse the application for the railway over road proposal at Ballycoskery level crossing 212 because the reasons Cork County Council refused the Part 8 application in 2010/2011 are still present and have not been addressed by CIE. I would also ask the Bord to refuse the application for reasons of consistency in the application of the planning laws, and I would ask the Bord to direct CIE to develop an alternative proposal, including also an underpass for pedestrians and motor cars and a diversion of heavy goods away from the village settlement to existing overpasses or underpasses with improvements to roads and access.

blle. Sear O. Conor P.C.
CORK COUNTY COUNCIL
8th JUNE 2021