

**Comhairle Chontae na Mí**

Roinn Pleanáil,  
Teach Buvinda, Bóthar Átha Cliath,  
An Uaimh, Contae na Mí, C15 Y291  
Fón: 046 – 9097500/Fax: 046 – 9097001  
R-phost: [planning@meathcoco.ie](mailto:planning@meathcoco.ie)  
Web: [www.meath.ie](http://www.meath.ie)



**Meath County Council**

Planning Department  
Buvinda House, Dublin Road,  
Navan, Co. Meath, C15 Y291  
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E-mail: [planning@meathcoco.ie](mailto:planning@meathcoco.ie)  
Web: [www.meath.ie](http://www.meath.ie)

Planning Reference Number:22/1632

Date:27/01/2023

John Callaghan  
10 The Cloisters  
Oldcastle Road  
Kells  
Co Meath A82C9Y7

**Re: Planning & Development Regulations 2001 to 2022  
Acknowledgement of receipt of Submission or Observation on a Planning Application for a  
proposed development by Christopher Gibney and Local Power Ltd**


Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your Submission/Observation made in writing to this office on 26/01/2023 to the proposed development described as planning permission for the development of an Anaerobic Digestion Facility to produce renewable gas and electricity on a site of circa. 4.24 hectares at the townland of Curragh, Carnaross, Co. Meath. The development comprises storage and processing plant to accommodate agricultural manures, residues, slurries and grass silage and its conversion into a methane rich biogas that is a carbon negative alternative to natural gas, and a nutrient rich fertiliser, digestate. Carbon dioxide from the process will also be captured and converted into food grade CO<sub>2</sub>. The proposed supporting infrastructure to be developed includes inter alia, 1 no. combined primary and secondary digestion tank; 1 no. enclosed feedstock storage building; 1 no. enclosed silage clamp, 1 no. enclosed digestate separation building, (housing 1 no. screw press separator, 1 no. centrifugal separator & a digestate pit); 1 no. digestate treatment building; 1 no. digestate storage tank; 2 no. CHP units (2 x 500kW), biogas upgrading unit, gas grid entry unit, carbon dioxide capture equipment, gas flare, all other on site processing plant above and below ground, facility office and administration building, weighbridge, roof mounted solar arrays / photovoltaic panels, all associated car & vehicle parking, internal road layouts, all supporting plant, process and storage facilities will be housed on hard surfaced and bunded areas, all other above and below ground services, landscaping, palisade fencing and boundary treatments and a new access road from the R147 with an underground gas pipeline to the gas grid connection in the R147. The facility requires an Industrial Emissions License from the EPA and is accompanied by a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

The appropriate fee of € 20 has been paid. (not applicable to Prescribed Bodies or Councillors).

The Submission/Observation is in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 to 2022 and will be taken into account by the Planning Authority in its determination of the Planning Application.

You will be notified of the Planning Authority's decision in due course.

  
On behalf of Meath County Council

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT**

**Comhairle Chontae na Mí**

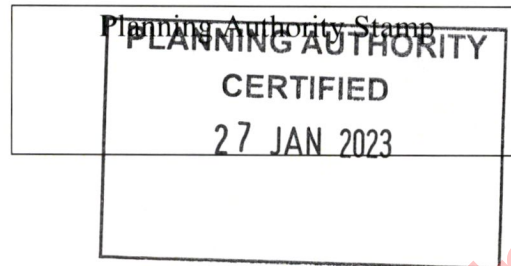
Roinn Pleanáil,  
Teach Buvinda, Bóthar Átha Cliath,  
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**Keep this document safely. You will be required to produce this acknowledgment to An Bord Pleanála if you wish to appeal the decision of the Planning Authority. It is the only form of evidence which will be accepted by An Bord Pleanála that a Submission/Observation has been made to the Planning Authority on the Planning Application.**

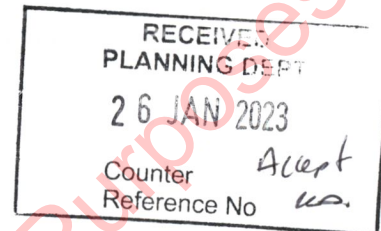


Meath County Council - Viewing Purposes Only!

