

From: phillip cantwell [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 March 2017 00:00
To: National Planning Framework; [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed Changes to Kilkenny Waterford Boundary

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thursday 30 March 2016

Minister S. Coveney, TD
Dept. of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government
Custom House
Dublin 1

Re: Proposed Changed to the Kilkenny Waterford Boundary

Dear Minister

I write to you concerning the proposed changes to the Kilkenny Waterford Boundary despite being a resident of County Meath for over 50 years.

Minister Coveney, I emailed you/your Department on 20 March 2017 concerning the proposed changes to the Kilkenny Waterford boundary and respectfully asked for an acknowledgement.

In my email of 20 March 2017 I informed you that as a former elected councillor in Meath from 1994 to 2014 I was opposed to any changes to existing boundaries between Kilkenny and Waterford, despite the infrastructure, planning and funding issues for both Local Authorities.

In my email of 20 March 2017, I informed you I would be emailing you again before the extended deadline, however no acknowledgement has been received to-date.

I hope that failure by your Department to acknowledge my email is not an example of how invited submissions from the public opposed to the proposed changes, will be treated in the current situation such as this contentious boundary change between long standing GAA oponents!

We in County Meath were recently faced with proposed boundary changes between Louth and Meath, but thankfully after due consideration these changes were dropped.

As a former County Councillor/Town Councillor, I believe the same should now apply to the proposed boundary changes between Waterford and Kilkenny - Minister please drop the proposed changes, permanently.

I came from Kilkenny to County Meath in 1964 to take up a teaching appointment and put up my county colours each year. I appreciate how passionately the people who live on the Kilkenny side of the river Suir want to remain in Kilkenny and continue to wear the black and amber with pride as they and their fathers and mothers before have done for all of their lives.

Currently, the people in Meath (in particular the farmers) are bitterly opposed to the proposed pylons to provide the North-South Link and they will fight Eirgrid every metre of the proposed line.

I remember the 1960s in Co. Meath when the farmers blocked the bridges and many were jailed, so also the people of Kilkenny will fight the proposed boundary changes and just as with Eirgrid, this is not a battle to be undertaken when the Government and you as Minister for Housing have much more pressing issues such as housing and Brexit to contend with, Minister drop this issue, now and permanently!

Please acknowledge this email, even if only to show your Department takes the public's opinion seriously now and again.

Yours faithfully

Phillip Cantwell - Former Elected Councillor 1994 to 2014
Peace Commissioner - [REDACTED]