

Re - Dublin Mountains Project
(Ref: JA0040)

Alison Cooper

Creaghduff hse

Athlone

Westmeath

September 21st 2017

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
TIME 15.05	BY Ard
22 SEP 2017	
LTR DATED	FROM Sm
PL 065-JA0040	

Dear Sir or Madam

I WISH TO OBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING:

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
Received:	22nd Sep 17
Fee:	ESD - Cah.
Receipt No:	B140489

1. The visitors centre is at the elevation 302 m OD (Malin) Too high. It is too large for the site, and unsuitable in design for the rural location. As a new build it is ineligible for the internal commercial element.
2. CH 6 of the EIAR describes various Natura 2000 sites and Proposed Natural Heritage areas within the Zone of Influence, making the development in contravention.
3. The pollution of the Glendoo Brook. The amount of disturbance while uprooting vegetation, excavating foundations for the building, roads and carpark will create huge amounts of silt going into the waterway during the construction phase before settling ponds culverts etc are in place. After systems are constructed the surface water discharging into the brook containing soluble elements will have a negative effect on all aquatic life within the catchment area formed by the Owendoher, Glenbrook Brook and the Dodder. Inland Fisheries Ireland has declared this vital to the existence of salmonids, trout, lampreys and other water life. See ch 6 Biodiversity EIAR.
4. I object to the lack of clarity re management and maintenance of the woodland areas in the application for planning permission. It is stated an ecologist is to inspect yearly. From what body? Where are the enforcements and possible sanctions to be applied? The income from the café, commercial element is expected to pay for the educational requirements. Where is the financial allocation for the openair to be found?
5. I object to the night lighting which will occur in this rural mountain setting visible for many miles. Theoretically all regions visible from the development will be the receptors of this light pollution. It is suggested that screening will be the case by trees and shrubs. This would take decades, and the slope of the sight would militate against this occurring. The term low level lighting used in the application is useless in determining the disturbance which would be caused to wildlife and the negative impact generally. Even the movement of a hedgehog will trigger security lighting. Lighting is always incremental and cumulative when it is decided there is extra need for security etc. I object to the phrase "occasional use" when it is stated that the promotion of evening programmes events etc is an objective.
6. Extraordinarily, the visual impact of the clearances, visitor's centre, roads and carparks from 24 locations is described as being "beneficial." Landscape and Visual Resources p 190-190 The view from the development in daylight utilizes 23 pages. P 167-192. Ch 10. The description of the development at night utilizes five and a half lines. P193 ch 10
7. The archaeology is severely compromised. The Hellfire Club building is to be surrounded by a paved area in spite of the fact there is more investigation required underground. The Military

Road will be partially destroyed by the insertion of the culvert from the carpark to Massy's Wood. The map delineating this area which shows the positioning of the culvert, streams, etc entering the Glendoo Brook in Massy's Wood entirely omits any mention or drawing of the military Road.

8. There is a general lack of detail and transparency in the application which renders it inadequate. The terminology is minimising.

Alison Couper.

I am a frequent walker & know the district intimately.

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