John Callaghan  
10 The Cloisters,  
Oldcastle Road Kells,  
Co. Meath.  
A82C9Y7

January 26<sup>nd</sup> 2023

The Planning Department  
Meath County Council,  
Buvinda House,  
Navan, Co Meath.



### Planning Observation on File 221632 Meath CoCo

**Development description:** *planning permission for the development of an Anaerobic Digestion Facility to produce renewable gas and electricity on a site of circa. 4.24 hectares at the townland of Curragh, Carnaross, Co. Meath. The development comprises storage and processing plant to accommodate agricultural manures, residues, slurries and grass silage and its conversion into a methane rich biogas that is a carbon negative alternative to natural gas, and a nutrient rich fertiliser, digestate. Carbon dioxide from the process will also be captured and converted into food grade CO<sub>2</sub>. The proposed supporting infrastructure to be developed includes inter alia, 1 no. combined primary and secondary digestion tank; 1 no. enclosed feedstock storage building; 1 no. enclosed silage clamp, 1 no. enclosed digestate separation building, (housing 1 no. screw press separator, 1 no. centrifugal separator & a digestate pit); 1 no. digestate treatment building; 1 no. digestate storage tank; 2 no. CHP units (2 x 500kW), biogas upgrading unit, gas grid entry unit, carbon dioxide capture equipment, gas flare, all other on site processing plant above and below ground, facility office and administration building, weighbridge, roof mounted solar arrays / photovoltaic panels, all associated car & vehicle parking, internal road layouts, all supporting plant, process and storage facilities will be housed on hard surfaced and bunded areas, all other above and below ground services, landscaping, palisade fencing and boundary treatments and a new access road from the R147 with an underground gas pipeline to the gas grid connection in the R147. The facility requires an Industrial Emissions License from the EPA and is accompanied by a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)*

**Applicants:** Christopher Gibney and Local Power Ltd

**Observer:** John Callaghan of John Callaghan, 10 The Cloisters, Oldcastle Road Kells, Co.Meath. A82C9Y7

**Observer's Address:** John Callaghan, 10 The Cloisters, Oldcastle Road Kells, Co.Meath. A82C9Y7

Dear Sir/ Madam,

- (1) The application lacks detail having regard to the size and extent of the project and its footprint. It is unfortunate that the very limited event billed as "a public



consultation event” was held before the planning application documents were submitted and available to the Public.

(2) The Planning and Development Act defines Agriculture as :

*“agriculture” includes horticulture, fruit growing, seed growing, dairy farming, the breeding and keeping of livestock (including any creature kept for the production of food, wool, skins or fur, or for the purpose of its use in the farming of land), the training of horses and the rearing of bloodstock, the use of land as grazing land, meadow land, osier land, market gardens and nursery grounds, and “agricultural” shall be construed accordingly;*

(3) The application proposes transferring 7500 hectares from agricultural use to use for the production of energy. It is a necessity under the Habitats Directive to identify the land to be used for energy production to assess the project under the Habitats Directive. There are also considerations outlined under the Renewable Energy Directive 2018 in relation to transferring land from food production to energy production.

Yours sincerely



John Callaghan

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL  
BUVINDA HOUSE  
DUBLIN ROAD  
NAVAN  
CO. MEATH  
27/01/2023 09:11:58

Receipt No. : PLANDEPT/0/84943  
\*\*\*\*\* REPRINT \*\*\*\*\*

John Callaghan  
10 The Cloisters  
Oldcastle Road  
kells  
Co Meath  
A82C9Y7

PLAN SUBMISSION RECEIPTS NAVAN 20  
GOODS 20.00  
VAT Exempt/Non-vatable

Total : 20.00 EUR

Tendered :  
CREDIT CARD 20.00  
VISA  
xx  
xx

Change : 0.00

Issued By : Michelle Keating  
From : PLANNING DEPARTMENT



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